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GLOBAL CLIMATE OBSERVING
SYSTEM (GCOS)

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Coordination Meeting (ICM-4)**

Session 2

Tokyo, Japan
5 March – 9 March 2012

Task Team 3 (Scheduling) progress report for January 2012

(Submitted by Tom Gardiner)

Summary and Purpose of Document

Progress report from the task team 3 (Scheduling) covering period from 09/2011 till 01/2012.

Task Team 3 (Scheduling) progress report for January 2012

Summary

The primary objective for the Task Team is to develop defensible, quantifiable, scientifically-sound guidance for GRUAN sites on measurement schedules and associated site requirements, in order to meet the GRUAN objectives.

In terms of scientific outputs from the Task Team, while the activities of the team remain a voluntary one without specific funding the main information sources are from the peer-reviewed literature, GRUAN documentation, and currently unpublished studies of which the group is aware. Some limited new analyses are being undertaken by Team members using existing data sets to start to address areas where critical gaps exist that prohibit scientifically defensible choices.

The main activity has been work on the Scheduling section of the GRUAN manual, and a new version has been produced for discussion at the ICM.

Progress on tasks reported on in previous report

Task	Due Date	Milestone	Progress	Issues
Complete Trend Paper	June 2011	Submission of paper lead by Dave Whiteman on 'The relative importance of accuracy and observation frequency in detecting trends in upper tropospheric water vapor'	Revised paper accepted by JGR.	
TT membership	May 2011	Confirmed list of at least 5 TT members.	TT now quorate with 6 members	Still no site representation on TT
TT telecon	Sept 2011	Telecon to discuss TT issues and review objectives and tasks	Doodlepoll TT membership	No suitable date identified. TT discussions carried out by email.
Bibliography of relevant information sources	Nov 2011	Prepare a document that identifies and briefly summarises the sources of information (papers, reports, etc) relevant to the scheduling issues.	Information for document still being gathered. Aiming for release in May 2012.	Keep document updated after initial release.
Paper for ITS	Dec 2011	Prepare paper (Tom Gardiner lead) for GRUAN	Paper submitted to ITS.	

		session at the 9 th International Temperature Symposium		
Resolve differences in times to determine trends	June 2012	Review the reasons for the difference in the time to detect WV trends in Boers and Whiteman papers.	Not started	No funding.
Extend trend studies into LS	Dec 2012	Submission of paper (Dave Whiteman lead)	Currently studying MLS and aircraft in-situ measurements with goal of assessing noise and autocorrelation in LS water vapor	No funding.
Scheduling summary document	Mar 2012	Prepare guidance on scheduling issues for inclusion in GRUAN manual	New version available for comments.	Need to clarify the required contents, including instrument specific details