

Meeting Minutes

CLIVAR/GEWEX Monsoons Panel

MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting Number	2020-5	Meeting Title	CLIVAR-GEWEX MP Teleconference
Objective/Purpose	Discussion on amendments to Monsoon Panel Terms of References		
Time & Date	23 July 2020 15:00-16:15 UTC	Venue	GoToMeeting Video Conference

MEETING DETAILS

Chairperson(s)	Aurel Moise and Leila Carvalho (MP Co-Chairs)	Rapporteur(s)	Aurel Moise and Rupa Kumar Kolli
Attendees	MP: Aurel Moise, Leila Carvalho, Gill Martin, Randy Wu, Suryachandra Rao, Yukari Takayabu, Annamalai, Alice Grimm, and Aida Niang ICMPO: Rupa Kumar Kolli, Somnath Mahapatra		
Apologies	MP: Mouhamadou Bamba Sylla, Andy Turner, Françoise Guichard, Vincent Moron		

ACTIONS

Deadline	Action	Responsible
31 July 2020	Send doodle poll for the next meeting (August) by teleconference	ICMPO
August 2020 (3 rd week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine wording of new ToRs (see Annex I) and exchange updates via email to this panel; Refine wording of Monsoon Panel's Mission Statement via email discussion (see Annex I); Refine/add items to be included in future Work Plan via email discussion (see Annex II). 	All MP members
August 2020	Facilitate discussion on the ToRs of regional working groups (WGs) and membership updates (rotation and renewal plans) and report to the MP of any proposals for amendments. Use the email groups set up for the WGs, and the MP's shared Google folder.	MP members currently participating in the Regional WGs, for their respective WGs
August 2020	Keep under review the ongoing progress in the development of the special issue of CLIVAR Exchange on India's Monsoon Mission, and notify the panel on the members' possible involvement	Aurel and Leila with assistance from ICMPO

Deadline	Action	Responsible
August 2020	Share the official WCRP presentation on the future structure discussed at JSC-41, as and when available for distribution	ICMPO
August 2020	Share more details when available on the potential involvement of MP in the organization of the Seventh International Workshop on the Monsoons (IWM-7) under the auspices of WMO, and brief the panel on the latest status at the July meeting	Aurel, Françoise, Kumar

AGENDA AND KEY OUTCOMES

No	Description
1	<p><i>This meeting was dedicated to a continuation of the discussion on changes/amendments to the current list of ToRs for this panel which have been in place since 2014.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aurel introduced the objectives of this discussion, and led the discussion on the draft amendments to the current ToRs, based on the inputs provided by members; • General agreement was reached on reducing the current 13 ToRs to 9, with much of the reduction achieved by separating specific topics that can be moved to the Panel's annual work plan, and keeping the ToRs more general, providing long-term direction to the Panel's work; • Members agreed on the new ToRs as listed in Annex I (along with relevant notes). Members further agreed that their wording needs to be refined, which can be done via email exchange; • Members agreed to adopt a Mission Statement for the Panel and considered a few ideas (see Annex I). The draft statement is to be reviewed and finalised vi email discussion, and considered by the next meeting for adoption; • Discussion was initiated on the items for the Panel's Annual Work Plan. A preliminary draft based on the discussion is provided in Annex II; members have agreed to review the same and add/change as appropriate for further discussion in the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Meeting Number	2020-6	Meeting Time & Date	3 rd week of August 2020
Location	Video conference, details of meeting to be sent out		

Revised Terms of Reference of Monsoons Panel (Draft, with Notes)

Mission Statement

The CLIVAR/GEWEX Monsoons Panel (MP) facilitates and supports the international community that carries out and uses observations, process studies, and numerical model experiments with the goal of developing and improving the forecasts, predictions and projections of the regional/global monsoon systems.

How to include these aspects: support to operational and research advances; bringing together experts; Capacity building elements, etc.

1. Indicate and update the research priorities, gaps and milestones regarding monsoon studies as outlined in the annual work plan;

Present ToR #1 mentions defining activities in the first year for the next 3-5 years. However, first year of which 3-5 years period? The terms of members and chairs do not match, so the list does not need to change completely every 3-5 years. An initial list can be proposed and reviewed every other year, by removing and adding some items and keeping others, just taking care not to simply add items, making the list long to the point that it loses its relevance.

Those priorities would not be a permanent part of the ToRs but would be posted on the panel internet page. In this case, item 1 of the present ToRs would change to include this role of scientific steering, and items 2, 3, 4, and 6 would be removed, since they are specific themes within monsoon studies. This would reduce items of the ToRs and replace them with more generic ones, since the number of these more specific ones could continuously increase, as new themes or important aspects emerge.

2. Coordinate strategies, advise on plans and define concrete activities, if convenient, to carry out studies on the suggested priorities;

For instance, if the priority is understanding certain monsoon processes and assessing the skill of models in simulating them, methods and diagnostic tools could be suggested and made available, as well as advice on monitoring strategies, need for new observations, information on data available and groups that are investigating them and are open to collaboration with researchers from other monsoon regions. In another example, if the priority is to assess the current levels of predictive skill, suggest a strategy and a set of skill indices.

3. Encourage studies on priority themes by groups from different monsoon domains, using common methods and tools, in order to allow global analyses or comparable results, and encourage, facilitate or promote collaboration between monsoon researchers (Existing groups)

This item covers and enlarges present ToR #8.

4. Enhance involvement/Promote/Stimulate the interest of researchers and students in monsoon-related topics, by organizing or supporting workshops and advanced schools, in addition to organizing, in scientific congresses, sessions on monsoon themes. Promote interactions among scientists from different disciplines (atmospheric scientists, oceanographers, hydrologists, and relevant others) interested in monsoon science activities

This item enlarges and replaces present ToR #10.

5. Coordinate the formation and function of regional working groups and to advise WCRP on the development of mechanisms of support for meetings of the regional working groups

This ToR is same as the existing one, and no change is proposed.

6. Advise and coordinate with other WCRP and WWRP panels on issues important for advancing monsoon research, including new observational studies, process studies, and strategic priority setting for modelling/prediction studies.

This item merges present ToRs #7 and #9.

7. Support Work in cooperation with regional, national and multinational programs that collaborate in improving the understanding of monsoon systems and are directed at improving regional weather forecasting, seasonal climate prediction and decadal to longterm climate projection weather forecasts and seasonal climate predictions.

This item covers present ToR #11.

8. Communicate existing products and provide guidance on their (adequate) application and limitations to the operational community, (relevant) impacts community and participate in relevant training activities.

How about co-design/production?

To be fine-tuned.

This is present ToR #12.

9. Report to the CLIVAR and GEWEX Scientific Steering Groups on an annual basis or when requested

This is present ToR #13.

Existing Terms of Reference

1. During first year, define concrete activities to be fostered by the panel within the next 3-5 years.
2. Evolve a strategy to assess the current levels of predictive skill of the coupled ocean-atmosphere-land system in the monsoon regions;
3. Design and implement a means to investigate the interactions between climate mean state and different modes of monsoon variability, thereby furthering monsoon prediction capability;
4. Design and implement a means to investigate scale interactions from sub-daily, through intraseasonal to interannual.
5. Coordinate the formation and function of regional working groups and to advise WCRP on the development of mechanisms of support for meetings of the regional working groups
6. Develop diagnostics for understanding of monsoon processes and assessment of model errors on a range of scales, and inform the need for new observations, both over land and ocean, to adequately gain this understanding and perform these assessments.
7. Support a monitoring strategy designed by the Ocean Panels for the tropical and subtropical oceans necessary for investigating the structure and variability of the regional monsoons;
8. Oversee development and implementation of plans for an optimised set of process studies in the Asian-Australian, American, and African monsoon regions;
9. Coordinate and advise the Pan-WCRP numerical experimentation groups (WGSIP and WGCM, including its planning of CMIP6) on modelling priorities for advancing monsoon research;
10. Promote interactions among atmospheric scientists, oceanographers and hydrologists and relevant others from interested nations in monsoon science activities;
11. Work in cooperation with regional and multinational programs directed at improving our understanding of monsoon systems and at improving regional weather forecasts and seasonal climate predictions.
12. Communicate existing products and their correct application and limitations to the impacts community and participate in relevant training activities.
13. Report to the CLIVAR and GEWEX Scientific Steering Groups on an annual or more frequent basis, as appropriate.

Annex II

Annual Work Plan of Monsoons Panel (Preliminary Draft)

- Evolve a strategy to assess the current levels of predictive skill of the coupled ocean-atmosphere-land system in the monsoon regions;
- Design and implement a means to investigate the interactions between climate mean state and different modes of monsoon variability, thereby furthering monsoon prediction capability;
- Design and implement a means to investigate scale interactions from sub-daily, through intraseasonal to interannual;
- Develop diagnostics for understanding of monsoon processes and assessment of model errors on a range of scales, and inform the need for new observations, both over land and ocean, to adequately gain this understanding and perform these assessments;
- Support a monitoring strategy designed by the Ocean Panels for the tropical and subtropical oceans necessary for investigating the structure and variability of the regional monsoons;
- Oversee development and implementation of plans for an optimised set of process studies in the Asian-Australian, American, and African monsoon regions;
- Coordinate a strategy to utilize satellite observations to investigate multi-scale monsoon variability and its response to climate change, to cooperate with numerical model groups, and advise on future satellite earth observation plans;
- Process-based diagnostics: Collaborative efforts to identify sources of model errors in simulating monsoon precipitation basic state across different monsoon regions;
- SASCOF and other related stakeholders: direct involvement of the panel and working groups in improving the consensus seasonal outlook;
- Cross-panel activities: coordinate with other panels (e.g., Indian Ocean) for emerging research for societal needs. Example: possible role of 2019 IOD on Indian summer monsoon (wet conditions during August and September) and Australian drought and incidence of fire;
- Need to substantially improve observations over land and ocean. Observations are not only provided by pluviometers but by all sets of instruments capable of evaluating boundary layer processes, profiles of moisture, temperature, winds, etc. These observations can only be obtained during short periods of time and during major field campaigns involving large numbers of researchers. One way to start this might be to better synthesize what campaign/process observations are out there for the community.