**GCOS Panel Members**

**Terms of Reference**

(Draft 30 August 2018)

Members of the GCOS Panels shall

1. In agreement with the panel chair(s), take responsibility to report to the panel for one, or a few, Essential Climate Variables and/or networks on:
   1. the ECV requirements for long-term monitoring of the Earth’s climate
   2. the adequacy of observing networks (in-situ, satellite-based), compared with the ECV requirements
   3. progress on actions contained on the latest GCOS Implementation Plan
2. Contribute to the revision of the ECV, based on user needs for climate monitoring, adaptation and mitigation, as required
3. Contribute to the regular updating of the GCOS Status Report and Implementation Plan
4. Liaise with relevant research and operational communities
5. Attend one panel meeting a year (usually in the first quarter of the year)
6. Take part in panel teleconferences as decided by the panel chairs, (expected to be at least 4 times a year)
7. The term of a panel member shall be 3 years with a possible extension of a further 3 years approved by the GCOS steering committee
8. Undertake, in agreement with the panel chair(s) other tasks in line with the panel Terms of Reference

In addition, the panel chairs shall:

1. Coordinate the panels and their meetings
2. Attend the GCOS Steering Committee once a year and report on panel activities
3. Attend the annual panel meeting and prepare the meeting report
4. Manage panel teleconferences as needed (expected to be at least 4 times a year)
5. Ensure all ECV observations are monitored by experts
6. Ensure that all ECV requirements are reviewed and that all comments received from users, relevant scientific communities and from public review are appropriately considered
7. Ensure the panel works in line with its Terms of Reference
8. The panel chairs shall serve a term of three years with a possible extension of a further 3 years approved by the GCOS steering committee