Ocean Color Radiometry Virtual Constellation (OCR-VC)

Update of Phase 1 Draft Implementation Plan covering 2008 through the launch of Sentinel-3 (late 2012).

Objective 1: Ensuring OCR continuity

- Activities to improve VIIRS (Bontempi, NASA and DiGiacomo, NOAA).
- GCOM-C Phase 1 development (Murakami, JAXA).
- OCM-2. Launch of ISRO's OCM-2 is anticipated for 2009. ISRO and other agencies have agreed to work together in broad areas of Cal/Val and OCM-2 data processing for Level-2 and Level-3 product generation. (Kumar, ISRO, Bontempi, NASA).
- Pre-launch activities for Sentinel-3 (Regner, ESA).

Objective 2: Provide high quality data sets

- Continue support for MOBY (bio-optical buoy) (Digiacomo, NOAA).
- Continue interaction between NASA and ESA related to MERIS calibration and characterization and extend to Sentinel-3 (Bontempi, NASA and Regner, ESA).
- Support ChloroGIN - (Dowell and Hoepffner, JRC).

Objective 3: Data Harmonization

- Collaboration for a multiple sensor comparison involving MERIS, SeaWiFS, MODIS-Aqua, and OCM-2 (Bontempi, NASA; Navulgund, ISRO; Regner, ESA).
- ESA's *GlobColour* project demonstrated the benefits of multiple sensor data merger working towards an ocean color Essential Climate Variable (ECV) for global products. ESA is currently planning *CoastColour* for several coastal study areas using MERIS 300-m data. (Regner, ESA)
- IOCCG Working Groups (WG) for bio-optical sensors on Geostationary platforms (WG Chairs plus Ahn, KORDI, Navalgund, ISRO).
- IOCCG WG for evaluating possibilities for bio-optical Sensors on ARGO floats (WG Chair: Claustre, Laboratoire d'Oceanographie de Villefranche).

Objective 4: Facilitate timely and easy access to data (user interface)

- Societal Applications in the Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remotely-Sensed Imagery (SAFARI) to accelerate the assimilation of Earth observation data into fisheries research and ecosystem-based fisheries management on a world scale. (Crevier, CSA and Platt, IOCCG)
- Canadian Space Agency (CSA) has invested in the upgrade of the Canadian ground infrastructure at the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) for the reception and processing of full resolution (300-m) MERIS data (Crevier, CSA).
- Support GEO Coastal Zone Community of Practice- CZCP (DiGiacomo, NOAA and Dowell, JRC.

Objective 5: Capacity building and Outreach

- IOCCG and JRC capacity building activities in Africa and elsewhere.
- Present white paper describing the OCR-VC at the Oceanobs09 conference is in Venice, September, 2009. See http://www.oceanobs09.net/index.php

Schedule

- Draft Phase 1 Implementation plan to be discussed at IOCCG Plenary 20-22 April.
- Revised version with timelines to be prepared following this discussion.
- Final Phase 1 OCR-VC Implementation Plan to ready for review/approval at SIT-24.