

## **Report of the FUTURE Advisory Panel on *Status, Outlooks, Forecasts and Engagement***

The Advisory Panel on *Status, Outlooks, Forecasts and Engagement Advisory Panel* (AP-SOFE) met on October 13, 2013 from 14:00 to 18:00 hours, following the joint FUTURE meeting, in Nanaimo, Canada. Past Chairman, Mr. Robin Brown, welcomed members and observers (*AP-SOFE Endnote 1*), as SOFE Chairman, Dr. Phillip Mundy, was unable to attend the meeting. Several changes were made to the draft agenda and the revised agenda was adopted (*AP-SOFE Endnote 2*). Terms of Reference are provided in *AP-SOFE Endnote 3*.

### AGENDA ITEM 3

#### **FUTURE Open Science meeting session update and discussion**

AP-SOFE members received an update on the status of planning for the SOFE-sponsored theme session (S3) entitled, “*Overcoming challenges in communicating science and engaging the public: Ways and means of developing and disseminating FUTURE products*” (*AP-SOFE Endnote 4*) to be held at the FUTURE Open Science Meeting (April 15–18, 2014, Kohala Coast, Hawaii, USA). Members were asked to review it and submit comments by e-mail.

### AGENDA ITEM 4

#### **Discussion and agreement on proposed advice to FUTURE regarding NPESR production**

Dr. Hal Batchelder led a discussion among members and observers to develop the advice relevant to Term of Reference 5 (*AP-SOFE Endnote 3*) based on the draft document entitled, “*A proposal for the process of producing of the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report, 2009 – 2013*” (Draft, August 13, 2013; *AP-SOFE Endnote 5*). The proposal was circulated to past editors of NPESR (Drs. Skip McKinnell and Michael Dagg) and SOFE members on the date of issue and subsequently it was circulated to the Chairs of PICES standing committees.

Although the proposed advice was accepted in principle, it could not be adopted by SOFE as written. The first recommendation for how to reach consensus advice on which SOFE could agree was to hold a briefing for all PICES committees at which further comments could be received. (This meeting was held later in the week, October 16, and the results were reported at the Science Board meeting on October 19 by Dr. Batchelder, who led the all-committee briefing.) It was also recommended to send the proposal to Governing Council to allow Council to understand the level of commitment that leadership might be willing to bring to the report production approach outlined in the proposal.

The plenary session allowed a number of specific recommendations on approaches to improving the proposed advice to be captured, should SOFE be encouraged by Science Board and Council to do so. SOFE members were also invited to submit written comments and suggestions for improvements should it be necessary to continue the process of developing the proposed advice into 2015.

### AGENDA ITEM 5

#### **Other business**

SOFE members reviewed the Workplan for 2013–2014 and had no revisions (*AP-SOFE Endnote 6*).

*AP-SOFE Endnote 1*

**AP-SOFE participation list**

Members

Harold (Hal) Batchelder (USA)  
Robin Brown (Canada, past Chair)  
Shin-ichi Ito (Japan)  
Oleg Katugin (Russia)  
William Peterson (USA)

*AP-SOFE Endnote 2*

**AP-SOFE meeting agenda**

1. Welcome, introductions, opening remarks
2. Review and adopt agenda
3. FUTURE Open Science meeting session update and discussion
4. Discussion and agreement on advice to FUTURE regarding NPESR production
5. Other business

*AP-SOFE Endnote 3*

**AP-SOFE Terms of Reference**

1. Establish a list of specific FUTURE priority topics, activities and products for review by the Science Board;
2. Work with the existing expert groups associated with FUTURE to review and revise, if needed, their Terms of Reference;
3. Work with the Scientific and Technical Committees and the PICES community to identify gaps in the priorities and activities of the expert groups and to provide recommendations to the Science Board;
4. Coordinate with the Scientific and Technical Committees in developing Terms of Reference for new expert groups to be part of FUTURE;
5. Coordinate with the Editors of the next version of the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report and advise on how the Report should be updated in the future.
6. Recommend expert groups to identify major sources of uncertainty and impediments to improving the skill of assessments and forecasts, suggest research areas for priority development, and provide coordination of potential PICES products.
7. Provide for a PICES final peer review on information and interpretations

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Note: Terms of Reference 1–4 are common to all FUTURE Advisory Panels; Terms of Reference 5 – 7 are specific to AP-SOFE only.

**AP-SOFE Endnote 4****FUTURE Open Science Meeting**

Kohala Coast, Big Island, HI, USA, April 15–18, 2014

Draft Session Day 1

**S3: Overcoming challenges in communicating science and engaging the public: Ways and means of developing and disseminating FUTURE products**

Co-Conveners: Phillip Mundy (lead), Harold (Hal) Batchelder (USA) **confirmed**, Robin Brown (Canada), Shin-ichi Ito (Japan), Oleg Katugin (Russia) **confirmed**, Chang-Ik Zhang (Korea) **confirmed**, William Peterson (USA) **confirmed**

Plenary Speaker (tentative): Stephanie Hampton, National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA [hampton@nceas.ucsb.edu](mailto:hampton@nceas.ucsb.edu)

Invited speaker: William Peterson (confirmed)

Communicating scientific findings to the public has never been more important and challenging than in the present era of global climate change unfolding against the backdrop of rapidly accelerating human population growth. Engaging the public in factually based dialogs about climate change and its impacts on the ecosystems on which we all depend is increasingly challenging. The compelling existential nature of the discussion has attracted people of many different professions and cultures who speak a wide variety of mutually unintelligible jargons and many different national languages. As members of the international marine scientific community served by PICES, as we are mindful that the first language of most participants is not English, we also need to be mindful that those from outside our area of specialization do not necessarily share our professional lexicon. As we get to know the public, we come to realize that it is us.

FUTURE is remarkable as a marine scientific program that explicitly addresses the area of public education and outreach within the broader scientific context of identifying major sources of uncertainty and impediments to improving the skill of assessments and forecasts, suggesting research areas for priority development, and providing coordination of potential PICES products through the FUTURE Advisory Panel on *Status, Outlooks, Forecasts, and Engagement* (SOFE).

Building on expertise and information in workshops that precede the session, a series of papers will address challenges presented by uncertainty in the uptake of forecasts by decision makers within the context of communication challenges presented by the diversity of disciplines and languages necessary to address global climate change.

**AP-SOFE Endnote 5****Cover page and Table of Contents for the draft advice document considered at the SOFE meeting**

*Author's Note October 12, 2013: The content of the draft below was distributed to the PICES Secretariat, FUTURE and Science Board leadership, including all Committee Chairs, all AP-SOFE members, and to MEQ by Chair, Mr. Chuanlin Huo, in August and September, 2013. Comments were received from Skip McKinnell, Ian Perry, Michael Dagg, Lyman Thorsteinson (MEQ on behalf of Mr. Huo, MEQ Chair), and others, and the author expresses appreciation for these ideas. This draft of October 12 does not respond to the comments due to problems relating to the shutdown of the author's agency (NOAA) by the U.S. Congress on October 1, 2013. Although the draft advice document contains a fair amount of detail, there are key items that would benefit from discussions in Nanaimo. Accordingly, the new draft contains a synopsis of key points for discussion at PICES-2013 by FUTURE, AP-SOFE, and Science Board, and it has a new title more appropriate to its role in the NPESR production process.*

Advice to FUTURE on the Process of Producing of the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report  
2009 - 2013  
**DRAFT October 12, 2013**

Submitted to the  
Science Board  
North Pacific Marine Science Organization, PICES  
On behalf of  
FUTURE AP-SOFE  
and  
MONITOR  
October 12, 2013

Please send comments and recommendations to: [phil.mundy@noaa.gov](mailto:phil.mundy@noaa.gov)

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**AP-SOFE Endnote 6**

**AP-SOFE Workplan for 2013–2014**

1. Clearly identify all SOFE-related output products from Expert Groups, based on the Roadmap. This should include details on the output product (What is it?), timing for production and format (Scientific Report; Special Publication; Brochure; presentation; Database). Any potential issues regarding access or storage should be coordinated with TCODE.
2. With this information in hand, develop a simple spreadsheet or database to track progress of FUTURE products.
3. Assist in the planning and development of the FUTURE Open Science Meeting.
4. Plan for publication and outreach components of FUTURE products, as identified above.
5. Work with the Section on *Human Dimensions* (S-HD) on the identification of clients or target groups for FUTURE products in each PICES nations.  
It may be possible to get assistance from Governing Council member in this area. Many agencies will have lists of key client groups that they use to direct national outreach/engagement/consultation activities.
6. (With MONITOR and other Expert Groups) Refine/design the next version of the North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report. In particular, this will require consultation with S-HD on socio-economic indicators and WG 28 on ecosystem indicators).

7. Review requirement for a brochure summarizing the results of Working Group 20 – Climate Projections, drawn from the final report. Produce brochure if deemed valuable.
8. (With Expert Groups) Review Terms of Reference for these groups with the goal of embedding requirements for outreach/engagement products in these ToRs, as appropriate. Update Chairman's handbook to reflect this new requirement for all Expert Groups.
9. Assist host country in arrangements for a public lecture at PICES-2013.