



Polar  
Space  
Task  
Group

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***EC-PORS Observations Task Team:  
Polar Space Task Group***

***Break-out Session***

Lanzhou, China,  
14 March, 2013



## *Main progress*

- PSTG Presentation at IPY Symposium “Knowledge to Action” in May 2012 Montreal
- PSTG2 meeting held at WMO, Geneva in June 2012
  - PSTG approach consolidated: clarified governance & strategy and to took action on initial quick wins
  - ToR of PSTG approved and in force
  - Secretariat role consolidated
  - Established SAR Coordination Working Group to plan Ice Sheet Acquisition Plan (quick win)
- PSTG web site linked to EC-PORS via WMO site: [http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/sat/pstg\\_en.php](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/sat/pstg_en.php)
- New members contacted after PSTG2 (new memberships pending)
- Joint Communication by EU on Space and Arctic, in response to the developing EU Arctic Policy
  - Output from meeting on Arctic Policy meeting in Denmark (under EU presidency)
  - Explicit mention of role of Polar Space Task Group
- Workshop hosted by CliC-ESA-EGU in November - to assess state of art in spaceborne measurements and latest requirements
- PSTG3 meeting dates fixed 22-23 May 2013 – hosted at CNES HQ in Paris
  - Timed to consider output from PORS-3
- Positive response of CSA, and DLR, ASI to Polar Ice sheet mapping requirements – with continental scale acquisitions planned during Jan – March 2013



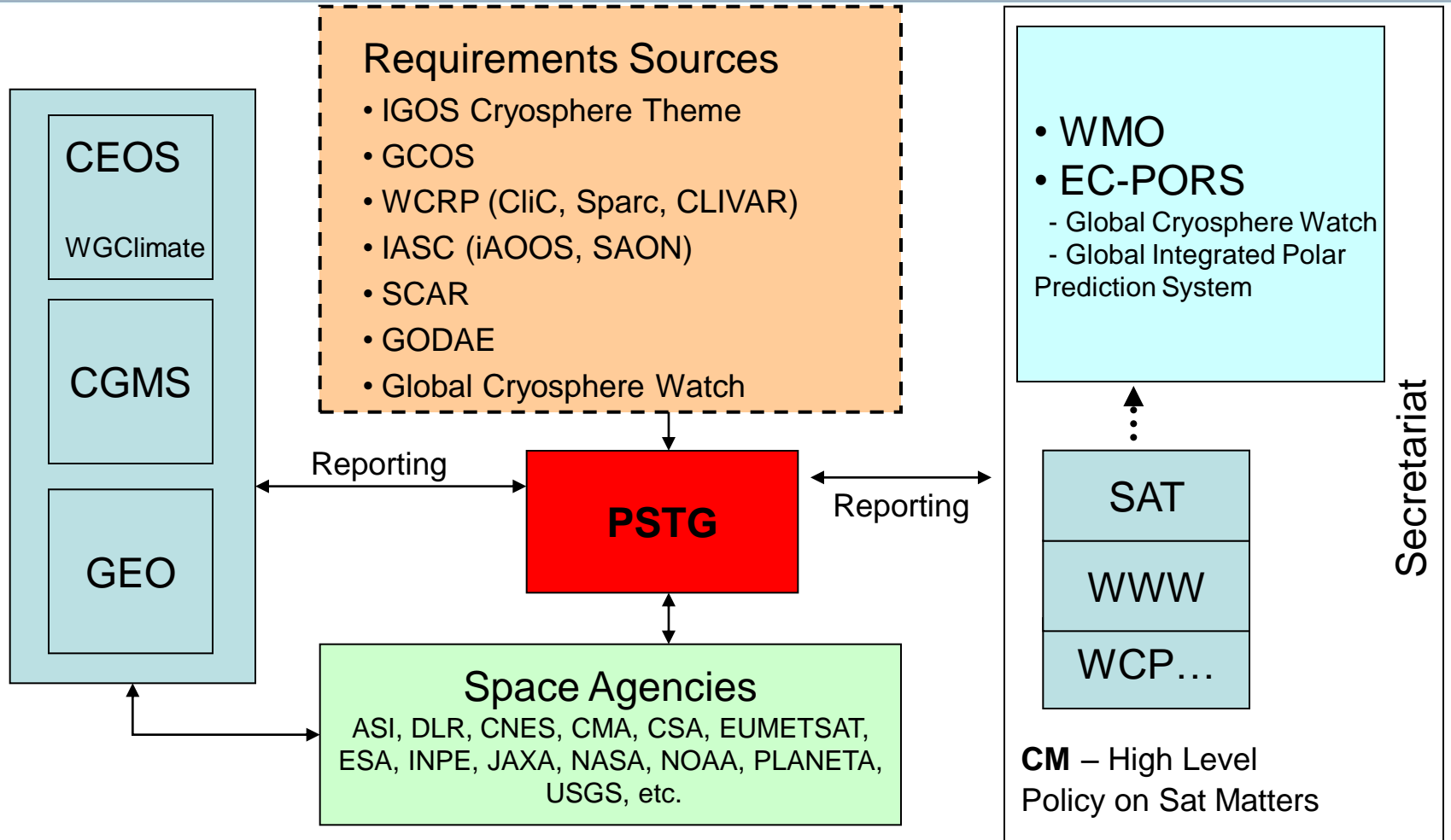
## Current PSTG Members

<u>Members of PSTG*</u>				
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\*Currently in contact with other Agencies for membership



## Polar Space Task Group (PSTG) relationships



v1 – 23 Jan 2013

## *Strategic issues*

The following strategic issues were consolidated and are considered by PSTG:

- Sea and glacial ice mass variability and contribution to sea level and ocean dynamics
- Glacial ice mass balance contribution to sea level
- Polar atmospheric, ocean, cryosphere and terrestrial products to facilitate improved weather, climate and environmental observation, monitoring and prediction
- Freshwater budget closure at high latitudes (snow and permafrost impact on polar hydrological cycle)
- Circumpolar changes in permafrost and terrestrial biosphere (consequences for Carbon and hydrological cycles)
- Physical and biological forcing of atmospheric chemistry in polar atmosphere
- Identifying new opportunities for integrated applications in response to emerging socio-economic issues of polar regions

## *Items to Discuss*

- Could EC-PORS support travel for ad-hoc representation of partners, Task Teams, or key requirements PoCs at PSTG meetings?
- How to best engage with users & how to engender requirements flow – to feed PSTG activities?
- How from a functional standpoint shall PSTG hold hands with GCW? And GIPPS?
  - via Implementation Plan?
  - Via consolidated requirement docs?
  - So far by joint meeting attendance..
- GEO Workplan - Cold Regions (WA-01-C3)
  - How to consider in frame of PORS Obs. Task Team
  - What is specifically needed for 3<sup>rd</sup> pole