



The GEO AquaWatch Sponsor Growth Committee Terms of Reference

October 30, 2024

1. Purpose: The Sponsors Growth Committee for GEO Aquawatch is tasked with securing direct and in-kind contributions to support the organization's initiatives. This committee consists of two groups: (1) sponsors providing monetary donations or in-kind resources to AquaWatch, and (2) Invited AquaWatch members who actively participate in funding positions, specific activities, or tasks within AquaWatch. Responsibilities of the committee include:

- Securing direct and in-kind contributions;
- Making recommendations for funding of specific projects or tasks;
- Identifying and engaging potential new donors, and
- Offering strategic feedback.

Through these efforts, the Sponsors Growth Committee plays a pivotal role in sustaining and advancing the organization's objectives.

2. Statement of Intent: The Committee aims to attract financial support for GEO AquaWatch Initiative activities and to explore the possibility of developing a GEOAquaWatch award.

3. Chair and Committee membership: The Sponsor Growth Committee is composed of volunteer representatives of the global community who have funded GEO AquaWatch through substantial donations or provided in-kind staffing or major event sponsorship. The Committee shall elect a chair annually from among its members. Ad hoc subcommittees may be formed from among the members. This Committee should be ~12 members, and include the GEO AquaWatch Director and Scientific Coordinator who are both non-voting members.

4. Benefits to Committee Members: The benefits would be recognition on the GEO AquaWatch website, the opportunity to



develop an awards programme and authority to select award winners, invitations to attend and give remarks/keynote address at our biennial GEOAquaWatch meetings, semi-annual networking opportunities, and the opportunity, annually, to advise the GEO AquaWatch Steering Committee on recommendations for funded activities.

5. Reporting and accountability: The Committee shall elect a chair from among its members and submit an annual report to the GEO AquaWatch Steering Committee, cc'd to the GEO AquaWatch Director, at least annually (to be received at least 2 weeks prior to any award presentation at the GEO AquaWatch Biennial Meeting), although more frequent reporting is encouraged.

6. Term of Office: Term of membership - 12 months beginning with the date on which donation begins, and can be renewed annually upon continuation of donation.

7. Meetings: Called by the chair, at least annually and timed to submit the annual report according to Section 5 above. More frequent meetings can be scheduled to conduct business and/or review awards.

8. Administrative support: The GEO AquaWatch Director and Scientific Coordinator will supply meeting logistics using GoToMeeting or Google software and will coordinate the posting of Committee members names, image and brief biographical information on the GEO AquaWatch website and Sponsor press releases, or future Award announcements on the GEO AquaWatch website, newsletter and social media accounts.