

Private Sector Subgroup

**GEO Secretariat
PB-21 -- 28-30 September 2021**

Subgroup Members

Team A: Engagement of SMMEs

- Imraan Saloojee
- Emma Luke
- Thierry Ranchin
- Andiswa Mlisa
- Andreia Siqueira
- Bapon Fakhruddin
- Krystal Azelton
- Bente Lilja Bye
- Steven Ramage (GEOSEC)

Team B: Engagement of GWP Activities

- Jonathon Ross
- Marie-Josée Bourassa
- Stefano Nativi
- Thierry Ranchin
- Scott Rayder
- Andiswa Mlisa
- Andreia Siqueira
- Bente Lilja Bye
- Craig Larlee (GEOSEC)

Timeline

- **Canberra Ministerial (Nov 2019):** first Industry Track event; declaration included call for increasing engagement with the private sector and to highlight opportunities for the private sector to leverage GEO's work.
- **PB-16 (Feb 2020):** creation of the PS-SG proposed during discussion of PB work plan.
- **ExCom-51 (Mar 2020):** recognition of the PS-SG as providing strategic guidance to ExCom on engagement of SMMEs.
- **1st PS-SG meeting (May 2020):** agreed that focus is on SMMEs and concrete engagement, not preparing papers.
- **2nd PS-SG meeting (June 2020):** Australia and South Africa elected as co-leads. Plan to understand the baseline of SMME involvement in the GWP and to share the lessons from the Canberra Industry track. Intent to look at e-shape as an example and to gain a better understanding of EO value chains.
- **PB-17 (June 2020):** PS-SG terms of reference approved.

Timeline (part 2)

- **3rd PS-SG meeting (July 2020):** Discussed planning for 2020 Industry Track, engagement of SMMEs to the SG.
- **4th PS-SG meeting (July 2020):** Discussion with guests from ZA Space and EIS Africa.
- **5th PS-SG meeting (Sept 2020):** Discussion with EARSC; started development of an SG work plan.
- **Jan 2021:** PS-SG co-chairs split the SG into two teams: one focusing on engagement with PS, the other on engagement with the GWP. Each team to be led by one of the co-chairs.
- **April 2021:** Australia resigns as co-chair. Canada agrees to step in on a temporary basis.
- **June 2021:** SG team on GWP engagement meets with reps from several GWP activities.
- **Sep 2021:** South Africa resigns as co-chair.

Observations

- The PS-SG achieved good progress in 2020.
- Progress slowed at the end of 2020 due to other commitments of the co-chairs and changes in support to the SG from the Secretariat.
- In response to the resignation of Australia, the call for a new co-chair did not elicit much interest from SG members.
- The SG work plan, based on a two team approach, appears not to be viable.
- Without two new co-chairs, the continuation of the SG is in doubt.

2020 WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE



OVERVIEW



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