

STATEMENT OF INTENT
WORLD COMMUNITY OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS

(Name of Geological Survey Organization or Association stated above)

Or _____ *(acronym where relevant)*

From the country, region or jurisdiction of _____

hereby states its intention to participate in the **WORLD COMMUNITY OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS (“WCOGS”)** under the following terms of reference:

1. PURPOSE

WCOGS is a best practice community of national and regional geological survey organizations (GSOs) that connects people and organizations, generates synergies and provides mutual support with the aim of promoting global dialogue relating to geosciences and addressing national and global geoscience issues.

WCOGS goals include:

- Connecting regional and national geological surveys, in order to
 - act as a communication hub for exchange of news and information on geoscience initiatives through digital newsletters and social media.
 - develop and implement workshops in science-policy and technical thematic areas.
 - deliver activities that support WCOGS goals, defined through discussion with other participating organizations.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The community is open to National and Regional Geological Survey Organizations (GSOs), as well as regional associations, from all around the world. It is intended that the community consists of senior executives and managers.

Membership is voluntary and there are no membership fees or qualification requirements.

Signature and filing of this statement of intent with the WCOGS Secretariat and participation in WCOGS activities will be deemed sufficient for membership.

Participation in WCOGS is entirely at the expense of the individual member organization.

3. SECRETARIAT

Administrative support to WCOGS will be provided by a rotating Secretariat, hosted on a volunteer basis by a GSO, for a two-year period. The WCOGS Secretariat will be hosted by the Geological Survey of Canada in 2021-2022.

The rotation of the host organization will be according to a schedule chosen by consensus agreement of members. If necessary, an ad hoc committee may be formed to develop options for consideration. WCOGS commits to procedural transparency in all decisions.

The host organization will provide direct support of all administrative operations on behalf of WCOGS.

Administrative responsibilities include:

- (i) Maintaining contact lists;
- (ii) Initiating and facilitating digital and face-to-face communications; e.g. preparing agenda, meeting/conference logistics, sending out emails to members, website;
- (iii) Supporting GSO's and associations in organizing workshops and events;
- (iv) Maintaining records of events and members Statements of Intent.

The Secretariat will hold no funds on behalf of WCOGS and assumes no obligation to finance activities or events.

4. ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The Activities Committee will be composed of volunteer members and guided by principles of equality, inclusiveness and transparency.

Membership of the Activities Committee will be ad hoc, co-opting and opting out members as circumstances warrant. Whereas there is no set formula for the composition of the Activities Committee, members of the Activities Committee will be asked to: (i) serve for a minimum of two years; (ii) be actively engaged in planning and organizing activities and events; (iii) proactively recruit new members to seek regional balance; and (iv) ensure overlap between serving members and incoming members to ensure continuity and sustainability.

The Activities Committee has no formal governance role. Its role is to develop and discuss ideas for WCOGS activities and events, promote these ideas to members and solicit organizations to lead the activities.

The Activities Committee will hold no funds on behalf of WCOGS and assumes no obligation to finance activities or events.

5. ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

WCOGS will aim to hold a minimum of one virtual activity or event per year that will be open to all member organizations with no registration fee.

Whereas in-person events may be held as part of major conferences, WCOGS will aim to make all events virtually accessible to all members, at a minimum cost.

6. STEERING COMMITTEE

In 2020, and in common accord, a WCOGS Steering Committee (SC) was formed to launch the development of WCOGS, and define scope, governance, and activities. In order to do so, the Steering Committee organized or supported a series of engagement activities and events to prototype and test various ideas. The engagement included meetings with the leaderships of each of the five regional/continental Geological Survey Organisations (CCOP, ASGMI, OAGS, EuroGeoSurveys and SP) as well as several GSOs. The WCOGS SC is composed of the Director General of the Geological Survey of Canada, the Director of International Programs of the U.S. Geological Survey, the Secretary General of the EuroGeoSurveys, and members of the Secretariat of WCOGS has been formed to launch it. It is the intent of the SC that it be disbanded, once the Activities Committee is formed, and when the schedule and succession plan for the WCOGS Secretariat is completed, notionally in late 2022.

Signature

Name and title of authorized signatory

on behalf of (*Name of GSO or GSO Association*)

Date: _____

Contact for correspondence

Contact person and title: _____

Email: _____

Address:

We invite all GSO leaders to return their signed WCOGS Statement of Intent to our new WCOGS Secretariat hosted by the Geological Survey of Canada at the email address WCOGS.Info@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca