

**NOAA Science Advisory Board
Teleconference
February 19, 2013
1:00-3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time**

Presentations for this meeting have been posted on the SAB website at:
<http://www.sab.noaa.gov/Meetings/meetings.html>

SAB members in attendance: Mr. Raymond Ban (Chair), Ban and Associates Consulting LLC; Dr. Eric Barron, President, Florida State University; Dr. Heidi Cullen, Vice President for External Communications, Climate Central; Dr. Peter Kareiva, Chief Scientist and Director of Science, The Nature Conservancy; Ms. Jean May-Brett, STEM Partnership Coordinator, Louisiana Department of Education; Dr. James Sanchirico, Professor, Environmental Science and Policy, University of California, Davis; Dr. Jerry Schubel, Executive Director, Aquarium of the Pacific; Dr. Marshall Shepherd, Professor, Dept. Geography & Atmospheric Sciences, University of Georgia; and Dr. Dawn Wright, Chief Scientist, Environmental Systems Research Institute

NOAA senior management and Line Office representatives in attendance: Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator; Dr. David Hermreck, Senior Programs Advisor, National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service; Dr. Paula Davidson, Office of Science and Technology, National Weather Service; Dr. Russell Callender, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service; Dr. Robert Detrick, Assistant Administrator, Oceanic and Atmospheric Research; RADM Michael S. Devany, Director, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

Staff for the Science Advisory Board in attendance: Dr. Cynthia J. Decker, Executive Director;
Mary Anne Whitcomb and Jennifer Bosch

Others on the Call: Nancy Colleton, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and Co-Chair, EISWG; Walter Dabberdt, Vaisala, and Co-Chair EISWG

Call to Order

Ray Ban, Ban and Associates and Chair, SAB

Summary

Ray Ban thanked everyone for participating in the call and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Mr. Ban noted that the agenda will go rather quickly today; as the agenda has changed from the one posted on the SAB website, the PRTF final report item has been postponed—the Task Force will require more time before it presents the Board with its final recommendation. As a result we will move this agenda item to the March 27-28, 2013 meeting. That leaves the agenda with three

items—the review of the Terms of Reference for the EISWG, consider the Proposed Chair for the CWG and public comments. Dr. Lubchenco asked to have her thanks and farewell added to the agenda.

Review of the Terms of Reference for the Environmental Information Services Working Group

Nancy Colleton, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and Co-Chair, EISWG
Walter Dabberdt, Vaisala, and Co-Chair EISWG

Summary

Ray Ban introduced this topic by providing some background for the SAB members. At the November 2012 meeting, Walter Dabberdt and Nancy Colleton, Co-Chairs of the SAB Environmental Information Services Working Group (EISWG), made a presentation on the proposed future of the EISWG and its Terms of Reference (ToR). The original TOR for the working group stated that the EISWG would be evaluated after three years. Based on the outcome of discussions of the EISWG's work after those three years, the SAB would decide whether the EISWG should be reconfigured or continued at all. The purpose of this presentation in November was for the EISWG to present the results of these discussions and its own proposal for the future of the working group. In addition, at the November meeting, the EISWG Co-Chairs provided recommendations for new members and renewal of current members. At the November 2012 SAB meeting, this presentation was made at the end of the second day. By that time, most of the SAB members had left the meeting and there was not a quorum present. Although the SAB does not have formal quorum rules, Mr. Ban thought it would be appropriate for the full SAB to have an opportunity to review the results of the EISWG review and recommendations. Although the members present at the original presentation in November voted to accept the recommendations, the EISWG co-chairs re-presented at this meeting in order for the rest of the SAB members to have an opportunity to discuss them. Mr. Ban asked Walt Dabberdt and Nancy Colleton to briefly summarize recommendations presented at fall meeting and the SAB will move to vote on the revised TOR.

Walt Dabberdt summarized the previous presentation, noting that the EISWG considered four options for its future: 1) continue as a SAB working group; 2) become a separate Federal Advisory Committee; 3) consider other mechanisms; or 4) desist. The EISWG recommendation is for the group to continue as a SAB working group. This mechanism has been effective in terms of providing advice to the SAB, which is then moved to NOAA. In addition, the EISWG believes it should move beyond the early emphasis on the National Weather Service and consider a wider spectrum of topics that cut across all the NOAA line offices. One concern, however, is that the current membership should be expanded to include a broader expertise. Fisheries is one area that may not be appropriate for the group to address. The recommendations include several changes to the existing ToR, including deletion of the paragraph on the focus on the National

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Weather Service, and increasing their scope. They also recommend eliminating the paragraph that requires the reconsideration of the group after three years.

Nancy Colleton added, for those not at the Fall meeting, that this working group has made a lot of progress and the Co-Chairs are delighted the other members of the EISWG have agreed to continue.

Discussion

Ray Ban asked for a clarification: if the intent now is to focus EISWG beyond the National Weather Service, on the other line offices, he is concerned that the National Weather Service will lose working group attention. Walt Dabberdt said the EISWG has already started to work with the National Ocean Service (NOS), Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) and the National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service (NESDIS) so his proposed change would simply allow them to do more than they already do.

Jim Sanchirico asked about the terms of current members and when others might rotate in to cover areas of expertise that are lacking. Walt Dabberdt responded that the EISWG has a few vacancies now; the working group meets in April and will finalize membership recommendations to the SAB at that time. He noted that 3-4 members come up for renewal or replacement each year.

Nancy Colleton added that there is a chart in the presentation on membership on slide 14. Nancy said on 2012 member rotation, the EISWG is requesting renewal of current member terms. Once SAB approves the TOR then the working group will propose additional members members.

Ray Ban asked for a motion to accept recommendations. Jeremy Jackson made the motion and Jean May-Brett seconded. Ray Ban asked if there was further discussion; there was none. The motion passed unanimously. Ray thanked Nancy Colleton, Walt Dabberdt and the EISWG for their recommendations and their work.

Action 1: The SAB Science Advisory Board approved the EISWG recommendations regarding its terms of reference and plans moving forward. The EISWG ToR will be revised and posted on the SAB website

Proposed Chair for the Climate Working Group

Heidi Cullen, Climate Central, SAB Member and Liaison to the CWG

Ray Ban made the presentation on behalf of Heidi Cullen, who was not able to participate on the teleconference. He noted that Tony Busalacchi, former chair of the Climate Working Group (CWG), came to the end of his final term in 2012 and the CWG had to select a new chair. There were thorough discussions among working group members, Tony Busalacchi, Heidi

Cullen, Bob Detrick and Ray Ban on moving forward with the Climate Working Group as well as with the Chair position. Holly Hartmann from University of Arizona and current member of the CWG has agreed to serve as Chair of the CWG for at least one year. At the end of that time, the CWG will consider asking another member to serve as Co-Chair in order to reduce the pressure on one individual. It is the CWG recommendation that Holly Hartmann be approved as the Chair of the CWG with another member possibly nominated as Co-Chair in a year.

Discussion

Ray Ban asked Board members if there were any questions on Holly's recommendation. There were not questions or discussion. Jerry Schubel made a motion to approve Holly Hartmann as the CWG Chair; Marshall Shepherd seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion was approved.

Action 2: The SAB Science Advisory Board approved Holly Hartman, University of Arizona, as Chair of the Climate Working Group. The Chair of the SAB will send a letter to Dr. Hartmann to confirm her appointment.

Public Comment Period

Ray Ban asked if there were any public comments. Cynthia Decker replied that there were no members of the public signed up for comments.

Comments from Dr. Jane Lubchenco

Dr. Lubchenco thanked the SAB for all they have done for her and NOAA and thanked them for the work they continue to do. Dr Lubchenco is immensely proud of what NOAA has done over the last four years; she leaves with bittersweet feelings but will be happy to be reunited with her husband. Dr. Lubchenco will be heading back to the west coast for spring quarter and be in residence at Stanford in a distinguished visitor status. She relishes the time to think, write and process; this job has been intense and this provides a chance to think about what's next. Dr. Lubchenco has been in discussion with Oregon State but nothing has been decided in terms of her future there. She has a great admiration for people in NOAA agency that funds scientists and does science but can always do better. The SAB can tell NOAA when it is doing well, when the agency needs to change. That outside expertise is "hard-nosed" but very valuable. She appreciates Ray Ban for chairing this group as well as the members who give their time and energy on the business of NOAA. It is in the nation's benefit; that need will continue. Kathy Sullivan is next in line of succession and will be named as the Acting Administrator and will serve outstandingly in that role until a new Administrator is confirmed. Dr. Lubchenco is appreciative that Kathy Sullivan is stepping in when there are fiscal challenges coming. The

sequester process remains unresolved and there is not a lot of discretion to do anything because every program, project and activity is reduced by the same amount with no discretion by NOAA. There are day-to-day things to get done as well as crises to be handled. In moments of crises NOAA comes together and that working together within NOAA and with the outside community is essential in the uncertain times ahead. NOAA has worked hard to let people know about satellites and to rebalance its portfolio. Dr. Lubchenco thanked the Board again and asked members to stay in touch with her.

Ray Ban thanked Jane Lubchenco and said, on behalf of the Board, it has been an honor and privilege for him to work with her and the NOAA leadership. It has been a very enlightening experience to get to know Dr. Lubchenco and the leadership she has provided. Dr. Lubchenco also thanked Cynthia Decker and her staff who make it possible to have productive and efficient meetings.

Meeting Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM

Meeting Actions

Action 1: The SAB Science Advisory Board approved the EISWG recommendations regarding its terms of reference and plans moving forward. The EISWG ToR will be revised and posted on the SAB website.

Action 2: The SAB Science Advisory Board approved Holly Hartman, University of Arizona, as Chair of the Climate Working Group. The Chair of the SAB will send a letter to Dr. Hartmann to confirm her appointment.