**WDAC Flux Task Team**

**Terms of Reference**

1. Provide a single point-of-contact for surface flux observations and

analysis in the WCRP.

2. Establish and encourage the use of data, metadata, and

documentation standards for global surface flux data

ocean-atmosphere-land) data sets that are consistent with standards

used in major climate model intercomparison efforts (e.g., CMIP),

thereby facilitating intercomparison of the data sets and their use

in evaluation of Earth System models and their components.

Recommendations and improvements to CMIP and reanalysis standard model

output and documentation for improved capability for comparison with

observed flux datasets.

3. Establish conventions for intercomparisons of global datasets, and

for assessment of the global datasets with available in situ data.

4. Encourage continued acquisition of eddy covariance flux

measurements, particularly in extreme locations and conditions as well

as the expansion of flux observations to include all of the heat

(turbulent and radiative), momentum, gas, aerosols, and freshwater

fluxes. Support continued acquisition of key input parameters for bulk

flux estimation and radiative fluxes at existing and planned long-term

sites.

5. Oversee a website containing available direct and indirect flux

estimates in a common format, along the lines of the GEWEX SeaFlux

site. In addition, provide hosting for global flux data sets in agreed

standards, a repository of results of comparisons, and an inventory of

the literature published using these data sets for the benefit of the

larger community.

6. Support activities from other non-air-sea-flux communities, such as

the ocean heat content and the atmospheric radiation communities, to

work with constraining and understanding uncertainties in the air-sea

fluxes.

7. Encourage support for groups attempting to evaluate bulk flux

parameters from non-research sources, such as ships of opportunity.

8. Encourage research into and support for satellite missions that

provide enhanced air-surface flux capabilities.

9. Provide support for having surface fluxes named as Essential

Climate Variables.

10. Report to the WDAC and brief other relevant WCRP committees and

panels (e.g., GEWEX/GDAP and CLIVAR) on progress, status, and plans

for activities overseen by the Task Team.

**Proposed membership**

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