

# WHAT IS CSD?

- The **Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)** is the **United Nations body** tasked with furthering progress toward the broad sustainable government goals that were established in Stockholm in 1972, Rio in 1992 and Johannesburg (WSSD) in 2002.
- Currently in the second year of a two-year policy phase **focused on water, sanitation and human settlements.**
- CSD-13 will be held **11-22 April 2005, UN Headquarters in New York.**

# FOCUS ON PARTNERSHIPS

- Like at WSSD, CSD has a **focus on implementation through partnerships** – which are diverse groups of governments, intergovernmental agencies and NGOs focused on a particular component of sustainable development.
- **IGOS is a registered partnership** within CSD – consisting of CEOS (and its member space agencies) as well as many intergovernmental organizations.
- An action coming from the IGOS P-11bis meeting in November (Beijing) was to focus some energy on **participating in CSD-13 and highlighting the work of the IGOS Water Cycle Theme.**

# OPPORTUNITIES AT CSD

There are **4 different ways** that IGOS and the Water Cycle Theme **can participate in CSD**:

1. Sponsoring an Information Table
2. Participating in the Partnership Fair
3. Sponsoring a Training through the Learning Centre
4. Sponsoring Side Events

# 1) SPONSORING AN INFORMATION TABLE

- Will be the **major way** for partnerships to **communicate** about **accomplishments** and get **feedback** from other partnerships.
- Information tables will be obtained through application to the CSD Secretariat, and **each partnership will likely only get an information table for ½ of one day**, given large demand.
- **NOAA is staffing an IGOS information table at the CSD Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting (CSD IPM)** being held this week at UN headquarters.

## 2) PARTNERSHIPS FAIR

- At **CSD-12**, the Partnerships Fair was the forum at which **partnerships gave 45 minute presentations** on their work and had interactive discussions with other partnerships.
- Rick Lawford has developed a **plan for IGWCO's** work to be highlighted in this forum.

## 2) PARTNERSHIPS FAIR (continued)

- However, NOAA learned from the CSD Secretariat this week that **the Partnerships Fair is going to have a different format than last year** that is focused on moderated discussions between multiple partnerships.
- **NOAA will be representing IGOS** as a panelist in such a discussion at the CSD IPM this week.
- **IGOS will need to be flexible in its plans** to adapt to such changes in format, and will **need to focus much of its activity on an info table** to get its message out to CSD delegates.

### 3) SPONSORING A TRAINING

- Would be a way for the IGOS community to **communicate with a diverse community** of policy makers, scientists and local program implementers about the benefits of Earth observations.
- Applications are due to the CSD Secretariat on **1 March 2005**, and must be sponsored by a government or UN identified “major group” (not a partnership).
- Trainings would likely be approximately **2.5 hours long**.



## 4) SPONSORING A SIDE EVENT

- The **Government of South Africa** is **sponsoring a side event** at CSD-13, likely during the ministerial period, that will be **focused on integrated Earth observations**, including both GEOSS and IGOS.
- **Rick Lawford and NOAA** will be **coordinating** with them on the planning of this event.



# COORDINATION ON CSD PLANNING

- As the format for Partnership activities at CSD-13 is still in flux and will be defined by the end of the CSD IPM this week, we will **need to coordinate in the weeks to come.**
- Develop a **dedicated email list** for those with interest?

# ATTENDING CSD-13 – 11-22 APRIL

- To attend CSD-13, you **must be a member of a delegation** – either a government delegation or the delegation of a “major group” (intergovernmental organization).
- **Important for many IGOS stakeholders to attend** to ensure that Earth observations has a prominent role in the water policy documents being finalized at these meetings.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

CSD-13 Website:

- [www.un.org/esa/sustdev/](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/)
- Click on “Current CSD Session”

Rick Lawford is working closely with NOAA to coordinate IGOS and CEOS inputs to CSD.

Questions/concerns can be addressed to:

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