



Resolution in Recognition of the Establishment of “Future Earth” by ICSU

[Approved in concept 11 July 2013; Davos, Switzerland]

The IAMAS Executive Committee

Recognizing:

- the major sustainability and environmental challenges currently confronting the scientific community and the nations of the world;
- the centrality and significance of atmospheric processes to the determination of the weather, air and water quality, the frequency and intensity of floods and droughts, and both short-term climate variability and long-term climate change;
- that a well-founded understanding of the Earth system is built on a base of on-going and high quality surface, in situ, ship, aircraft, and space-based observations, intensive studies of processes and interactions, a hierarchy of models capable of representing the wide breadth of space and time scales, and the analysis of a strong scientific community; and

Valuing:

- the observations being gathered by nationally and internationally supported satellite, surface, and in situ-based systems and networks;
- the important insights and understanding emerging from the major research projects and their coordination efforts organized particularly by the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) since their inception;
- the advanced modeling and research programs being supported in many nations, including particularly the essential computational, analytic, and data storage resources provided to ensure the success of these efforts; and
- the promotion of international cooperation in science by the nations of the world in order to most rapidly advance scientific understanding;

Welcomes:

- the establishment of “Future Earth” by the International Council for Science (ICSU) in cooperation with the Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability; and

Urges:

- the atmospheric sciences community and its various components to engage fully with the new activity; and
- the leadership of the Future Earth to sustain, draw upon and build the community’s expertise for addressing the many important societal, environmental and other challenges facing the world community; and

Recommends:

- the continuation, evolution and expansion of the research encompassed in the IGBP and other relevant projects, including the facilitation, direction and orientation of field campaigns, and the provision and preservation of long-term data sets that yield the evidence base for determining key atmospheric and surface parameters required by policymakers;
- the initiation, development, and sustenance of cooperative partnerships between IUGG and its Associations and Future Earth for the purpose of ensuring and strengthening the programs of research, analysis, and observations needed to advance scientific understanding of the Earth system and meet the many, diverse needs of Future Earth; and
- the devotion of special attention to education, training, and mentoring in areas that will build and expand the intellectual capacity of the natural and social sciences, especially focused on providing development, participation, and recognition of those who can provide expertise for bringing advances in understanding across disciplinary areas.

(revised as of 15 July 2013)