



Global Ocean Observing System



Session 7.8: ETOOFS

Enrique Alvarez, Vice chair, ETOOFS

15th GOOS Steering Committee meeting (SC-15) | 25-27 March 2026 | Hyderabad, India

Key updates

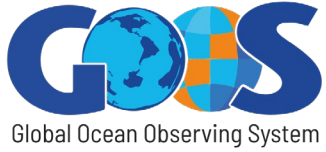
1. **ETOOFS Terms of Reference** has been updated and agreed by SC in Sep 2025.
 - Overview, membership and governance and operating principles will be included in separate sections in addition to the Terms of References, by taking into account Accenture's proposal for streamlined ToRs across GOOS components.
 - After SC signed off the ToR, additional comment received from WMO expert to replace 'Operational' with 'Prediction' in ETOOFS's name
1. **ETOOFS Guide has been reviewed by WMO experts** ([initial consolidated comments](#)), but agreement is **pending** to be reached, as WMO experts required to remove three chapters from the Guide:
 - Chapter 7 - Storm Surge modelling
 - Chapter 8 - Wave modelling
 - Chapter 12 - Challenges and future perspectives in ocean prediction

Next steps

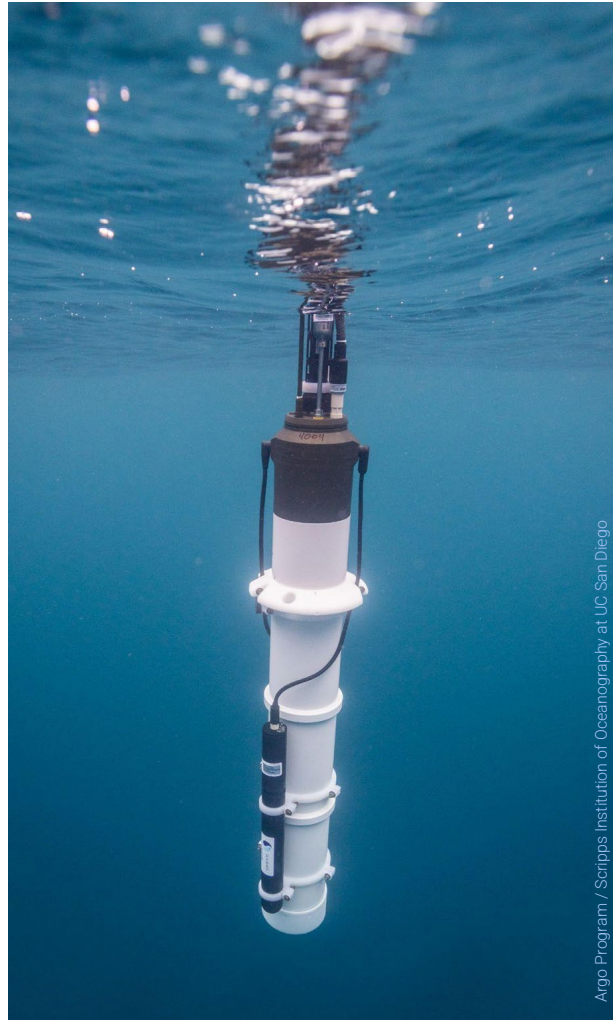
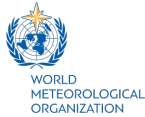
1. Schedule a meeting among GOOS SC co-chairs, ETOOFS chairs, INFCOM and SERCOM co-chairs and GOOS Secretariat to explore solutions to address (Apr 2026).
2. Complete the other components in ETOOFS Terms of Reference doc, i.e. Overview, membership and governance and operating principles, aligning with GOOS reform recommendation for unified ToR among GOOS components.
3. Open call for new members (by involving broader ocean and climate modeling community)
4. Resume ETOOFS meetings in 2026
5. Updated ETOOFS Guide in close collaboration with WMO (by 2027)

Two key questions for the SC

1. What is the plan and timeline to standardize the ToRs among GOOS components? Shall we wait, or proceed? What are the recommended terms (years) and governing structure for ETOOFS?
1. How to reflect the role of ETOOFS in supporting system design of GOOS, and OOFS capacity of MS against OKRs of GOOS Reform proposal?



**Thank
you** goosocean.org



Argo Program / Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego