

ESTIMATED PERFORMANCE OF PRODUCTS FROM TYPICAL SATELLITE INSTRUMENTS

The attention of Working Group II is raised to the document entitled “Estimated Performance of Products from Typical Satellite Instruments”, included as Volume IV of the dossier on “The Space-based Global Observing System in 2008 (GOS-2008)” introduced in WMO-WP-16, to be addressed under agenda item D1 in the Plenary session.

In that document, an attempt is made to anticipate the quality of derived products (in terms of horizontal resolution, vertical resolution, accuracy, frequency of coverage), as a function of the characteristics of typical future instruments or missions (in terms of spectral range, spectral resolution, horizontal resolution, radiometric accuracy, swath or image cycle). The main purpose of this exercise is to appreciate the contribution of different instruments to the overall multi-instrument scheme that might be adopted in order to generate a product with as little bias as possible, by balancing strengths and weaknesses of the different instruments types.

This study may be used as an input for the formulation of realistic user requirements for future observing systems, or to appreciate to which extent technology-free user requirements can be approached by future instruments.