Geophysical Research Abstracts, Vol. 8, 07713, 2006
SRef-ID: 1607-7962/gra/EGU06-A-07713

IGACO-O3: The First Step in Implementing IGACO

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The 'Integrated Global Atmospheric Chemistry Observations' (IGACO) theme is a component of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS) partnership. IGACO is led by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and it links to several WMO-led programmes, such as the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), Global Climate Observation System (GCOS), International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), and also bears a strong link to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). An international panel of distinguished experts prepared an IGACO theme report, which was published in September 2004.

The objectives of IGACO can be summarised as:

1. To ensure accurate, comprehensive global observations of key atmospheric gases and aerosols;
2. To establish a system for integrating ground-based, in situ and satellite observations using atmospheric models;
3. To make the integrated observations accessible to users.

The implementation of IGACO is proceeding with a focus on four areas: IGACO-Ozone, IGACO-Greenhouse Gases, IGACO-Aerosols and IGACO-Air Quality and Long Range Transport of Air Pollution (LRTAP). Each focus has a Secretariat hosted by a major research institution and a scientific advisory panel. The Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI) hosts the IGACO-Ozone secretariat.

In this presentation we will discuss the goals of IGACO-Ozone, present the current IGACO-Ozone implementation status and future steps to reach the objectives.