GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

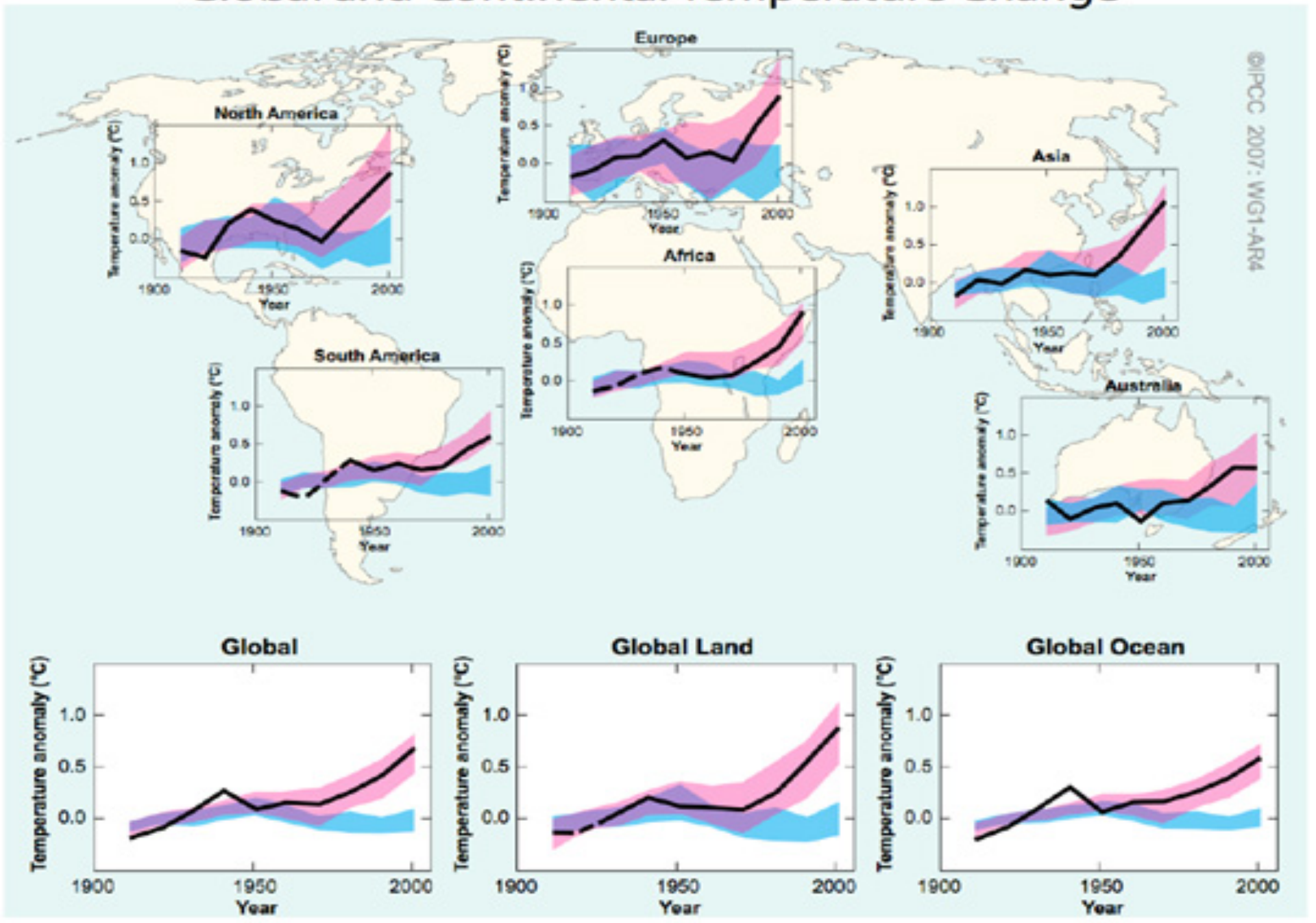
5th Asia-Pacific Symposium

WG1: GEOSS AWCI

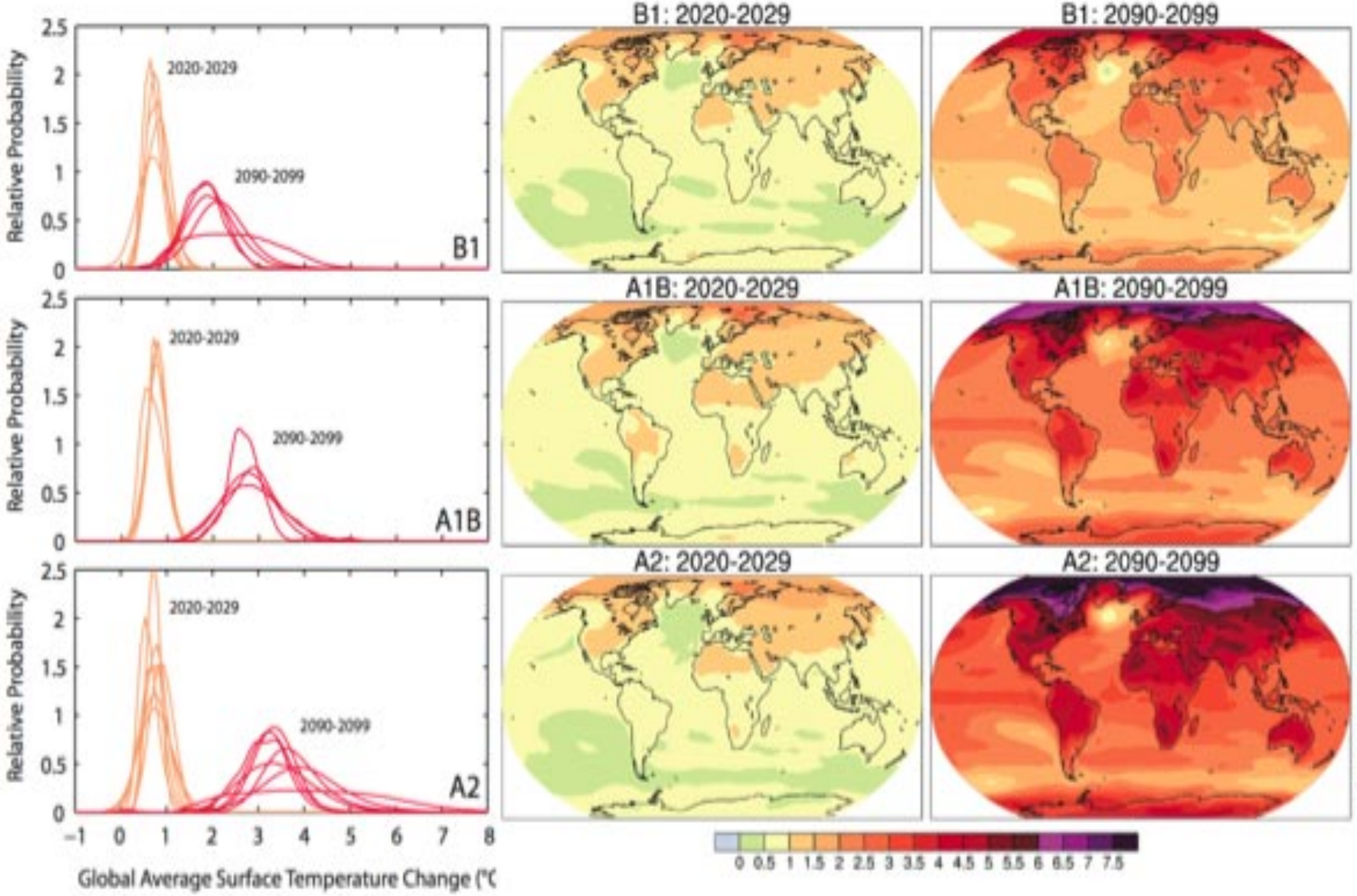
3 April 2012, Miraikan, Tokyo

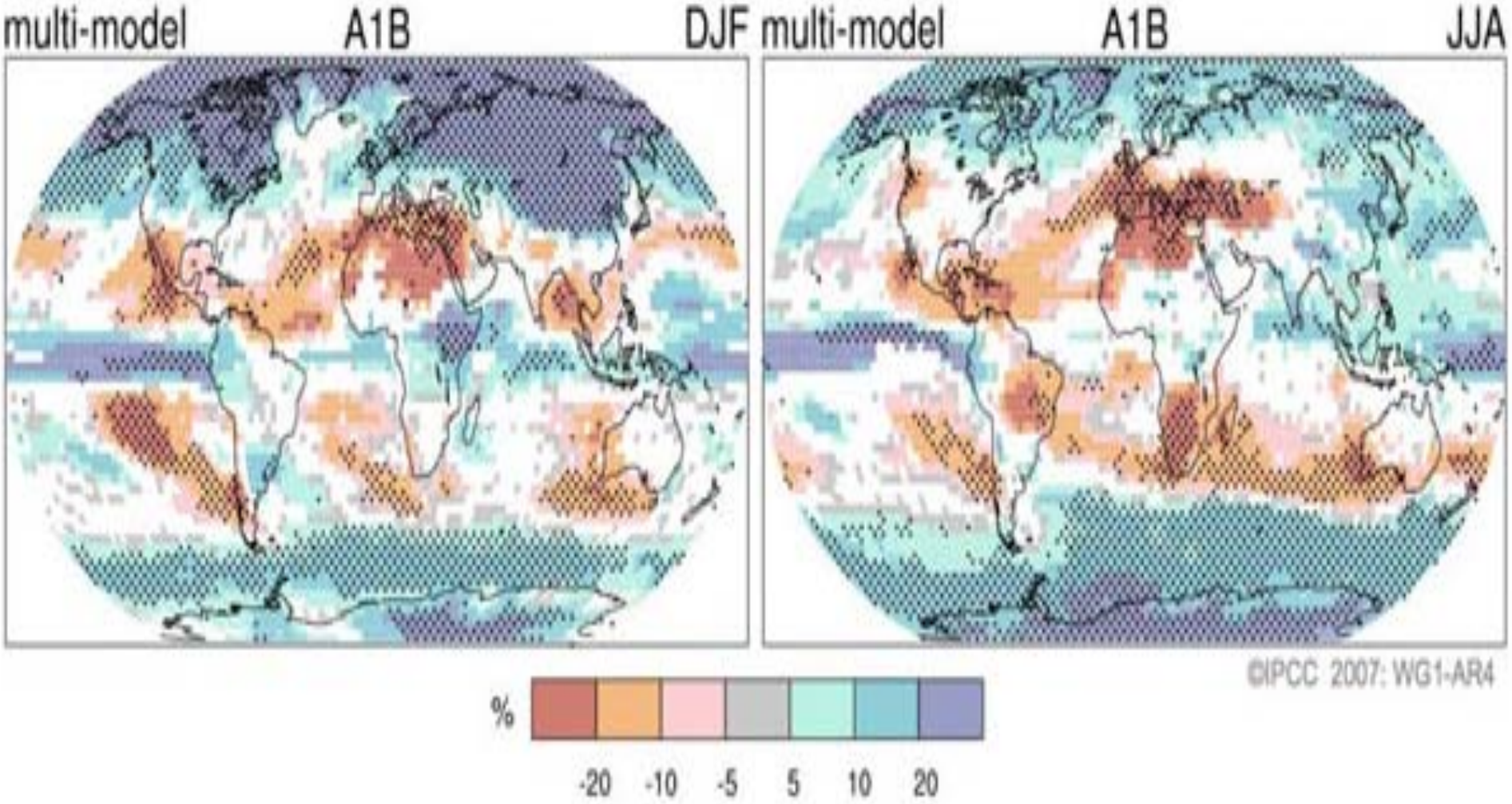
Douglas Cripe
GEO Secretriat

Global and Continental Temperature Change

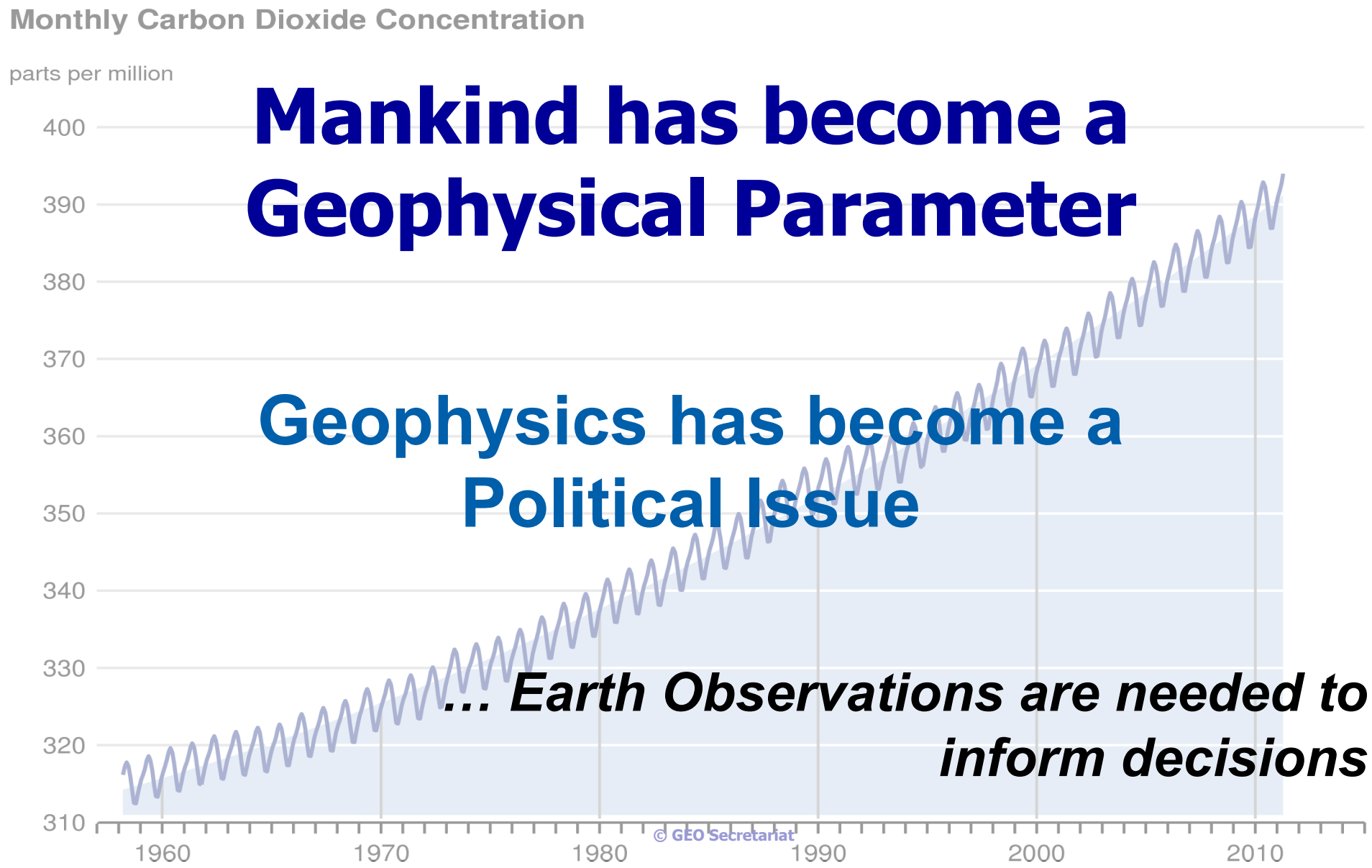


AOGCM Projections of Surface Temperatures





GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS



Mankind has become a Geophysical Parameter

Geophysics has become a Political Issue

… Earth Observations are needed to inform decisions

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

Planet Under Pressure 2012

- « To ensure a sustainable approach to water management, it is not sufficient to document the physical, biological and chemical aspects of the hydrological cycle… We also need to understand the social and political dynamics as well as the aspirations, beliefs and values that affect human behaviour relating to water use.
- Solutions for a sustainable 'water world' will be founded on interdisciplinary science but will need the involvement of all stakeholders. This presents a considerable challenge but is the only viable way ahead. »

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

What is IWRM?

- « A process that promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize economic and social welfare without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems and the environment. It is internationally acknowledged as the way forward in dealing with issues of water security, and is in strong alignment with initiatives aimed at 'greening the economy'. However, IWRM will not deliver the expected results unless it is supported by strong political will, a flexible policy framework, strong institutions and an inclusive approach. »

Planet under Pressure 2012

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

Planet under Pressure 2012: recommendations

- Finding sustainable solutions for water problems is a joint obligation for science and policy; however, science cannot solve the water crisis without societal engagement and political will.
- Water security has multiple dimensions, including social, humanitarian, economic and ecological. Major decisions on water resource management must be made therefore with broad cross-sectoral input.
- There is a need to improve the availability of data and information, particularly on transboundary water resources and planetary thresholds. We need to evaluate our water needs and prioritize allocations.
- Proper finance mechanisms are required to ensure sustainability of water services, while capacity building is required at all levels.

GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS

"The Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) is a coordinating and integrating network of Earth observing and information systems, contributed on a voluntary basis by Members and Participating Organizations of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO)."

To support informed decision making for society, including the implementation of international environmental treaty obligations.

GROUP ON
EARTH OBSERVATIONS

Thank you!

dcripe@geosec.org
earthobservations.org