

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



September 6, 2002

IY

Reply to Attn of:

Mr. Scott B. Gudes  
Deputy Under Secretary for  
Oceans and Atmosphere  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration (NOAA)  
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW  
Room 6013  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Gudes:

Thank you for your letter of August 29, 2002, requesting that the \_\_\_\_\_ and the Space Administration (NASA) accept the lead U.S. federal agency role for the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program. I am pleased to inform you that NASA's Earth Science Enterprise (ESE) has reviewed your proposal and is prepared to immediately assume the lead U.S. federal agency role for GLOBE. Education is an integral part of NASA's mission. As such, this program will help support NASA's educational goals and objectives for the future.

In our capacity as the GLOBE lead U.S. federal agency, NASA will immediately assume responsibility for the oversight and implementation of all existing international and domestic joint project GLOBE activities that NOAA has relinquished to NASA. NASA's legal authority to assume the role of lead federal agency in the GLOBE program and conclude new international and domestic joint project agreements is derived from the \_\_\_\_\_ and Space Act of 1958, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2451, et seq., especially sections 102(d)(7) and 205, and the President's accompanying signing statement of July 29, 1958, as well as from 42 U.S.C. 2473(c)(5).

Regarding the \_\_\_\_\_ agreements between NOAA and foreign partners in the GLOBE Program, it is NASA's understanding that NOAA retains nominal responsibility to the foreign party for U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ those agreements until such time as the government of the GLOBE \_\_\_\_\_ to amend that GLOBE agreement to reflect NASA's role as the U.S. party.

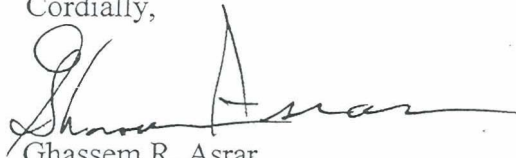
Regarding the conclusion of all \_\_\_\_\_ GLOBE agreements, NASA will assume \_\_\_\_\_ upon receipt of authorization to that effect from the Department of State, pursuant to Circular C-175 procedures.

Regarding the conclusion of future domestic joint project GLOBE agreements, NASA is prepared to conclude those on behalf of the GLOBE Program as the lead U.S. federal agency, as necessary.

With respect to the various GLOBE Federal trademark registrations, NASA will accept the transfer of the GLOBE marks in support of the GLOBE Program. NASA will ensure that such use of the GLOBE marks is of proper quality and otherwise consistent with the mission of the GLOBE Program.

NASA's ESE looks forward to undertaking this exciting opportunity to inspire the next generation of Earth Science researchers through continued implementation of the GLOBE program. NASA appreciates the strong support NOAA has previously provided to the GLOBE program.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ghassem R. Asrar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ghassem R. Asrar  
Associate Administrator  
for Earth Science



rec'd. 9/10  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
The Deputy Under Secretary for  
and At mosphere  
Washington, D.C. 20230

AUG 29 2002

cc: Ming-Ying

Dr. Ghassem R. Asrar  
Associate Administrator for  
Earth Science  
NASA Headquarters  
300 E Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20546

Dear Dr. Asrar:

In light of Congressional decisions on the FY 2002 Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) requests that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) assume the role of lead U.S. federal agency for the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program. Taking over as lead U.S. federal agency would include the oversight and implementation of all existing GLOBE program activities.

Assumption of this role also entails responsibility for: (1) fulfilling existing international agreements; (2) concluding future international agreements; and (3) completing domestic joint project agreements. Item (1) will require NASA to work with the Department of State for authorization to assume NOAA's responsibilities to secure recognition by GLOBE partners of NASA as the U.S. party of record to the existing international agreements. Item (2) will require NASA to work with the Department of State for authorization to conclude future international agreements. Item (3) will require NASA to assume NOAA's responsibilities under existing domestic joint project agreements as well as to conclude future domestic joint project agreements, as necessary.

NOAA hereby relinquishes to NASA its oversight and implementation of all existing GLOBE program activities. With respect to the various GLOBE Federal trademark registrations (the GLOBE marks), upon written acceptance of the lead U.S. federal agency responsibility by NASA, NOAA will transfer the GLOBE marks to NASA.

NOAA is prepared to support the smooth transition of lead U.S. federal agency responsibilities to NASA. Thank you for your continuing support of this extremely worthwhile educational initiative. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

  
Scott B. Gudes



cc:  
NSF/Filmer,  
State/Higgins  
GLOBE Director/Butler  
YO/Birk, Wei  
IY/Maliga, Carroll  
GS/Mirmina  
File: Globe program  
Prep: IY/dcarroll, 9/3/02, x1622