



# SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH\*

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## SCAR Circular Letter 781

### Questionnaire on Bioprospecting in the Antarctic at the National Level

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To: SCAR National Committees  
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SCAR National Delegates  
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9 November 2009

Dear Colleagues,

SCAR is currently assessing the extent to which biological prospecting (bioprospecting) research is being undertaken in the Antarctic region as part of the activities of National Antarctic Programmes. We were requested to do so by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties - that is, by agreement of your country's representatives to the Antarctic Treaty. SCAR has agreed to provide a paper at ATCM XXXIII in May 2010 surveying the extent and character of bioprospecting research being undertaken within the SCAR community.

We would be most grateful if you would complete and return the attached simple Questionnaire (see Appendix 1). You have approximately six weeks to respond, by 20 December 2009, to enable the Secretariat to prepare an Information Paper for the May ATCM meeting.

For those who submitted a response to a similar questionnaire in 2008, please note that the new set of questions is somewhat different from the original one.

Thank you for your assistance,

Yours sincerely,

Colin Summerhayes  
SCAR Executive Director