



WP 27

Agenda Item: 11.2

Person Responsible: J. López-Martínez, M. Sparrow and EXCOM

XXXIII SCAR Delegates Meeting

Auckland, New Zealand, 1-3rd September 2014

**The next SCAR Strategic Plan
2017-2022**

Executive Summary

Title: The next SCAR Strategic Plan 2017-2022

Authors: J. López-Martínez, M. Sparrow and EXCOM

Introduction/ Background: The current SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016 ends in late 2016. The preparation of a new Strategic Plan for the period 2017-2022 should start in the coming months, to allow preparation and adequate discussion that culminates finally in a document to be presented to the SCAR Delegates in August 2016 at the XXXIV SCAR Meeting in Malaysia, and finally with the new Strategic Plan in place by the end of 2016.

Important Issues or Factors: This paper outlines a procedure for the preparation of the new Strategic Plan 2017-2022. It is not about its content, which will be prepared, discussed and adopted after a broad consultation and discussion process. To reduce costs, it is proposed that apart from several broad consultations during the process, an in-depth discussion about the new Strategic Plan should be held with the 2015 EXCOM Meeting, with participation of the Strategic Plan Team (SPT), which would be composed of all the EXCOM Members, SSGs and SCs Chief Officers, SRPs Chairs and the SCAR Secretariat.

Recommendations/Actions and Justification: Delegates are asked to review the initial ideas for the preparation of the new Strategic Plan and discuss/approve as appropriate.

Expected Benefits/Outcomes: The Strategic Plan will be a forward-looking vision of what SCAR should do to achieve its mission. It will provide an internal and external overview of SCAR and will be a framework and guide to conduct SCAR activities in the 2017-2012 period.

Partners: Various

Budget Implications: If the proposed preliminary timetable and procedure is adopted, an additional day during the 2015 EXCOM Meeting (tentatively in late spring 2015 in Tromsø, Norway) would be needed to discuss this issue, including some additional participants. A second meeting in early 2016 should also be considered, depending on the outcomes of the 2015 discussions. To reduce travels and costs, this meeting would be in Cambridge with physical participation of those SPT members available (and having easier/cheaper journeys), and teleconference connection with the others.

The next SCAR Strategic Plan 2017-2022

Introduction

The SCAR Strategic Plans are a forward-looking vision of what SCAR should do to achieve its mission. They provide an internal and external overview of SCAR and are a framework and guide to conduct SCAR activities in the coming period.

The current SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016 ends in late 2016. The preparation of a new Strategic Plan for the period 2017-2022 should start in the coming months to allow adequate preparation and discussion that culminates in a document to be presented to the SCAR Delegates in August 2016 at the XXXIV SCAR Meeting in Malaysia and finally to have a Strategic Plan in place by the end of 2016. The new Strategic Plan should be adopted by 1st January 2017 when it will go into effect.

Principles, background and proposed process to prepare the new Strategic Plan

The general principles for preparing and discussing the new SCAR Strategic Plan 2017-2022 would follow those of the current SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016. That means that will be a consensus, inclusive document prepared after an open and iterative process of consultation.

The participation in the process and the opinions of the SCAR community are of great importance. A broad participation will be promoted and inputs from the National SCAR Committees and Delegates specially encouraged. This will be an opportunity to promote and develop the general engagement of our community with SCAR.

It is proposed to establish a Strategic Plan Team (SPT), composed of all the EXCOM Members, SSGs and SCs Chief Officers, SRPs Chairs and the SCAR Secretariat (including the ED and the EO).

The new document should be as concise as possible, avoiding going into unnecessary details about SCAR and referring for this to other sources, in particular to the SCAR website.

In the preparation of the new Strategic Plan efforts will be made to use online communications and to reduce travels and costs as much as possible.

The new Strategic Plan 2017-2022 will have as starting point and guidance the current SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016.

Other documents and elements to be taken into account, among others, will be:

- Documents and possible recommendations of the SCAR Review by ICSU that will start in late 2014;
- Other relevant ICSU strategic documents, including the current (2011-2017) ICSU Strategic Plan ;
- Outcomes of the 2014 1st SCAR Antarctic and Southern Ocean Science Horizon Scan;
- The possible review of the SCAR Structure and Rules of Procedure to be initiated in 2014;
- Review of SCAR co-sponsored groups and activities carried out in 2014;
- The evolution and results of the internal review of the new generation of SCAR Scientific Research Programmes;
- Existing agreements and cooperation with other organizations;
- Momentum and perspectives relative to the SCAR role in the Antarctic Treaty System;
-

Proposed actions and preliminary timetable:

- 1-3 September 2014: General guidelines for the preparation of the Strategic Plan approved by the Delegates in the XXXIII SCAR Delegates Meeting in Auckland.
- October-December 2014: Compilation of a comprehensive list of the relevant documents to be used for the new Strategic Plan, and preparation of a initial Strategic Plan draft annotated content. Communication among the Strategic Plan Team (SPT) will be online.
- January-March 2015: Preparation and broad circulation of the initial Strategic Plan draft annotated content, asking for comments and improvements.
- April-May 2015: Preparation of the Strategic Plan Draft 1 to be discussed in the (extended) EXCOM Meeting.
- Late spring 2015 (date to be confirmed): Discussion of the Strategic Plan Draft 1 during the 2015 EXCOM Meeting (in coincidence with the COMNAP Annual General Assembly, in Tromso, Norway, dates to be confirmed). This meeting will include the participation of EXCOM members and the other SPT members. To hold the meeting at the same time as the EXCOM Meeting optimises travels and costs. The extra cost will be relatively small because all the attenders would participate in the EXCOM meeting in any case. An extra day will be added to the meeting for discussing the Strategic Plan, which will be a major item in the meeting agenda.
- Summer-Autumn 2015: Preparation and Circulation of the Strategic Plan Draft 2, asking for comments and improvements.
- Winter-Spring 2016: Continuation of the preparation and consultation of the Strategic Plan draft. In the 2015 EXCOM Meeting it will be decided if it is necessary or not to hold another meeting in early 2016. To reduce travels and costs, in case this meeting if considered necessary would be in Cambridge, with physical participation of those SPT members available and having easier/cheaper travels, and teleconference connection with the others.
- July 2016: Corrected Strategic Plan Draft 3 will be submitted as a WP for the SCAR Meeting.
- August 2016: Discussion of the Strategic Plan Draft in the XXXIV SCAR Meeting in Malaysia. The SCAR subsidiary bodies will also have opportunity to discuss the content of the Strategic Plan Draft and it will be a major agenda item in the Delegates Meeting.
- September-October 2016: Preparation of a Final Strategic Plan Draft including the recommendations from the XXXIV SCAR Meeting.
- November 2016: General circulation of the Final Strategic Plan Draft for comments.
- December 2016: Preparation of the Final Strategic Plan, which will go in effect on 1st January 2017.

Recommendations/Actions

Delegates are asked to review the proposed ideas for the preparation of the new Strategic Plan and discuss/approve as appropriate.