

**Twenty-ninth Meeting of SCAR Delegates  
Hobart, Tasmania, 17–19 July 2006**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA (REVISIONS HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW)**

***Delegates are asked to note that in the interests of efficiency, this meeting will follow the practice of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings in which papers are classified as either Working Papers (WP), which are essential for the conduct of business, or Information Papers (IP), which are for communications only.***

### **Formal Opening of XXIXSCAR Delegates Meeting**

J Thiede, President of SCAR, will formally opened the meeting and welcome Delegates to Hobart, the home of the Australian Antarctic Division. He will introduce Delegates to the new SCAR Executive Officer, Marzena Kaczmarek.

Unless otherwise noted below, all agenda items will be introduced by the President.

### **1. Opening Business**

#### 1.1 Adoption of the Agenda (WP01, WP02, WP03, WP04)

***Delegates will be asked to adopt the draft agenda [WP 01], the draft annotated agenda [WP02], the list of documents [WP03], and the draft timetable for the meeting [WP04], suggesting additions and modifications where appropriate.***

***Delegates will be asked to approve the appointment of C Howard-Williams (New Zealand) to chair the meetings of the Delegates Committee on Scientific Affairs and of J López-Martínez to chair the meetings of the Delegates Committee on Outreach and Administration.***

These two committees should meet in parallel session. The distribution of agenda items between the Plenary meeting and the two Delegate Committees is shown in the draft timetable.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, DELEGATES OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS, AND OBSERVERS, WILL LEAVE THE PLENARY SESSION DURING THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS ON THE ADMITTANCE OF NEW MEMBERS**

#### 1.2 Application of Bulgaria for Full Membership (WP05(i))

The papers for this application were distributed with SCAR Circular no 763.

The Delegate from Bulgaria will present the application for full membership of SCAR (WP05). **Delegates will discuss the application in closed session to decide whether or not Bulgaria should be admitted to Full Membership.** The Delegate from Bulgaria will then be invited to rejoin the Plenary, and the decision will then be communicated to him.

### 1.3 Application of Ukraine for Full Membership (WP05(ii))

The papers for this application were distributed with *SCAR Circular* no 763. The Delegate from Ukraine will present the application for full membership of SCAR (WP06). **Delegates will discuss the application in closed session to decide whether or not Ukraine should be admitted to Full Membership.** The Delegate from Ukraine will then be invited to rejoin the Plenary, and the decision will then be communicated to him.

### 1.4 Application of Denmark for Associate Membership (WP05(iii))

The papers for this application were distributed with *SCAR Circular* no 763. The Delegate from Denmark, or their representative, will present the application for Associate Membership [WP06]. **Delegates will discuss the application in closed session to decide whether or not Denmark should be admitted to Full Membership.** The Delegate from Denmark, or their representative, will then be invited to rejoin the Plenary, and the decision will then be communicated to him.

### 1.5 Application of Portugal for Associate Membership (WP05(iv))

The papers for this application were distributed with *SCAR Circular* no 763. The Delegate from Portugal, or their representative, will present the application for Associate Membership [WP06]. **Delegates will discuss the application in closed session to decide whether or not Portugal should be admitted to Full Membership.** The Delegate from Portugal, or their representative, will then be invited to rejoin the Plenary, and the decision will then be communicated to him.

### 1.6 Application of International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA) for Union Membership (WP06(i))

The papers for this application were distributed with *SCAR Circular* no 763. The Observer from INQUA will present the application for Union Membership [WP06(ii)]. **Delegates will discuss the application in closed session to decide whether or not INQUA should be admitted to Union Membership.** The Observer from INQUA, will then be invited to rejoin the Plenary, and the decision will then be communicated to him.

## 2. Reports of SCAR Meetings

## 2.1 Report of XXVIII SCAR Meeting (WP07)

***Delegates will be asked to adopt the Report of the XXVIII SCAR Delegates Meeting (Bremerhaven, Germany, 4-8 October 2004), which was published in SCAR Bulletin no 157, April 2005 ) [WP07].***

## 2.2 Reports of Executive Committee Meetings (WP08, WP09, WP10, WP11)

***Delegates will be asked to adopt the Report of the SCAR Executive Committee Meeting (Sofia, Bulgaria, 11–13 July 2005), which was published in SCAR Bulletin no. 159, October 2005 [WP08].***

***Delegates will be asked to note the Report of a Joint Meeting of the SCAR and COMNAP Executive Committees (Sofia, Bulgaria, 13 July 2005) [WP09].***

***Delegates will also be asked to note:-***

***(i) the draft report of the SCAR Executive Committee meeting on 11 July 2006 [WP10].***

***(ii) the draft Report of a Joint Meeting of the SCAR and COMNAP Executive Committees on 13 July 2006 [WP11].***

## 2.3 Report of Open Science Conference, Hobart (IP01)

An informal report of the SCAR Open Science Conference held in Hobart, Australia, 12–14 July 2006, will be tabled as the basis for a discussion on this issue [IP01]. This will eventually form a part of the complete report of the whole XXIX SCAR Meeting. ***Delegates will be asked to note the report, to comment as appropriate, and to thank the Australian delegation for hosting the meeting.***

## 3. SCAR Positions

### 3.1 Election of President (WP12)

The Office of President falls vacant at the end of the meeting. The SCAR Secretariat will provide a paper (WP12) describing the election timetable and procedure. ***Delegates will elect a new President for the period 2006-2010 to replace J. Thiede, who will become Past-President for a term of 2 years.***

### 3.2 Election of three Vice-Presidents (WP12)

The Offices of three Vice-Presidents fall vacant at the end of the meeting.

One Vice-President (H. Shimamura, Japan) had resigned during the year, and, following consultation with the Members, Z. Zhang of China had been elected to replace him up until the end of the Delegates meeting, in order to strengthen Asian involvement in SCAR activities. In addition, two of the current Vice-Presidents (C. Howard Williams, NZ, and J. Lopez-Martinez, Spain) will have completed their 4-year terms of Office. ***Delegates will elect three new Vice Presidents for the period 2006-2010, following the election timetable and procedure in WP12.***

### 3.3 Appointment of Standing Committee on Finance

***Delegates will appoint any replacements that may be necessary to the Standing Committee on Finance, the current members of which are C. Kennicutt (Chairman, USA), R Dietrich (Germany) and T J Wilson (United States).***

### 3.4 Appointment of XXIX SCAR Finance Committee

On the advice of the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance:-

***Delegates will be asked to appoint two additional members from among the Delegates and Alternate Delegates present, to augment the Standing Committee on Finance and so form the XXIX SCAR Finance Committee for the duration of the meeting.***

## 4. Reports, Recommendations and Reviews of SCAR Science Groups

This item will be introduced by Clive Howard-Williams.

It is expected that immediately prior to the meeting (i.e. on Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup>) Delegates will have received copies of the reports of the three **Standing Scientific Groups** that met between July 8 and 11, 2005, and of the activities of JCADM. These reports will contain Recommendations that are classified as internal (being for national committees) or external (being to organizations with which SCAR interacts). Delegates will review the operation and progress of the SCAR SSGs and JCADM, based on the reports of the Chief Officers, and decide what changes, if any, need to be made. Having suggested amendments where appropriate,

***Delegates will be asked***

- (i) to approve these reports (4.1 through 4.3 below).*** Approval means approval of the structure of the body providing the report, and its general business plan and, **in principle, its proposed budget (pending discussions under item 6.3.4, on finance).**
- (ii) to adopt any new Recommendations that have been proposed as external.***

**(iii) to request the SCAR Secretariat to bring the internal and external Recommendations to the attention of the appropriate body.**

4.1 Report of SSG Geosciences (WP13)

The Chief Officer, A Capra (Italy), will present a summary of the report of the SSG on Geosciences [WP13], as the basis for discussion.

4.2 Report of SSG Life Sciences (WP14)

The Chief Officer, A H L Huiskes (Netherlands), will present a summary of the report of the SSG Life Sciences [WP14], as the basis for discussion.

4.3 Report of SSG Physical Sciences (WP15)

The Chief Officer, J Turner (UK), will present a summary of the report of the SSG Physical Sciences [WP15], as the basis for discussion.

4.4 Report on JCADM (WP16)

The Chief Officer, T. de Bruin (Netherlands), will present a summary of the report of JCADM's activities and plans [WP16], as the basis for discussion. Delegates will review the report with particular reference to: (i) progress in establishing National Antarctic Data Centres (NADCs), (ii) the development and population of the Antarctic Master Directory (of metadata) (AMD) by the Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) staff at NASA, (iii) the new Terms of Reference proposed for JCADM, and (iv) the independent external review of JCADM carried out on March 31-April 1, 2005, in Texel, the Netherlands). JCADM has succeeded in creating more NADCs, in training NADC operators, and in increasing the population of the AMD with metadata (which is being increasingly accessed by the wider community). JCADM is engaged more with the scientific community through attending meetings of the Chief Officers of the SSGs (see 4.5, below), and by adding a JCADM representative to the Steering Committees of each SRP. JCADM will be engaging the SCAR scientific community by making presentations to and listening to the requirements of the SSG meetings in Hobart. JCADM is also engaged in developing the IPY scheme for data management (see item 6.2.4). As a next step, JCADM will be working with the Secretariat and the science community to develop a SCAR data and information strategy.

***Delegates are asked to note and approve progress with JCADM, and to endorse the new JCADM Terms of Reference (given in WP 16).***

4.5 Interdisciplinary Linkages Between SSGs and with other SCAR Subsidiary Bodies (IP02, IP03)

The Executive Committee had encouraged Chief Officers to meet to explore possible ways in which the SSGs and other subsidiary bodies could work together to encourage the development of interdisciplinary scientific activities across SCAR's structural boundaries. The first meeting of the Chief Officers took place on July 9-10, 2005, in Sofia, Bulgaria, prior to the Chief Officers' participation in the Executive Committee meeting (on July 11-13). The Chief Officers included those from the three SSGs, plus the SC-ATS and JCADM. The meeting report is available as IP02. The meeting was judged a success, and Chief Officers were asked to arrange to meet prior to each Executive Committee meeting in future.

As a first result it was agreed that a Cross-linkages Workshop should be held to bring together the Chief Officers and the leaders of those Scientific Research Programmes (SRPs) between which connections were likely to be most fruitful (ACE, AGCS, SALE and EBA). This meeting was held in Amsterdam on November 22-24, 2005, and included the Chief Officer of JCADM. Several cross-disciplinary linkages were created. The meeting report is available as IP03

***Delegates are asked to note and approve progress with linking SSGs and other subsidiary bodies, making suggestions as appropriate.***

#### 4.6 Progress Against XXVIII SCAR Recommendations

At the request of the Executive Committee, the Executive Director had undertaken a survey to find out how different National Committees had responded to the Recommendations made by XXVIII SCAR. Responses were obtained from 6 countries only (UK, USA, Norway, Canada, Argentina, the Netherlands). At its meeting in Sofia, the Executive Committee noted that some countries find the Recommendations useful, while others find them less so. Clearly the needs of each country are different. Some national committees distributed the Recommendations to appropriate bodies, persons, organizations, or institutes for action. Others did not. The Executive Committee agreed (i) that there should be fewer and higher priority Recommendations, (ii) that they should be written in a less formalistic way; and (iii) that the Recommendations should be sent out separately to National Committees with a request that national agencies find appropriate ways to distribute the information on SCAR Recommendations to appropriate bodies, persons, organizations, or institutes etc., within their countries, so that appropriate actions could be taken. In addition the Secretariat was asked to publish the Recommendations on the SCAR web site (in the past they have appeared embedded in the bodies of reports, not highlighted in any way, and thus may perhaps have been overlooked).

***Delegates are asked to note and approve these developments, and urged to ensure that SCAR Recommendations are distributed, with***

***appropriate requests, to agencies that have the ability to take action on them.***

***Delegates are asked to review the Recommendations adopted at XXVIII SCAR (WP07, Appendix 2) to determine which, if any, should be re-adopted as XXIX SCAR Recommendations.*** The other Recommendations from XXVIII SCAR will lapse, being deemed to have achieved their objectives.

## **5. Reports on and Reviews of SCAR Scientific Research Programmes**

This item will be introduced by Clive Howard-Williams. In accordance with the requirements of the Delegates as set out in the report of XXVIII SCAR [WP07], the SSG Chief Officers and SRP Leaders incorporated the advice of the Delegates into the proposals for the 5 SRPs, which were then approved by the Executive Committee and published on the SCAR web site. National Committees were then approached individually, along with the wider community via the web site, to solicit wide-ranging engagement in the SRPs' ongoing development and implementation.

In accordance with requirements, the SRPs each developed an Implementation Plan and suggested the make up of a Steering Committee. In July 2005, in Sofia, the Executive Committee reviewed these plans and suggestions, and approved the Implementation Plans and Steering Committees for SALE, ACE and AGCS. The Implementation Plan and Steering Committee for EBA were discussed and finalized during the 9<sup>th</sup> International Biology Symposium in Curitiba (July 2005), and subsequently approved by the Executive Committee through e-mail correspondence. Efforts were made to ensure that the Steering Committees contained a reasonable geographical balance; these efforts continue. The lack of response from individual National Committees to the calls for engagement by their communities in the SRPs has not helped to broaden the geographical base of the Steering Committees.

As requested by the Delegates, proposals based on aspects of each SRP were developed for the consideration of the IPY Joint Committee, and accepted by that body (see 6.3, below).

Delegates are reminded that in accordance with the procedures established at SCAR XVIII, independent reviews of progress with the 5 SRPs will be carried out in time for SCAR XXX in 2008.

***Delegates are asked to note progress on the 5 SRPs (below), to endorse the approval of SRP plans by the Executive Committee, and to comment as appropriate.***

### **5.1 Report on ACE Antarctic Climate Evolution (WP17)**

One of the Co-Chairs of the ACE Steering Committee, or the Chief Officer of the SSG for Geosciences, will present the ACE Implementation Plan and Steering Committee and will summarise progress and plans [WP17].

#### 5.2 Report on ACGS Antarctica in the Global Climate System (WP18)

The Leader of the AGCS Steering Committee, J. Turner, will present the AGCS Implementation Plan and Steering Committee, and will summarise progress and plans [WP18].

#### 5.3 Report on EBA Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic (WP19)

The ex officio member of the EBA Steering Committee, A.Huiskes, will present the AGCS Implementation Plan and Steering Committee, and will summarise progress and plans [WP19].

#### 5.4 Report on ICESTAR Inter-hemispheric Conjugacy Effects in Solar-Terrestrial and Aeronomy Research (WP20).

M Candidi, a member of the ICESTAR Steering Committee, will present the ICESTAR Implementation Plan and Steering Committee, and will summarise progress and plans [WP20].

#### 5.5 Report on SALE Subglacial Antarctic Lake Exploration (WP21)

M C Kennicutt, a member of the SALE Steering Committee, will present the SALE Implementation Plan and Steering Committee, and will summarise progress and plans [WP21].

## 6. SCAR Functions

### 6.1 Internal Business

These items will be introduced by the SCAR Executive Director.

### **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, OBSERVERS WILL LEAVE THE MEETING DURING DISCUSSIONS ON ITEM 6.1.**

#### 6.1.1 Draft of New SCAR Legal Arrangements (WP22, WP23, WP24, WP25)

Delegates are reminded that ICSU had requested some time ago that all of its Interdisciplinary Bodies, including SCAR, should establish themselves as separate legal entities. Over the past two years this matter has been the subject of discussions between the Secretariat and a legal

firm in the UK. To establish SCAR as a legal entity with charitable status in the UK requires that SCAR be transformed into a Company Limited by Guarantee, and approved by the Charity Commissioners. The establishment of SCAR as a Limited Company requires that the Constitution and some of the Rules of Procedure be converted into a Memorandum of Association (WP22), and Articles of Association (WP23). Most of the Rules of Procedure (WP24), however, remain untouched. WP25 comprises a set of explanatory notes provided by the legal firm.

***Delegates are asked to approve:***

- (i) the Memorandum of Association [WP22];***
- (ii) the Articles of Association [WP23]; and***
- (iii) the Rules of Procedure modified as described above, and further modified by incorporation of the Rules of Procedure for Subsidiary Bodies [WP24].***

6.1.2 Progress in Implementing the SCAR Strategic Plan (IP04)

The SCAR Strategic Plan for 2004-2010, presented to XXVIII SCAR in Bremerhaven in October 2005, was modified as requested by the Delegates and published in hard copy and on the SCAR web site at the end of 2004 [IP04].

Delegates had agreed that, as recommended in the Strategic Plan, SCAR should subsequently develop strategic plans for communications (outreach), for capacity building (education and training), and for data and information management.

6.1.2.1 Communications (IP05) (WP26, WP27)

The Communications Plan [IP05] is designed to enable us to use effective communications to spread the SCAR message to the wider community. The desired end results include improvements in the public's perception of the importance of scientific research in Antarctica, in the funding of that research and of SCAR's efforts to coordinate it internationally, and in SCAR's profile and image in the wider community. The Plan was produced by the Secretariat working with the Executive Committee and Chief Officers, and sent to National Committees and Delegates on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2005, as part of a consultation process. It indicates that National Committees have a vital role to play in passing on the SCAR message to the wider community at the national level. Having taken Members' feedback into consideration, the revised document was submitted to the Executive Committee at its meeting in Sofia (July 11-13, 2005), approved, and published on the SCAR web site in July 2005.

SCAR improved contacts with the media in 2005, with three articles published in EOS. SCAR Secretariat, with input from the Executive, will continue to work on improving the SCAR profile by publishing both a leaflet and a short document on SCAR achievements (WP26).

A sign of the success of the communications strategy is the continuing rise in hits on and downloads from the SCAR web page. The SCAR web site has been receiving steadily increasing numbers of hits (i.e. visits), from 16700 in January 2004 to 48500 in January 2005, and 68700 in December 2005, with a peak of 78000 in May 2005.

***Delegates are asked to note progress, and comment as appropriate.***

As a communications tool, Delegates at SCAR XVIII called for the drafting of a brochure. It was agreed, as a first step, to produce a joint brochure with COMNAP. A draft brochure was supplied to COMNAP on April 7<sup>th</sup> 2005. Progress was slow because of reorganisation within COMNAP. A revision was expected from COMNAP by January 2006 [WP27]. ***Delegates are asked to approve the brochure (WP27).***

SCAR continues to communicate through formal publications. Delegates at XXVIII SCAR decided that in future the SCAR Bulletin would be published in electronic form only, to save costs. National Committees and Delegates were reminded of this decision on August 31<sup>st</sup> 2005, with an announcement that the first fully electronic versions of the Bulletin (Numbers 157 and 158), could be accessed from <http://www.scar.org/publications/bulletins>. National Committees are encouraged to distribute the Bulletin nationally, and to appraise their national polar libraries of the availability of the Bulletins on-line. The list of SCAR publications for 2005 is presented in IP06.

***Delegates are asked to note progress.***

To make the SCAR web site more uniform it was agreed at the Executive Committee meeting in Sofia that the Secretariat should take over maintaining and updating web pages for individual SSGs. This has not been possible yet owing to the resignation of the SCAR Administrative Assistant at the end of August. It was also agreed that the Secretariat would include SSG news items in the SCAR Newsletter, a practice that started in September 2005. In addition, the SCAR Newsletter and ATS Newsletter are now linked. ***Delegates are asked to note progress.***

6.1.2.2 Capacity Building and Education (WP 28)

Following XXVIII SCAR, Colin Summerhayes (**SCAR Executive Director**), Brian Storey (New Zealand), and Azizan Abu-Sameh (Malaysia) developed a draft SCAR Strategy for Capacity Building and Education. The Executive Committee, meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria (July 11-13, 2005), approved the draft for circulation to National Committees and Delegates as part of a consultation process, noting the key role that National Committees would have to play in implementing the plan. The Plan was duly circulated on August 4<sup>th</sup> 2005 (WP28). ***Delegates are asked to endorse the Plan.***

To raise awareness of SCAR programmes, and encourage greater participation in them from Asian scientific communities, The Executive Director visited the National Committees of Malaysia, China, Korea and Japan, while he was in the region to attend the ICSU General Assembly (Shanghai, 17–19 October 2005). These visit provide a useful opportunity for an exchange of views. The Executive Director was most grateful for the gracious hospitality of his Asian hosts. The Executive Committee considers that similar visits to South America, India and perhaps eastern Europe should be undertaken. ***Delegates are asked to note and advise on these developments, which aim to engage all SCAR Members more fully in SCAR's activities.***

#### 6.1.2.3 Fellowship Programme (WP29)

On the basis of advice from a review panel, the Executive Committee meeting in Sofia approved the award of four SCAR Fellowships in 2005 for the 2005-2006 season (WP29). For the 2007-2008, and 2008-2009 seasons it is proposed that two or three of the annual SCAR Fellowships in each season be allocated to support fieldwork in Antarctica as a contribution to the IPY proposal on the 6<sup>th</sup> Continent Initiative, which is led by the International Polar Foundation with **SCAR** as a partner. The plans for this activity are described in WP29.

***Delegates are asked to approve SCAR's IPY Fellowship Plan as described in WP29, and to decide on the number of Fellowships to be allocated for fieldwork during the IPY.***

#### 6.1.3 Action Group on the History of Antarctic Research (IP07)

A report is provided on progress with the new Action Group on the History of Antarctic Research. ***Delegates are asked to note progress.***

#### 6.1.4 National Reporting to SCAR

##### 6.1.4.1 Reports and Relevant News from the National Committees

***Delegates will be invited to point out briefly relevant news and comments regarding their National Committees, including issues of general interest for the meeting.***

6.1.4.2 Status of National Reporting to SCAR (WP 30)

Working Paper 30 shows the current status of National Reports to SCAR. ***Delegates are asked to note progress.***

6.1.4.3 New Template for Reporting (WP 31)

Working Paper 31 suggests a new template for use in national reporting. ***Delegates are asked to endorse use of the new template.***

6.1.5 Activities of the Executive Committee, including Joint Meetings with COMNAP Executive

The President will make an oral report, outlining the activities of the members of the Executive Committee since XXVIII SCAR. This constitutes a supplement to the reports of the meetings of the Executive Committee and of Joint Meetings of the SCAR and COMNAP Executive Committees that have been presented under 2(i) through 2(iv) above.

6.1.6 Activities of the SCAR Secretariat (IP08)

Information Paper **IP 08** lists the activities of the SCAR Secretariat since SCAR XXVIII. The restructuring of the Secretariat that began with the appointment of the Executive Director in April 2004 was concluded with the appointment of an Executive Officer, Dr. Marzena Kaczmarek (Poland), from June 1 2005, to take over many of the duties of the former Executive Secretary, Peter Clarkson, who retired on June 18<sup>th</sup> 2005.

***Delegates are asked to note and approve progress, providing comments as appropriate.***

6.1.7 Awards (IP09).

The President will report on progress. At its meeting in Sofia, in July, the Executive Committee decided to propose to Delegates that SCAR medals be given to selected candidates for outstanding scientific achievement and for international scientific coordination. A paper that describes the proposed SCAR awards scheme (IP09) was distributed to National Committees and Delegates for comments on September 9<sup>th</sup> 2005, with a request for comments and approval. All feedback was positive, and some useful suggestions for improving the paper were received. Accordingly the Executive Committee went ahead with plans to award the first SCAR medals during the Open Science Conference in Hobart. National

Committees, Delegates, and SCAR scientists were asked to provide names of candidates for two SCAR Medals: one for "international scientific coordination" and the other for "Antarctic science excellence", with a deadline of 1st February 2006. In addition the president would choose one outstanding candidate to receive the "President's Medal". In addition SCAR would continue to elect Honorary Members for outstanding contributions to SCAR.

During the Executive Committee's meeting in Sofia (July 2005), the President awarded Peter Clarkson a "Certificate of Appreciation" for outstanding service.

***Delegates are asked to note progress in the application of the Awards Scheme and to suggest possible future candidates for medals and the names of possible Honorary members.***

#### 6.1.8 Document Repository

***Delegates were asked to note that AWI had offered to host a second SCAR document repository (the primary one being the Scott Polar Research Institute).***

## 6.2 External

### 6.2.1 Report and Recommendations of Standing Committee on ATS (IP 10, IP 11, IP 12, IP 13) (WP32)

David Walton (UK) will introduce this item. David has retired from the role of chair of the SC-ATS, and the Executive Committee has invited Steve Chown, from Stellenbosch, South Africa, to replace him. Michael Stoddart (AUS) had also retired from the SC-ATS, having served his term. New members appointed since XXVIII SCAR included Sergio Marensi (ARG), Graham Hosie (AUS) and Heinz Miller (GER). In addition the work of the SC-ATS is supported by experts co-opted as appropriate from the SSGs.

David Walton will present the Reports of the SCAR Observers at XXVIII ATCM (Stockholm, June 2005)[IP 10], and XXIX ATCM (Edinburgh, 2006)[IP 11]. He will introduce the paper on the future of the SC-ATS that was approved at the Executive Committee Meeting in Sofia (July 2005)[WP32]. He will point out that the way in which SCAR's Annual Report to the ATCM has been written has been significantly changed this year to focus on specific issues of real or potential interest to the ATCM and the CEP, so as to ensure that SCAR continues to be seen as relevant to the ATCM and the CEP [IP12]. And he will report on the results of the SCAR Acoustics workshop, which was held in Cadiz, Spain, from January 24-26, 2006 [IP 13].

The next ATCM will be in Delhi, India, in April 2007.

The Executive Director will describe SCAR's efforts to prepare an Antarctic Climate Impact Assessment that could be delivered as a paper to the ATCM in 2007, and that would be a southern hemisphere equivalent of the recently completed Arctic Climate Impact Assessment. In Sofia, the Executive Committee requested the AGCS team to take the lead on this. Plans for the Assessment (see Annex 3 in IP03), were developed at the Cross-SSG Linkages meeting in Amsterdam, where it was proposed that the Executive Director should lead the writing team, which should aim for a paper in a prestigious journal, such as Nature, as well as a paper for policy makers. Consistent with the emphasis on climate change, the Executive Committee decided that the SCAR lecture to the ATCM in Edinburgh in 2006 should be on the topic of "Variability and Change in the Antarctic Environment", and should start with ice cores to provide information about past climate change, and lead up to forecasts of future climate change.

***Delegates are asked to endorse the reports of the meetings, to note the findings of the acoustics workshop, to approve the plans for the future of the SC-ATS and the development of an Antarctic Climate Impact Assessment, to thank David Walton (UK) and Michael Stoddart (AUS) for their past services to the SC-ATS, and to note the appointment to the SC-ATS of Steve Chown (SAF), Sergio Marensi (ARG), and Graham Hosie (AUS).***

#### 6.2.2 Report of Interactions with CCAMLR, ACAP and IWC (IP14)

David Walton will introduce this item. SCAR has become an observer to the Advisory Committee to the agreement on The Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP). SCAR is also holding discussions with the International Whaling Commission (IWC) Secretariat about possible linkages.

Graham Hosie (AUS) will introduce the item on CCAMLR. In response to the request of the Delegates at XXVIII SCAR that SCAR develop a closer relationship with the scientific committee of CCAMLR, Graham Hosie of the Australian Antarctic Division had been nominated as the SCAR representative to CCAMLR. Graham had also been co-opted onto the SC-ATS, to ensure a close linkage between SC-ATS and CCAMLR. With the help of SC-ATS and the Secretariat he had compiled a report on SCAR for submission to the XXIV CCAMLR meeting in Hobart (24 October – 5 November, 2005). His report of the outcome of that meeting is provided as IP14. His report notes that while CCAMLR has traditionally asked SCAR to supply data on birds and seals, it will not do so in the immediate future

until it has held a workshop to decide what it actually needs in the way of input for its ecosystem management and monitoring programme. To further strengthen links between SCAR and CCAMLR, the SCAR Executive Director will attend the CCAMLR meeting in Hobart in October 2006.

***Delegates are asked to note and comment as appropriate on progress in the links with CCAMLR, ACAP and IWC.***

### 6.2.3 Partnerships with Other Organizations

The Executive Director will introduce this item.

#### 6.2.3.1 ICSU, including ICSU Unions, SCOR, SCOSTEP, IGBP and WCRP (WP33) (IP15)

SCAR remains an Interdisciplinary Body of ICSU. In that context, the Executive Director attended the 28<sup>th</sup> ICSU General Assembly in Suzhou, China (October 18-21, 2005), and made a brief presentation on developments in SCAR, with particular reference to SCAR's involvement with the International Polar Year. The General Assembly noted with approval SCAR's involvement in the IPY and the SCAR reorganisation.

The new President of ICSU (G. Mehta, of India) accepted an invitation to attend the SCAR Open Science Conference in Hobart, where he made a plenary presentation on international science.

The recently published ICSU Papers on capacity building and on data and information management are being used to help develop these areas strategically within SCAR. The SCAR Communications Plan has been provided to ICSU to assist ICSU in developing its Communications Plan.

As requested by ICSU of all of its Interdisciplinary Bodies, SCAR continues to move towards independent legal status (see agenda item 6.1.1).

SCAR has cemented a linkage with ICSU's Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) through SCOR's co-sponsorship of the new SCAR Expert Group on Oceanography, which held its first (jointly funded) meeting in Venice in October 2005. In addition, The SCOR president was invited to attend the Open Science Conference in Hobart.

Maurizio Candidi of SCAR's SSG-PS is the SCAR representative on ICSU's Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP) Bureau, and provides a key link between SCOSTEP and SCAR programmes, such as, ICESTAR.

Chuck Kennicutt is nominally responsible for overseeing possible connections between SCAR's activities and those of SCOPE, the Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment.

Although SCAR's membership includes 7 Union Members, the involvement of the Unions in SCAR's activities and meetings has weakened over the years. The Executive Director has written to the Secretary-Generals of SCAR's 7 Union members with specific proposals for strengthening the relationships between SCAR and its Union Members [WP33]. The Unions have been invited to make brief presentations to the Delegates meeting in Hobart on their thoughts for improving their relationships with SCAR's scientific activities.

There is a potential for SCAR to contribute to the International Geological Congress in 2008, which will include Arctic and Bipolar issues.

An Information Paper will be tabled describing recent developments between SCAR, IGBP and WCRP with respect to global change research in the Antarctic region [IP15].

***Delegates are asked to note and approve SCAR's relationships with ICSU and its various bodies.***

#### 6.2.3.2 IGOS Partners and GEOSS (IP16)

Marzena Kaczmarek will introduce this item. IP16 will describe SCAR's involvement in the production of a bipolar strategic plan for cryospheric observations, as a contribution to the work of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS) Partnership, which includes ICSU, IGBP, WCRP, UNEP, WMO, FAO, IOC, UNESCO, and the space agencies. SCAR's work on this document takes place under the aegis of ICSU, which is an IGOS Partner. SCAR is working closely with the WCRP's Climate and Cryosphere (CliC) programme, of which SCAR is a co-sponsor. Ideally, implementation of the new Cryosphere observing strategy will improve the provision of cryospheric data for SCAR's science programmes.

As mentioned in IP15, the joint CLIVAR/CliC/SCAR Southern Ocean Implementation Panel has devised a plan for observations of the Southern Ocean, which will make a contribution to the implementation of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS).

Both the Southern Ocean Observing System and the Cryosphere Observing System will be contributions to the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS), which is run by the international Group on Earth Observations (GEO) (<http://earthobservations.org/>).

***Delegates are asked to note and approve SCAR's involvement in the development of observing systems that contribute to the GEOSS, and to facilitate national contributions from the Antarctic regions to the GEOSS through the GEO.***

#### 6.2.3.3 IASC (WP34)

The Executive Director will report on progress with discussions with IASC on the "Relationship between SCAR and IASC" (WP34), which includes a proposal for a draft agreement between SCAR and IASC. Recognising that there is much similarity between the main objectives and practices of both organizations, both Executive bodies have approved of the idea of creating a partnership between SCAR and IASC. The IASC President was invited to attend the Open Science Conference in Hobart.

***Delegates are asked to note and approve the proposed linkage between SCAR and IASC, and those with involvements in both organizations were urged to work towards strengthening that linkage.***

#### 6.2.3.4 IPICS (WP35)

Marzena Kaczmarek will introduce this item. It is proposed that SCAR should become a co-sponsor of IPICS, the International Partnership in Ice Core Science (WP35). IPICS is a bipolar initiative that brings together the scientists planning the way ahead in ice core science for the next 15 years on a time-scale consistent with that of SCAR's 5 main scientific research programmes. There are strong real or potential links between IPICS and the work of SCAR's AGCS (ITASE) and ACE programmes. Mutual benefits will accrue to both organisations through closer association as partners in the international polar

science network. The financial cost to SCAR is low, and built into future budgets.

***Delegates are asked to endorse the proposal that SCAR should co-sponsor IPICS.***

#### 6.2.4 IPY (IP17)

Jeronimo Lopez-Martinez, a member of the Joint ICSU/WMO Committee for the IPY, will introduce this item. SCAR is well represented on the IPY Steering Committee. The 5 SCAR SRPs have developed proposals accepted as lead programmes within the IPY, and several other accepted IPY proposals are led by or involve SCAR's Action or Expert Groups. The Chief Officer of JCADM has been appointed a co-chair of the IPY Data and Information Management Group.

***Delegates will be asked to note the considerable role that SCAR is playing in the design and implementation of the IPY, and urged to provide additional national, resources to facilitate the implementation of SCAR-led IPY programmes, especially those related to SCAR's 5 SRPs.***

#### 6.3 Finance

Chuck Kennicutt, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, will introduce these items.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, OBSERVERS WILL LEAVE THE MEETING DURING DISCUSSIONS ON ITEM 6.4.**

##### 6.3.1 Report of the XXIX SCAR Committee on Finance (WP36)

The membership of the Standing Committee on Finance and the XXIX Finance Committee will be announced following the arrangements outlined in 3.3. and 3.4 above.

Among other things the Finance Committee will (i) examine the financial procedures proposed for the management of the accounts by the Secretariat; note that a new template has been devised for reporting on budget and other financial issues; and (iii) note that a procedure has been established for providing Chief Officers with quarterly reports to help them to manage their budgets.

A draft report of the XXIX Finance Committee [WP36] will be tabled, and a final version circulated to Delegates after the meeting.

***Delegates will be asked to endorse the report of the Finance Committee.***

6.3.2 Financial Statements for 2004 and 2005 (WP37 and 38)

The SCAR Financial Statements of Income and Expenditure for 2004 [WP37] and 2005 [WP38] will be introduced. On the one hand arrears continue to be a problem. On the other hand SCAR has gained some flexibility from the voluntary extra contributions from the UK and Germany, and from receiving a management fee for handling the Sloan Foundation grant for the Census of Antarctic Marine Life (CAML) programme (US\$1.3 million over 4 years). This flexibility has allowed SCAR to continue the SCAR Fellowship programme and to employ the Executive Officer as a replacement for Peter Clarkson.

***Delegates will be asked to endorse the financial statements.***

6.3.3 Revised Budget for 2006 (WP39)

The revised budget for 2006 [WP39] will be introduced. Among other things this will take into account the effect of the revised levels of national contributions that took effect on January 1, 2006.

***Delegates will be asked to approve the revision.***

6.3.4 Budgets for 2007 and 2008 (WP40 and 41)

Draft budgets for 2007 [WP40] and 2008 [WP41] will be introduced.

***Delegates will be asked to approve the budgets in principle, recognizing that they will be adapted by the Executive Committee as appropriate in response to changing circumstances.***

6.3.5 Financial Strategy (WP42)

Working Paper 42 will show the current and projected financial situation of SCAR, noting the effect of increasing the subscription in 2006, and the possibilities for gaining additional Members. The paper will explore the options for obtaining additional funds from external sources, notably Foundations.

***Delegates will be asked to comment upon, note and approve the financial strategy.***

## 7. Future Meetings

### 7.1 SCAR Executive Meeting (Washington DC, USA 2007)

The Delegate of the USA will invite the SCAR Executive Committee to meet in parallel with the COMNAP XVIII meeting to be held in Washington DC, USA, in July 2007. The Chief Officers of the SSGs and Standing Committees will be invited to participate in the Executive Meeting. A joint meeting of the SCAR and COMNAP Executive Committees will be held during this time.

***Delegates are asked to approve the plans.***

### 7.2 XXX SCAR (Russia, 2008)

The Russian Delegate will describe the arrangements for XXX SCAR, noting plans to hold the Science Week, including the Open Science Conference, in St Petersburg in July 2008, and the Delegates meeting in Meeting in Moscow in October 2008. The Science Week, including the Open Science Conference and the meetings of the SSGs and other subsidiary bodies, will be hosted by the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, Rosshydromet. The Delegates Meeting will be hosted by the Russian Academy of Sciences. Arrangements will be made using the recently revised “Guidelines for Hosting a SCAR Meeting” approved at XXVIII SCAR, and available on the Members page of the SCAR web site.

The Executive Committee has suggested that holding the meeting in an Arctic country, during the IPY, offers the potential for having a bipolar theme on “Polar Research – Arctic and Antarctic Perspectives in the International Polar Year”. The Executive Committee has also suggested, in view of the growing links with IASC, that consideration be given to inviting IASC to co-sponsor the Conference.

The President will remind the Delegates that SCAR will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, which will need to be taken into consideration in planning the programmes.

***Delegates will be asked to suggest ways of celebrating SCAR’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and to approve the plans for XXX SCAR.***

### 7.3 XXXI SCAR

At XXVIII SCAR, in Bremerhaven, the US Delegate expressed an interest in hosting the XXXI SCAR meeting in the USA in 2010.

***Delegates will be asked to approve the location of XXXI SCAR.***

Volunteers are sought for hosting future SCAR meetings in 2012 and beyond.

At XXVII SCAR in Shanghai, the Delegate of Uruguay expressed interest in hosting a future SCAR meeting. During the ATCM meeting in Stockholm, Argentina expressed an interest informally in hosting all or part of a future SCAR meeting. Conceivably, one part of a future SCAR meeting could be held in Buenos Aires and the other part close by in Montevideo, possibly following the model accepted for Hobart, with the two meetings back to back, to recognise the financial difficulties involved in funding travel to two meetings distant from major European, Asian and North American communities. Sharing the meeting in such a way would also help the two countries to keep down the costs of running a SCAR meeting.

Delegates are reminded that previous meetings have been held in Argentina (2), Australia (4), Brazil (1), Chile (2), China (1), Germany (3), France (2), Italy (1), Japan (2), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (2), Norway (1), South Africa (1), United Kingdom (2), United States (3), Russia (2).

***The following delegations offered to host future SCAR meetings:-***

***Member XX in 2010;  
Member YY in 2012;  
Member TT in 2014.***

## **8. Actions Arising**

### 8.1 Progress Against Actions from XXVIII SCAR (IP18)

The Executive Director will briefly review actions arising from XXVIII SCAR. Over 90% of the actions have been completed. The remaining ones will be carried forward and added to the action sheet for XXIX SCAR.

### 8.2 Other Business

## **9. Closure of the meeting**

The President will formally close the meeting at 1800, and invite the new Executive Committee to a short meeting.

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| ACAP    | Advisory Committee on Albatrosses and Petrels                                  |
| ACE     | Antarctic Climate Evolution  |
| ACGS    | Antarctica and the Global Climate System                                       |
| ATCM    | Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting  |
| ATS     | Antarctic Treaty System  |
| CCAMLR  | Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources           |
| COMNAP  | Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programmes                           |
| EBA     | Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic                                    |
| GEOSS   | Global Earth Observing System of Systems                                       |
| IASC    | International Arctic Science Committee   |
| ICESTAR | Inter-hemispheric Conjugacy Effects in Solar-Terrestrial and Aeronomy Research |
| ICSU    | International Council for Science  |
| IGBP    | International Geosphere–Biosphere Programme                                    |
| IGOS    | Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership                               |
| INQUA   | International Union for Quaternary Research                                    |
| IPICS   | International Partnership in ice Core Science                                  |
| IPY     | International Polar Year   |
| IWC     | International Whaling Commission   |
| JCADM   | SCAR–COMNAP Joint Committee on Antarctic Data Management                       |
| SALE    | Subglacial Antarctic Lake Exploration  |
| SCAR    | Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research                                     |
| SCOR    | Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research                                       |
| SCOSTEP | Scientific Committee on Solar Terrestrial Physics                              |
| SSG     | Standing Scientific Group  |
| WCRP    | World Climate Research Programme   |