SCAR Membership
Executive Summary

Title: Membership

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Introduction/ Background: The membership of SCAR currently comprises 37 National Members (Venezuela having joined in 2012) and 9 Union Members*. Increasing the membership of SCAR has obvious advantages, both by engaging more countries in Antarctic Science and SCAR as well as increasing SCAR revenue.

Important Issues or Factors:

With regards to potential new members there have been conversations with or expressions of interest from Turkey, the Czech Republic (who became a Consultative Member of the Antarctic Treaty in 2013), Iran, Kazakhstan, Austria and Colombia. Belarus is also increasing activities and is a potential future member.

During the 2013 Antarctic Treaty Meeting in Belgium on May 2013 face-to-face discussions were held with representatives from Austria, Turkey, Colombia and the Czech Republic and it is likely that these countries at least will apply for associate membership over the next 1-3 years.

As of the end of 2012 no country is more than 1 year in arrears with its membership payments

Budget Implications: New members would increase the resources available to SCAR.