XXXII SCAR Delegates’ Meeting
Portland, USA, 23-25 July 2012

SCAR Membership
Executive Summary

Title: SCAR Membership

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Introduction/ Background: The membership of SCAR currently comprises 36 National Members and 9 Union Members, with an application from Venezuela for Associate Membership being considered in 2012 (WP 5). Increasing the membership of SCAR has obvious advantages, both by expanding our sphere of influence and our revenue.

Important Issues or Factors: Although SCAR Membership arrears are minimal it is important that those countries who are in arrears do make arrangements with the Secretariat to pay their subscriptions.

Budget Implications: New members increase the resources available to SCAR. Payment arrears decrease available funds.
Membership of SCAR

New Members

The membership of SCAR currently comprises 36 National Members and 9 Union Members, with an application from Venezuela for Associate Membership being considered in 2012. Increasing the membership of SCAR has obvious advantages, both by expanding our sphere of influence and our revenue.

With regards to potential new members the SCAR Executive Director has contacted representatives of Austria, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Columbia and Venezuela (who are applying for Associate Membership in 2012 – see WP 5). Turkey made some initial enquiries with regards to possible future membership. The Delegates are asked to suggest other countries that it would be useful to contact.

Membership Arrears

Although SCAR Membership arrears are minimal there are still two countries (Peru and Romania) with significant arrears. Members are asked to note the rules about membership arrears in the SCAR Articles of Association (see Appendix).

Appendix

The SCAR Articles of Association (http://www.scar.org/about/constitution/) state that:

Membership may be terminated if:

5.1.3  in the case of a Full Member, that Member:
(i) has not been active in scientific research in the Antarctic region for four years;
(ii) has not been active in the work of the Charity for four years; or
(iii) has not paid its contribution within two years of such contribution becoming due
and where this Article 5.1.3 applies, the Directors shall give the Member written notice giving the Member the opportunity to apply to the Charity to become an Associate Member or to resign as a Member, with immediate effect. The Member shall have the right to respond within three months of the date of the notice. If the Member does not respond within that period of time, Membership shall be terminated in accordance with Article 5.1.5;

5.1.4  in the case of an Associate Member, that Member has not paid its contribution within two years of such contribution becoming due. Where this Article 5.1.4 applies, Membership shall be terminated in accordance with Article 5.1.5;
5.1.5

the Member is removed from Membership by a resolution of the Meeting of Delegates that it is in the best interests of the Charity that his, her or its (as appropriate) Membership is terminated and, for the avoidance of doubt, where this Article 5.1.5 applies by reason of the provisions of Article 5.1.3 and 5.1.4 such removal shall be deemed to be in the best interests of the Charity. A resolution to remove a Member from Membership may only be passed if:

(i) the Member has been given at least three months’ notice in writing of the Meeting of Delegates at which the resolution will be proposed and the reasons why it is to be proposed;

(ii) the Member or, at the option of the Member, the Member's representative (who need not be a Member of the Charity) has been allowed to make representations to the meeting.