



WP 05

Agenda Item: 2.2

Person Responsible: J. López-Martínez

**XXXIV SCAR Delegates Meeting  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 29-30 August 2016**

# SCAR Membership

## Executive Summary

**Authors: J. López-Martínez and Jenny Baeseman**

### **Important Issues or Factors:**

The membership of SCAR currently comprises 39 National Members and 9 Union Members\*. Following the conversations maintained in the last couple of years, four new countries have put applications together for this Delegates meeting to join SCAR, and other two countries are considering a possible future association to SCAR. Increasing the membership of SCAR has obvious advantages, both by engaging more countries in Antarctic Science and SCAR as well as increasing SCAR revenue.

### **Recommendations/Actions and Justification:**

In regards to current membership, those associate members that have already consolidated Antarctic research activities should be encouraged to become full members.

Currently the Ukraine and Denmark are in arrears for more than 3 years and Delegates are asked to consider the special circumstances for both countries. Uruguay is also in arrears for 2015, however the payment is being processed.

Contact with potential future members of SCAR should continue, including those contacted before as well as other potential interested countries.

### **Budget Implications:**

New members would increase the resources available to SCAR.

\*International Astronomical Union (IAU), International Geographical Union (IGU), International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA), International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS), International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS), Union Radio Scientifique International (URSI)

## New Membership

SCAR welcomes the applications from Austria, Colombia, Thailand and Turkey to become new associate members of SCAR this year.

## Associate Members

Associate Members status is not meant to be a permanent membership level. Countries enter as Associate Members and then after a few years, should be encouraged to move up to full members. Associate members are currently: the Czech Republic, Denmark, Iran, Monaco, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania and Venezuela. Letters should be sent to these members before the end of 2016 encouraging them to consider their possible application to become full members in 2018.

After the next 4 years, SCAR might want to consider also encouraging members who joined this year to become full members as well.

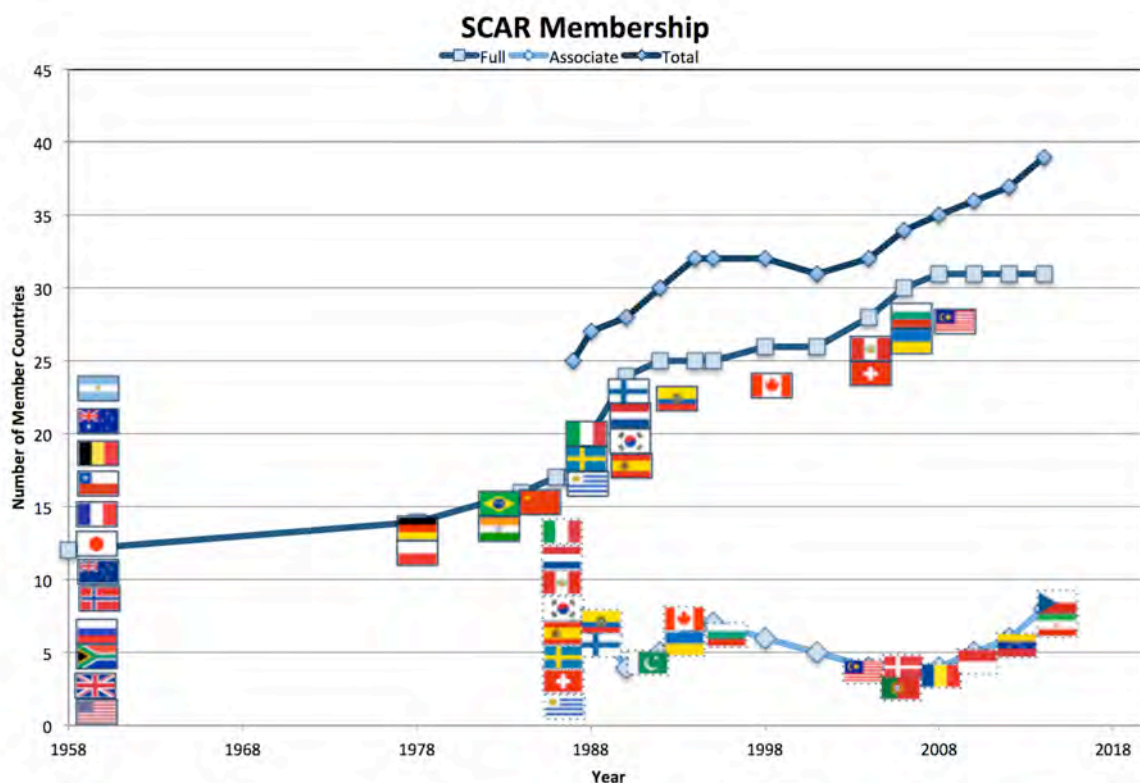


Figure 1. SCAR Membership as of 2015. In this figure are not indicated the four new countries that have applied to become new SCAR associate members in 2016.

## Expanding Membership

Contacts with Belarus and Kazakhstan, initiated in 2013, have continued. Their interest in joining SCAR exists, although because of budgetary constraints an application has not been put in this year. Contact should be re-established late in 2016 to continue to encourage them to consider joining SCAR in 2018.

Belarus has recently joined COMNAP and at the 2016 Antarctic Treaty meeting said publically that they are interested in joining SCAR.

We welcome the request from Saudi Arabia to attend the 2016 SCAR Delegates meeting as an observer and hope this shows interest in joining SCAR in the future. Contact should be maintained.

The United Arab Emirates has a program with New York University that deals with Antarctic science. Contact should be established and they should be encouraged to join SCAR.

SCAR should encourage the Asian Forum for Polar Sciences to help facilitate AFOPS observers who are not members of SCAR to join. These countries are: Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam.

SCAR should reach out to members of the Antarctic Treaty System that are not members of SCAR: Belarus, Cuba, Estonia (was a member from 1992-2001), Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, and the Slovak Republic.

SCAR may also want to consider contacting ICSU Delegates/National contacts in other countries that could be interested in being engaged in Antarctic activities to encourage involvement.

SCAR should develop a 'membership packet' describing the benefits of being a member of SCAR. This should be used to encourage new countries to become members of SCAR.

## **Members in Arrears**

### *Ukraine*

At present the National Contribution from Ukraine for 2014, and 2015 (or 2016, but this is not due until 31 December 2016) have not been received. A partial payment toward 2013 dues was received, but there is still an outstanding balance. We are in the process of negotiating a letter of agreement whereby Ukraine will pay the remainder of 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, and then step down to Associate Member until such time as their situation improves and they can once again apply for full membership. See Appendix 1 for letter to the Ukraine and their response.

### *Denmark*

At present we have not received the National Contribution from Denmark for 2014, and 2015 (and 2016, but this is not due until 31 December 2016). However, we have been assured that movement on finding a solution has begun but may not be in place before the Delegates meeting. The Danish Delegate will provide an update at the meeting.

## *Uruguay*

Uruguay is also in arrears for 2015. On 5 July 2016, the Secretariat was informed that because of a restructuring within the Uruguayan government, things have been delayed. The invoice has now been sent to the proper authorities, but as the process takes a bit of time, it cannot be guaranteed that the payment will arrive before the Delegates meeting. Should payment not be received in time, Delegates are asked to take note of the voting rules of procedure for Members in arrears and also the proactive stance by Uruguay to try to pay the fees as soon as possible.

**Recommendations/Actions:** Delegates are asked to take note and discuss what steps should be taken next for each member for cases not resolved before the meeting. And to keep in mind the rules and procedures of SCAR, particularly dealing with voting rights.

## **Membership Reporting**

Member countries are asked to submit annual reports. Currently this report consists primarily of a list of contact people for various SCAR activities and asks for an optional report on scientific activities.

It is noted that many SCAR member countries do not submit annual reports.

**Recommendations/Actions:** Delegates are asked to promote that their national SCAR committees complete these reports, reminding that they are important for keeping track of engagement in SCAR, as well as helping to facilitate collaborations.



# SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH\*

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\*SCAR is an Interdisciplinary Body of the International Council for Science (ICSU)

SCAR is registered as a Company and a Charity in the UK: Company Number 6564642; Charity Number 1124840

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President  
Prof Jerónimo López Martínez  
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28049 Madrid  
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1 June 2016

Dear Colleagues,

We are making preparations for our upcoming SCAR Delegates meeting in Kuala Lumpur (August 29th-30th). At present we have not received the National Contribution from Ukraine for 2014, 2015 and 2016. A strict interpretation of our Articles of Association (with the relevant section copied below) would mean that we are required to propose a resolution at the Delegates meeting which, if ratified, would result in Ukraine losing its status as a member of SCAR.

We obviously very much wish Ukraine to remain part of the SCAR family and it would be helpful to us if you could prepare some text to explain the context to our Delegates so that we can manage the situation as positively as possible.

We appreciate the contribution made towards the 2013 member fees and we understand the difficult circumstances at present in Ukraine. If there is anything we at the Secretariat can do to help with the payment of dues, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

  
Dr Jenny Baeseman  
SCAR Executive Director

cc: Dr Valery Lytvynov, Delegate  
Oleksandr Kuzko, Alternate Delegate  
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From the SCAR Articles of Association:

## 5 Termination of Membership

### 5.1 Membership is terminated if:

5.1.1 the Member dies or, if it is an organisation, ceases to exist;

5.1.2 the Member resigns by giving at least three months' notice in writing to the Charity and ensuring that all contributions due from the Member to the Charity have been paid;

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.



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1 June 2016

To: SCAR National Committee of Ukraine

INVOICE: 2016 National Contribution to SCAR, US \$12,400  
(SCAR Member Category "D")

Arrears: 2013 (partial amount): US \$4499  
2014: US \$12,400  
2015: US \$12,400

Total due: US \$41,699

Dear Sir/Madam,

We would like to thank Ukraine for its continuing support of SCAR and to remind you that the 2016 contribution is now due, plus arrears from 2013, 2014 and 2015 as detailed above.

Please make your payment to SCAR, either:

- by bank transfer to one of SCAR's bank accounts (preferred method)

**Note: You *must* include the name of your country in the payment information:**

Bank information: HSBC Bank plc  
52 St Andrews Street  
Cambridge, CB2 3AH, UK

For payments in **US \$**:  
A/C No. 69292822  
Sort Code: 40-05-15  
IBAN: GB26MIDL40051569292822  
SWIFT/BIC: MIDLGB22

For payments in **£ Sterling**:

A/c No. 12848996  
Sort Code: 40-16-08  
IBAN: GB12MIDL40160812848996  
SWIFT/BIC: MIDLGB2103J

For payments in **Euros**:

A/c No. 69790844  
Sort Code: 40-05-15  
IBAN: GB57MIDL40051569790844  
SWIFT/BIC: MIDLGB22

- or by sending to the SCAR Secretariat a cheque in Pounds Sterling, US Dollars or Euros payable to the "Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research".

For payments in currencies other than US Dollars, please convert the amount using <http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/> on the day of payment.

Please **inform the SCAR Secretariat when making payment** so that we can identify the payee, either by writing to the address above or by emailing info@scar.org. Failure to do so may result in us being unable to trace your payment.

Regards,

Dr Eoghan Griffin  
SCAR Executive Officer

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**Prof Jerónimo López-Martínez, SCAR President**  
**SCAR Delegates**

Dear Colleagues,

First of all we would like to thank you for your kind words of support and your wish to see Ukraine as part of SCAR.

The economic and political situation in Ukraine is really difficult. There are certain difficulties with financing of our Antarctic Program. Fortunately, there is a decision of the Minister to pay arrears from 2013 (USD 4499) and 2014 (USD 12,400). Now we fulfill the necessary procedure on implementation of the decision. Hope, this partial amount of Ukraine arrears to SCAR will be paid out till the end of 2016.

At present Ukrainian Government is reviewing the country's obligations under all international agreements that involve the payment of contributions. In pursuance of these actions we are compelled to move to SCAR Category E (Associative Member) where the level of contribution is less. So, we'll try to pay arrears for 2015 and 2016 as soon as possible and beginning from 2017 we'll move to a lower category (Please inform whether you need a special notification on this issue). We assure you that this is a necessary measure, and as soon as the situation changes for the better, we will return to the previous status of SCAR Full Member.

Facing today difficult financial situation and in accordance with National Legislation, we need to have a kind of agreement or another document between SCAR and NASC that should be grounds for payment of contributions and specify obligations of parties. We are ready to discuss and sign your Agreement or to submit for consideration our draft.

Also we would like to inform you that Prof Petro Gozhik is no longer the President of SCAR National Committee of Ukraine. Please consider SCAR National Committee of Ukraine the following institution:

National Antarctic Scientific Center, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine  
Blvd Tarasa Shevchenka, 16, Room 101  
01601 Kyiv, UKRAINE  
Tel/Fax +38044 2463880  
[uac@uac.gov.ua](mailto:uac@uac.gov.ua)  
[www.uac.gov.ua](http://www.uac.gov.ua)

Please send all future correspondence to the abovementioned address.

Thank you very much for your understanding and assistance.

Kind regards,

**Director**

**Valery Lytvynov**





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## President

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17 June 2016

Dear Prof. Lytvynov,

Thank you for your very thorough explanation of the situation and we very much welcome your practical solution of a temporary move to SCAR Category E (Associate Member) for Ukraine beginning in 2017. We will draft a recommendation for this to be accepted at the upcoming Delegates Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, as required by our internal governance.

We appreciate the difficulty that the current situation poses and are very encouraged to hear that the arrears are expected to be paid by the end of 2016.

In order to assist in the drafting of a letter of agreement between SCAR and NASC, please review the SCAR Articles of Association and Rules of Procedure, which specify the obligations from our perspective. These documents can be found here:

<http://www.scar.org/about/organisation/constitution>. In essence the relevant national organisation needs to be specified (NASC in this case) and perhaps it would be appropriate to refer to the intention of a return to Full membership when possible. The letter may be accompanied by a re-statement of the goals for Ukraine, in terms of contributions and benefits, by maintaining membership of SCAR. Please, contact the SCAR secretariat in case you have doubts

Could you also let us know who will be the Ukrainian Delegate to SCAR and whether they will be attending the Delegates Meeting in Kuala Lumpur?

Kind regards,

  
Prof Jerónimo Lopez-Martinez,  
President of SCAR.

cc: Oleksandr Kuzko, Alternate Delegate  
Dr. Jenny Baeseman, SCAR Executive Director  
Dr. Eoghan Griffin, SCAR Executive Officer

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