



**SCAR Executive Committee Meeting 2017**  
**Brno, Czech Republic, 31 July - 2 August 2017**

## Development Council

**Report Author(s): Peter Convey**

**Summary (<150 words):**

This report provides a short update on matters relating to the Development Council since the previous report given in Kuala Lumpur. The major activity has been the composition and sending to all SCAR Delegates and Group Leaders of a letter setting out our view of their key role in identifying and in many likely cases initially pursuing possible avenues of funding or other support at their national level for the benefit of SCAR activities. This generated a number of supportive responses, and three new funding contributions towards the Visiting Fellowship and Professorship programmes, from India, Norway and Switzerland.

**Recommendations that EXCOM should consider (if any):** *Please indicate if approval is necessary or if they are just asked to note information.*

- 1) SCAR to record formal appreciation of the increased and/or new contributions of India, Norway and Switzerland towards the Visiting Fellowship and Visiting Professorship programmes
- 2) DC recommends that EXCOM initiate a review of the Visiting Professor programme to date, in particular to identify the extent to which it is achieving the aims for which it was set up, and consider ways in which to develop the applicant field to further these aims. In particular, we ask EXCOM to consider if and how a more active role could be taken in identifying real value capacity building contributions the programme could make to newer and less established programmes.
- 3) DC requests to maintain the current budget allocation for pamphlet preparation and creation of funding database once new website is sufficiently developed.

## Background:

This report provides a short update on matters relating to the Development Council since the previous report given in Kuala Lumpur.

The major activity has been the composition and sending to all SCAR Delegates and Group Leaders of a letter setting out our view of their key role in identifying and in many likely cases initially pursuing possible avenues of funding or other support at their national level for the benefit of SCAR activities. This letter was sent jointly by Karin Lochte and Peter Convey.

## Progress:

Development Council members present at the recent SCAR Biology meeting in Leuven, Belgium, met to update on progress following the sending of the letter. Those present were Peter Convey, Karin Lochte, Jose Xavier and Jenny Baeseman. Notes and actions from this meeting are set out below:

In November 2016 a letter from Karin and Pete was sent to each SCAR Delegate as well as to leaders of all SCAR groups. Responses from Delegates are noted in the appendix below. In general, most who responded were positive and supportive of the efforts, but it is also perhaps disappointing to note that no response at all was received from a majority of the countries/national delegates contacted. Of the countries that appreciated the request, most indicated it would not at present be feasible for them to contribute, although some noted that they would try to take the request further within their systems.

**Action: Karin Lochte to follow up with countries that expressed interest in potentially contributing.**

With much appreciation, India contributed \$12.500 USD for an additional fellowship, as well as \$2.500 USD for an additional Visiting Professorship. In addition, both Norway and Switzerland contribute \$2.500 USD each for additional Visiting Professorships.

A brief discussion was had on how we might increase the number and quality of Visiting Professor applications. It was suggested that it might be a good time to do a review of the programme to see if it has been successful and if it has accomplished what SCAR set out to achieve.

**Action: Karin Lochte and Pete Convey to bring this forward as an action proposal for the ExCom meeting.**

In this discussion, it was also brought up that SCAR might think about how to help new countries in identifying what they feel they need to engage with in SCAR and facilitate helping them with those issues. It was also mentioned that perhaps some of the senior SCAR leaders could be asked to help in this regard by visiting these countries and helping them learn more about SCAR.

Fellowships were also briefly discussed and it was felt that the number of applications at this stage is appropriate given the current funding level (approximately 5-6 applicants per fellowship awarded). If, as hoped for, funding increases, then it will be appropriate to make additional efforts to encourage and expand the field of applicants.

In the funding context, Pete brought up the discussions initiated at the OSC in Kuala Lumpur with IAATO on funding fellows. Jenny suggested Pete discuss this with Steven before picking this up with the new IAATO Executive Director.

**Action: Pete Convey to discuss IAATO collaboration with Steven Chown and progress accordingly.** [note: discussion initiated during Biology meeting, with both Steven and Damon Stanwell-Smith, new IAATO ED]

The creation of the SCAR book/pamphlet to be used on tourism ships was discussed. Karin had produced an outline at the SCAR OSC in Kuala Lumpur, but progress has been slow.

**Action: Karin to continue to work on the book/pamphlet later in 2017.**

The Development Council was allocated a budget for the book/pamphlet as well as the creation of a funding database. These funds have not yet been used. The content for the database is coming together, but development of the tool is on hold until the new website is completed.

## **Future Plans:**

As noted above, a number of individual actions have been identified to progress specific elements of DC work.

## **Budget**

### **Planned use of funds for 2017 and 2018**

No change to previously outline plans

### **Briefly describe what the funds will be used for and what the desired results are:**

As previously, funds are requested for development of a SCAR pamphlet for distribution to IAATO vessels, and towards development of a funding database. As also noted previously, SCAR needs to be able to be responsive to identified specific funding opportunities as and when they arise, and therefore some flexibility in funding allocation is required. The intention is for formal DC meetings to take place in the wings of the major SCAR meetings, with the next being in Davos in 2018.

## Appendix

### Responses from Letters sent in November 2016 requesting voluntary contributions to SCAR Capacity Building Schemes

Follow-up?	Country	Title and Name	Title and Name	Responded?	Date responded	Comments
	Argentina	Dr Nestor Coria	Dr Viviana Alder	No		
	Australia	Prof Steven Chown	Dr Gwen Fenton	No		
	Belgium	Prof Frank Pattyn	Dr Anton Van de Putte	No		
	Brazil	Prof Jefferson C Simões	Prof Eduardo Resende Secchi	No		
	Bulgaria	Prof Dr Christo Pimpirev	Dr Nesho Hainrich Chipev	No		
maybe	Canada	Dr David J. Scott		yes	8 Dec	not in a position to provide an additional contribution at this time but please do keep us in mind for future opportunities.
	Chile	Dr Marcelo Leppe	Dr José Retamales	No		
	China, People's Republic of	Dr Huigen Yang	Dr Wu Jun	No		
	Ecuador	CPNV-EM Juan Carlos Proaño	CPCB-EM Juan Carlos Tapia	No		
	Finland	Prof Markku Poutanen	Dr Kari Strand	No		
	France	Dr Mireille Raccurt	Prof. Philippe Koubbi	No		
No	Germany		Prof Dr Günther Heinemann	yes	9 Dec	Germany already has a fellowship program that supports over 40000 researchers, so no additional funds are available for SCAR from DFG

Yes, for future years	India	Dr Madhavan Rajeevan	Dr M Ravichandran	No	several	<b>Contributed</b> - would need additional request for additional contributions
Yes - definitely	Italy	Dr Antonio Meloni	Prof Silvano Onofri	yes	1 Dec	We certainly remember the SCAR Fellowship Programme to support early career scientists and the Visiting Professor Scheme. Our National Committee will surely take in consideration the possibility to give support to these SCAR activities. We will discuss this possibility in one of our next meetings and we will let you know the outcomes, as soon as possible.
	Japan	Dr Kazuyuki Shiraishi	Prof Satoshi Imura	No		
No	Korea, Republic of	Dr Yeadong Kim		yes	28 Nov	As you may know Korea is always supportive of the SCAR's effort for capacity building. KOPRI is running its own fellowship and visiting program restricted in Asian countries. Many Chinese, Japanese, Indian, Malaysian and other Asians have the benefit of visiting KOPRI or participating in Antarctic field activities.  For this reason I regret to say that Korea cannot afford to make an additional contribution to the SCAR fellowship program.
	Malaysia	Prof Dr Azizan Samah	Dr Salleh Mohd Nor	No		
	Netherlands	Dr Jacqueline Stefels	Taco de Bruin	No		

	New Zealand	Prof Bryan Storey	Prof Gary Wilson	No		
Donated	Norway	Dr Jan-Gunnar Winther		yes	5 Dec	<b>NPI gave \$2500 for a VP</b>
	Peru	Dr Rogelio Villanueva		No		
Yes - definitely	Poland	Prof Dr Wojciech Majewski	Prof Dr Robert Bialik	yes	30 Nov	We were actually reporting the SCAR matters to our Committee on Polar Research on Monday and now consider some possibilities. I will e-mail you as soon as will have something more precise to communicate.
No	Russia	Prof Igor I Mokhov	Dr Maxim Yu Moskalevsky	yes	22 Dec	We have discussed this topic in our national committee with chair Vladimir Kotlyakov. Currently it is quite difficult to get such support from Russia.
	South Africa	Dr Pierre J Cilliers	Prof Ian Meiklejohn	No		
	Spain	Prof Jerónimo López-Martínez	Dr Jesús Galindo-Zaldivar	No		
	Sweden	Dr Magnus Friberg		No		
Donated	Switzerland	Prof Dr Konrad Steffen		yes	30 Nov	<b>WSL gave \$2500 for a VP</b>
No- likely won't be able to support it	Ukraine	Dr Valery Lytvynov	Dr. Oleksandr Kuzko	No		
Maybe	United Kingdom	Prof David Hopkins		yes	29 Nov	The situation in the UK is that UKNCAR has no direct income or funds to draw on. Some of the UKNCAR costs are supported by the Royal Society, but this is a discretionary allocation of just a few thousand pounds and has to be

						renewed each year. All other costs are covered by in-kind contributions from the host organizations that employed Antarctic scientists, most notably BAS. The research council, NERC, makes no specific allocation for Antarctic research other than its underpinning support of BAS and through competitively awarded research grants. The only way the UK can make a contribution is by asking the Royal Society, but as the RS funds its own fellowship and professorial schemes, I think it unlikely this will be successful. I will however, check with the chair of the RS's Global Environmental Research Committee, Eric Wolff, and our RS contact Ruth Cooper.
	United States of America	Prof Terry Wilson	Prof Deneb Karentz	No		
No	Uruguay	Dr Alvaro Soutullo		yes	12 Dec	Unfortunately currently unable to provide any additional support
Yes - definitely	Austria *	Dr Birgit Sattler		yes	29 Nov	Many thanks for this important stimulus regarding a Fellowship or Visiting Professor. I would love to see this being supported by Austria but would need to discuss the financial possibilities first. Please allow me to do this first and I will get back to you soon!
	Colombia *	CALM Juan Manuel Soltau Ospina		No		

	Czech Republic *	Prof Milos Bartak		No		
	Denmark *	Prof René Forsberg		No		
	Iran, Islamic Republic of *	Dr Nasser Hadjizadeh Zaker		No		
Yes - definitely	Monaco *	Dr Céline Van Klaveren-Impagliazzo		yes	29 Nov	Thank you for your email. I will transfer your demand to my hierarchy.
Maybe	Pakistan *	Dr Asif Inam		yes	29 Nov	Pakistan do acknowledge and support SCAR for its great contributions for the promotion of Antarctic research, However, for the request of additional funding, it is regretted that our financial allocation for the current financial year has already been finalized, nevertheless, I am forwarding this request to the Ministry of Science & Technology for their consideration.
	Portugal *	Prof Adelino V M Canário		No		
	Romania *	Dr. Cristina Purcarea		No		
Yes - definitely	Thailand *	Boonrucksar Soonthornthum		yes	29 Nov	Thanks for your information regarding the SCAR Fellowship Programme to support early career scientists and the Visiting Professor scheme. Since our budgetary system needs to be approved by the Thai government, mainly for the administration and operations on our mission, it is still not possible to arrange the budget for the

						contribution to support such a programme. I will discuss this matter with the Polar Science Research Committee if there is any possibility to find other source of funding to contribute on such a programme.
Yes - definitely	Turkey *	Dr Evrim Kalkan		yes	27 Dec	I'm still waiting a reply from the relevant department.
	Venezuela *	Dr Juan A. Alfonso		No		