



WP 36

Agenda Item: 2.1.3

Person Responsible: J Galindo

EXCOM 2015

Tromsø, Norway 27-28 August 2015

Approval of Action Group on Geological Heritage and Geo-conservation

(SSG- Geosciences)

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In order to approve the Action Group on Geological Heritage and Geo-conservation, the SSG- Geosciences was requested by the SCAR Delegates to fulfil all the requirements on Terms of Reference, Chair persons and membership. After internal discussion of the proponents, these issues have been solved and we present now this group to be finally approved by the SCAR ExCom.

Group on Geological heritage and Geo-conservation

The geoscience community has a lot to offer in understanding surface processes and landscape vulnerability and spatial issues with defining areas for special management.

Geological “values” would include localities of special scientific significance: mineral localities, fossil localities, landforms or outcrops of special significance.

Terms of reference

Define ‘geological heritage’ and ‘geo-conservation’, embracing the diversity of geological and geomorphological features of the Antarctic.

Develop a range of criteria and principles for identifying and classifying features of potential geo-heritage value within Antarctica.

Recommend development of a geo-heritage register, incorporating relevant metadata, of geo-heritage sites across the Antarctic to facilitate management of geo-heritage features and recommend a suitable body to effectively manage such a register.

Develop criteria for conserving geo-heritage sites, acknowledging the diversity of features and balancing the ability of researchers to effectively study them.

Develop a strategy for global promotion geo-heritage values of the Antarctic through appropriate international forums.

Action Group Committee Members

Chris Carson, geology, Australia, chris.carson@ga.gov.au (Chair)

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Action Group Members List

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Duration:

2015-2018

Budget request:

3000 \$.