

(DRAFT)

SUGGESTED NEW SCAR ELECTORAL PROCEDURE

The SCAR Election Procedure in its old form has become unnecessarily time-consuming for a meeting that has been reduced to last only 3 days. This topic was formally raised as an item of business at the first meeting of the new Executive Committee in Hobart (19 July 2006), following the first 3-day long Meeting of Delegates, and it was suggested (action EC-01) that a new, shorter election procedure was required. The matter was raised again in the meeting between the SCAR President and SCAR Secretariat on 14 September 2006, at SPRI. The minutes of that meeting call for changes in electoral procedure to make it more efficient: *“Regarding Action EC-3 (to consider reducing length of Delegates meetings), it would appear not worth pursuing at present given that we have already reduced the meetings from 5 days to 3. Rather it would be best to invest some effort into optimising the time spent (which is linked to Action EC-1 – devise a new, shorter, election procedure)”*.).

Having consulted ICSU to check its election procedures, and after some internal discussions, the SCAR Secretariat recommends adopting a slightly different scheme. The new scheme would require a single ballot (to save time), and voting by simple majority with the current President having a casting vote. The proposed scheme as described below is based on further revisions suggested by the SCAR Executive Committee at its meeting in July 2007. The old version of the Election Procedures, from the Rules of Procedure approved by the Delegates in 2004, is enclosed in Annex 1, and the Election Procedure proposed to the Delegates in 2006 in the revised Rules of Procedure for SCAR as a Company Limited by Guarantee (currently under review pending approval) is enclosed in Annex 2.

PROPOSED DRAFT ELECTORAL PROCEDURE FOR OFFICERS OF SCAR**2. Election Procedures for Directors (President and Vice-Presidents)**

- 2.1 The provisions of Article 12 of the Articles of Association shall determine the ultimate eligibility of any Delegate or Alternate Delegate to run for office. If there are two candidates from a single Full Member, the election of one shall eliminate the second from election to any office during the term of the first elected officer.
- 2.2 All elections shall be by secret ballot of the voting Members present and the ballot shall be counted by a panel of three scrutineers appointed by the President with the approval of the Delegates.
- 2.3 Each Full Member and each Union Member shall be entitled to one vote for each vacant post. If a Delegate or Alternate Delegate represents more than one member with voting rights, that Delegate or Alternate Delegate shall have one vote and receive one ballot form for each voting member represented.
 - 2.3.1 The current President does not have a vote in the ballot. The President’s vote, as the Delegate or Alternate Delegate of a Full Member, shall be held by the Alternate Delegate or Delegate, respectively, of that Full Member.

- 2.4 In those years when the election of a President is being addressed the election to fill that office will be held prior to the elections for the vacant offices of Vice-President.
 - 2.4.1 In the event of a tie between two or more candidates for the office of President, another ballot shall be prepared with the names of the tied candidates only and another vote shall be held. If a tie prevails, without announcing that there is a tie, the current President shall exercise a casting vote and announce the election of the new President.
 - 2.4.2 If there is a single candidate only for the office of President, that candidate shall be declared elected [by acclamation].
 - 2.4.3 Each unsuccessful candidate in the election for President will be added automatically to the list of candidates for the election of the Vice-Presidents, unless a candidate chooses to withdraw from that election.
- 2.5 One election will be held for all of the vacant Vice-President offices. These will be dealt with sequentially, with each Vice-President being elected on a majority vote. A single ballot shall be prepared listing all candidates for the vacant Vice-President offices. Each voting Delegate or Alternate Delegate may cast one vote for each vacancy. The candidates with the most votes (simple majority) will be elected.
 - 2.5.1 In the event of a tie between a number of candidates equal to the number of vacancies, then all candidates will be declared elected.
 - 2.5.2 In the event of a clear winner and a tie between a number of candidates equal to the number of vacancies remaining, then all candidates will be declared elected.
 - 2.5.3 In the event of a clear winner and a tie between a number of candidates greater than the number of vacancies remaining, the clear winner will be declared elected to one vacancy and a second ballot listing the names of the tied candidates only will be prepared. If a tie between more candidates than the remaining number of vacancies prevails, without announcing that there is a tie, the President shall exercise a casting vote or votes according to the number of vacancies remaining and announce the election of the remaining Vice-President(s).
 - 2.5.4 In the event of two clear winners and a tie between a number of candidates greater than the number of vacancies remaining, the clear winners will be declared elected to two vacancies and a second ballot listing the names of the tied candidates only will be prepared. If a tie between more candidates than the remaining number of vacancies prevails, without announcing that there is a tie, the President shall exercise a casting vote or votes according to the number of vacancies remaining and announce the election of the remaining Vice-President(s).
 - 2.5.5 Following the election of the Vice-Presidents there shall be no differentiation between the individuals elected.

- 2.6 Each candidate for the office of President shall be invited to make a presentation of no more than 10 minutes to the Meeting of Delegates prior to the election for the office of President. There shall be no questioning of the candidate after the presentation, and the election for President will be held immediately following the presentation of the last candidate.
- 2.7 No person shall be appointed as a President or Vice-President unless a nomination form is submitted to the Secretariat by 17:00 on the second day of the Meeting of Delegates at which elections are to take place which:
- 2.7.1 is signed by the person proposed to be appointed confirming that they are willing to stand for election and will carry out the duties of the position if elected; and
- 2.7.2 is signed by a proposer and a seconder in support of the nomination who are Delegates or Alternate Delegates representing different Full Members present at the Meeting of Delegates
- and the Secretariat shall inform the Meeting of Delegates in writing of all nominations on the morning of the third day of the Meeting of Delegates.
- 2.8 If a serving Vice President is a nominee for President the following shall apply:
- 2.8.1 if the serving Vice President is not elected as President, the serving Vice President shall complete his or her existing term of office;
- 2.8.2 if the serving Vice President is elected as President, an election shall be held to fill the vacancy left for the remainder of the term of office in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. An officer elected pursuant to this paragraph shall be eligible for election for a further full term of office following the expiry of the remainder of the existing term.
- 2.9 The newly elected officers will assume office at the close of the Meeting of Delegates at which they were elected.
- 2.10 Consistent with Article 11.2, an officer who retires at a general meeting may enter his or her name in the election for re-appointment immediately or at any subsequent election, provided that the maximum time served in the same position consecutively (i.e. as President or Vice President) is no more than eight years, and that if an officer has served in that position for eight years consecutively they may not be re-elected until four years have passed.

ANNEX 1. CURRENT VERSION OF ELECTION PROCEDURE (AS IN THE RULES OF PROCEDURE APPROVED IN 2004) FOLLOWED DURING THE ELECTIONS AT THE XXIX SCAR MEETING IN HOBART, 2006.

2. Election of Officers

- 2.1 Election of the President and Vice-Presidents occurs at the Meeting of Delegates according to the following rules:
- a. All Delegates and Alternate Delegates of Full Members are eligible for election to the Office of President and the four Offices of Vice President subject to the terms of Section 8 of the SCAR Constitution.
 - b. Written nominations for officers require the support of a proposer and a seconder who are Delegates or Alternate Delegates and who represent different Full Members present at the Meeting.
 - c. Proposers shall obtain the signature of the nominee on the nomination form certifying that the nominee is willing to stand for election and will carry out the duties of the office if elected.
 - d. Nomination forms with names of proposers and seconders shall be handed to the Executive Secretary of SCAR by 18:00 hours on the second day of the Meeting of Delegates at which elections are to take place.
 - e. Without disclosure of the origins of the nominations, the Meeting of Delegates shall be informed in writing on the third day of the meeting of the names of those nominated.
- 2.2 If a serving Vice-President is a candidate for President and is not elected, then the serving Vice-President will complete the existing term of office.
- 2.3 If a serving Vice-President is elected President, an election or elections shall be held to fill the vacancy so left for the remainder of the original term.
- a. Nominations for such a replacement shall be collected according to pertinent provisions in Section 2.1 above and shall be subsequently announced as soon as feasible.
 - b. Elections shall take place in the following day according to pertinent provisions in Section 3 below.
 - c. Individuals elected to fill vacancies shall be eligible for election for the following full term for that office.
- 2.4 Should an officer resign, become incapacitated, die, or cease to be a Delegate or Alternate Delegate at any time between SCAR Meetings, the remaining officers, after consulting National Committees of Full Members, may co-opt a replacement to serve until the next SCAR Meeting at which time an election will be held to elect a replacement for the remainder of the unexpired term.

3. Election Procedures

- 3.1 The provisions of Section 8 of the SCAR Constitution shall determine the ultimate eligibility of any Delegate or Alternate Delegate to run for office. In particular the provision that Officers of SCAR must be from different Full Members shall prevail.
 - a. If there are two candidates from a single Full Member, the election of one shall eliminate the second from election to any office during the term of the first elected officer from that Full Member.
- 3.2 All elections shall be by secret ballot of the Voting Members present and the ballot shall be counted by a panel of three scrutineers appointed by the President with the approval of the Delegates.
- 3.3 Each Full Member and each Union Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in each election.
 - a. In the event that a Delegate or Alternate Delegate represents more than one member with voting rights, that Delegate shall have one vote for each Voting Member represented.
- 3.4 In those years when the Constitution requires the election of a President, the election to fill that office will be held prior the elections for other offices. Normally two Vice-Presidents will be elected by the Meeting of Delegates in the same year as the President. The two other Vice Presidents will be elected by the Meeting of Delegates two years later.
- 3.5 Separate elections will be held for each of the Vice-Presidents.
 - a. After the first election all the unelected candidates shall be eligible for the second election.
 - b. Following the election of the two Vice-Presidents, there shall be no differentiation between the individuals elected in the first and second elections.
- 3.6 If there is a single nomination for a given office, the election of that nominee shall be by acclamation.
- 3.7 If there are two candidates for a given office, a ballot shall be prepared and distributed. Each Voting Member shall cast one vote for one of the candidates, and election shall be by simple majority of the total votes cast for candidates. In the event of a tie, another ballot shall be prepared and distributed. Another vote shall be held. If the tie prevails, the election shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
- 3.8 If there are more than two candidates for a given office, a ballot shall be prepared listing all nominees.
 - a. A vote shall be held with each Voting Member casting one vote for one of the candidates.
 - b. If one candidate receives more than 50 percent of the total votes cast for the candidates, that person shall be elected.
 - c. If no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the total votes cast for candidates, the name of the candidate receiving the fewest votes will be dropped. In the event of a tie, the name dropped will be

decided by the toss of a coin. Thereafter, a new ballot will be prepared, and the procedure repeated until there are only two remaining candidates, after which the procedures of Section 3.7 above shall apply.

- 3.9 The newly elected officers will assume office at the close of the Meeting of Delegates at which they were elected.

ANNEX 2. ELECTION PROCEDURE AS DESCRIBED IN THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE, 2006 (WORKING PAPER 24 PRESENTED TO THE DELEGATES AT XXIX SCAR MEETING IN 2006, PENDING APPROVAL).

2. Election Procedures for Directors

- 2.1 The provisions of Article 12 of the Articles of Association shall determine the ultimate eligibility of any Delegate or Alternate Delegate to run for office. If there are two candidates from a single Full Member, the election of one shall eliminate the second from election to any office during the term of the first elected officer.
- 2.2 All elections shall be by secret ballot of the voting Members present and the ballot shall be counted by a panel of three scrutineers appointed by the President with the approval of the Delegates.
- 2.3 Each Full Member and each Union Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote in each election. In the event that a Delegate or Alternate Delegate represents more than one member with voting rights, that Delegate shall have one vote for each Voting Member represented.
- 2.4 In those years when these Rules of Procedure require the election of a President, the election to fill that office will be held prior the elections for other offices.
- 2.5 Separate elections will be held for each of the Vice-Presidents. After the first election all the unelected candidates shall be eligible for the second election. Following the election of the two Vice-Presidents, there shall be no differentiation between the individuals elected.
- 2.6 If there is a single nomination for a given office, the election of that nominee shall be by Member Approval.
- 2.7 If there are two candidates for a given office, a ballot shall be prepared and distributed. Each Voting Member shall cast one vote for one of the candidates, and election shall be by simple majority of the total votes cast for candidates. In the event of a tie, another ballot shall be prepared and distributed. Another vote shall be held. If the tie prevails, the election shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
- 2.8 If there are more than two candidates for a given office, a ballot shall be prepared listing all nominees and:
 - 2.8.1 a vote shall be held with each voting Member casting one vote for one of the candidates;
 - 2.8.2 if one candidate receives more than 50 percent of the total votes cast for the candidates, that person shall be elected;
 - 2.8.3 if no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the total votes cast for the candidates, the name of the candidate receiving the fewest votes will be dropped. In the event of a tie, the name dropped will be decided by the toss of a coin. Thereafter, a new ballot will be prepared, and the procedure repeated until

there are only two remaining candidates, after which the procedures of Section 2.7 above shall apply.

- 2.9 No person shall be appointed as a Director unless a nomination form is submitted to the Secretariat by 17:00 on the second day of the Meeting of Delegates at which elections are to take place which:
- 2.9.1 is signed by the person proposed to be appointed as Director confirming that they are willing to stand for election and will carry out the duties of Director if elected; and
 - 2.9.2 is signed by a proposer and a seconder in support of the nomination who are Delegates or Alternate Delegates representing different Full Members present at the Meeting of Delegates
- and the Directors shall inform the Meeting of Delegates in writing of all nominations on the third day of the Meeting of Delegates.
- 2.10 If a serving Vice President is a nominee for President the following shall apply:
- 2.10.1 if the serving Vice President is not elected, the serving Vice President shall complete his or her existing term of office;
 - 2.10.2 if the serving Vice President is elected, elections shall be held to fill the vacancy left for the remainder of the term of office in accordance with such rules determined by the Directors (and approved by a simple majority of the voting Members). A Director elected pursuant to this paragraph shall be eligible for election for a further full term of office following the expiry of the remainder of the existing term.
- 2.11 The newly elected officers will assume office at the close of the Meeting of Delegates at which they were elected.