



**SCAR Standing
Committee**

Paper 16

SCAGI

Agenda item 8

Person
Responsible:

Adrian Fox /
Jean-Yves Pirlot

SCAR Executive Committee Meeting 2019
Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 29-31 July 2019

**Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographic Information
(SCAGI)**

2018-19 Report

Authors

Adrian Fox (UK) and Jean-Yves Pirlot (Belgium), co-Chief Officers, SCAGI

Summary

SCAR SCAGI Meeting 2019: The SCAGI group held a successful meeting in June 2019 hosted by Professor Carlo Baroni, at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa, Italy. There were thirteen attendees, including delegates from Australia and New Zealand who joined by skype. The meeting included presentation of nine National Reports from Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, UK and USA. National reports are an important part of the SCAGI meeting – they are an opportunity to inform delegates from other organisations about current and planned activities, which can highlight opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources.

Progress with SCAGI Products: The SCAR products can only be as good as the data that are in them. National Mapping Agencies and other organisations producing maps and geospatial data should offer this for inclusion in the SCAR Products.

SCAR Map Catalogue: Hosted by the Australian Antarctic Division. AAD and the US PGC are actively scanning historical and recent maps for listing in the MapCat. SCAGI Delegates were asked to check their nation's entries in the MapCat for completeness and update if needed.

Antarctic Digital Database: There was a December 2018 release with updated data for some areas, including the coastline around the Thwaites Glacier region – the focus of a large international science programme. Work at BAS on data QA and structures aims to ensure the continued usefulness and relevance of the ADD.

Composite Gazetteer: There are now 37,893 place names referring to 20,078 features. New names entered included 56 from Bulgaria and 57 from Norway. There are 77 names from the UK, 4 from Argentina and 3 from France in process.

Air Operations Planning Maps: This comprises a series of 16 maps at 1:1M scale with and an overview map. Contours and spot heights are in feet and the maps present information relevant for Air Operations to a standardized specification. The maps are a collaboration between Belgium, with Australia, and Norway, UK and USA. All the maps were freely available as PDF and iPad app compatible geotiff download for the beginning of the Antarctic Air Operations Season.

Review of SCAR principles and procedures for Antarctic place names: A working Group within SCAGI, Chaired by Jean-Yves Pirlot, has been reviewing the existing document from 1994. A side meeting at the annual meeting of UN Group of Experts on Geographic Names developed a draft document, which was further refined at a workshop at the Pisa SCAGI meeting.

Standing Committee updates since 2018 Delegates Meeting

Please list any information that has changed since the SCAR 2018 Delegates Meeting, following the headings below.

What has been achieved?

Date	Activity
June 2019	Successful, well-attended inter-sessional SCAGI meeting
All year	Ongoing provision and development of SCAR geospatial Products: Air Operations Planning Maps Series, Antarctic Digital Database, Composite Gazetteer of Antarctica, Map Catalogue.
June 2019 and ongoing	Review of SCAR Principles and Procedures for Antarctic toponymy.

What lies ahead?

Date	Activity
October 2019	Publication of 2019-20 Air Operations Planning Maps with updated elevation data from new sources including Reference Elevation Model for Antarctica (REMA).
All year	Continued provision of SCAR geospatial products.
July 2020	2020 SCAGI meeting at Hobart with SCAR Open Science Meeting.
July 2020	Election of new Chief Officer(s) for SCAGI

Budget

Changes to planned use of funds for 2019 and 2020

Year (YYYY)	Purpose/Activity	Amount (in USD)	Contact Name	Contact Email
Total				

Membership

Changes to SC Leadership since 2018 Delegates Meeting report

Role	First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Country	Email	Date Started	Date Term is to End

Please identify early-career researchers with * in first column

SCAR Fellowship Reviewers

Please list any people (name and email address) volunteered by the committee who would be willing to serve as reviewers for the next few years, along with 1-3 keywords on their principal expertise.

First Name	Last Name	E-mail	Principal Expertise

Additional information (optional)

Outreach, communication and capacity-building activities

N/A

Notable Papers

N/A

Major Products

Air Operations Planning Maps Series: Series of 16 1:1M scale maps and an overview map supporting Air Operations planning in Antarctica. Available for free download.

Antarctic Digital Database: Compilation of the best available regional-scale international topographic mapping, managed by BAS since its launch in 1993. Widely used as a source of topographic data for science and operations planning as well as published maps and web-services and products such as CCAMLR GIS, QGIS.

Composite Gazetteer: Compilation of National naming authority gazetteers and the definitive resource for Antarctic place-names information.

Map catalogue: Listing of international, mainly topographic, maps for Antarctica with metadata.

Major Impacts

The SCAGI group generates impact for SCAR by 1) Provision of the widely used geospatial products listed above, and 2) SCAGI meetings and presentation of National Reports provide an opportunity to inform delegates from other organisations about current and planned activities, which can highlight opportunities for collaboration and sharing of resources and experience.

Direct support from outside organisations received for your activities

N/A

Major collaborations your Committee has with other SCAR groups and with organisations/groups beyond SCAR

(Numbered list of substantive collaborations)

Within SCAR

1. X

Outside SCAR

1. X

Updates for your group's SCAR web page

Review and update of the SCAGI web-pages is a priority for 2019-20 in liaison with the SCAR Office.

Other information for publicity purposes

Please add here details of, or links to any other information we may use for publicity purposes, such as photos, infographics, quotes and layperson's summaries of your research.