

# **LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH (SCAR), THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE (IASC), AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CRYOSPHERIC SCIENCES (IACS)**

## **1. Preamble**

In July 2008, following agreement by SCAR Delegates, the IASC Council and the IACS Bureau, the Presidents of SCAR, IASC and IACS signed a Letter of Agreement. This letter recognised that the three organisations, each affiliated with the International Council for Science (ICSU), share a number of common interests and practices. The three organisations agreed to combine their efforts in selected fields and activities so as to raise the level of impact of all three organisations in terms of making scientific advances and of advising policy makers, as well as to avoid duplication.

With the present letter SCAR, IASC and IACS agree to continue this partnership, taking into account the development of the three organizations during the last five years and the lessons learned from the International Polar Year 2007/2008.

## **2. Common Interests and Practices**

The three organisations share a number of common interests and practices, which will make it relatively easy for them to work together, for example in arranging workshops, conferences, and reports on topics of mutual scientific interest, in developing integrated plans for cryospheric research, in communicating to the public on cryospheric issues, and in providing advice to policy makers.

## **3. Declaration of Intent**

SCAR, IASC and IACS intend to combine their efforts in cryospheric activities (to be decided by mutual agreement) so as to raise the level of impact of all three organizations in terms of making scientific advances and of advising policy makers, as well as to avoid duplication.

Combining efforts in selected fields and activities requires no change to the terms of reference of any of the three organizations, and carries no financial implication.

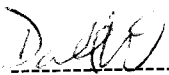
To facilitate the process, SCAR, IASC and IACS agree:

- (i) to invite each other to attend the meetings of their major bodies (SCAR Delegates' Meeting, IASC Council and IACS Plenary Administrative Sessions);
- (ii) to encourage appropriate linkages between the relevant existing SCAR, IASC and IACS cryospheric science projects;
- (iii) to encourage their cryospheric science communities to develop joint bipolar projects and approaches in appropriate fields;

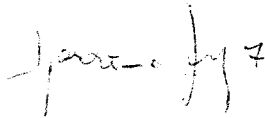
- (iv) to work together in arranging workshops, conferences, and reports on topics of cryospheric science interest;
- (v) to exchange ideas on best practices in data and information management;
- (vi) to exchange newsletters and advertise each other's newsletters and web sites on their own web sites; and
- (vii) to explore synergies in communicating the relevance of cryospheric research to societal issues with the wider community, including contributing expertise for governments and United Nations, such as within IPCC reports.

The agreement will remain in force for 5 years, thereafter to be reviewed and continued as appropriate.

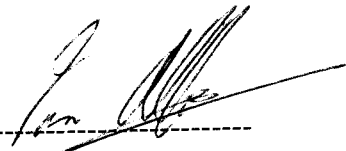
Signed



David Hik  
President, IASC



Jerónimo López-Martínez  
President, SCAR



Ian Allison  
President IACS

Date 16 April 2013

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*Annex 1: Outline Description of SCAR, IASC and IACS*