

DRAFT**PAPER FOR CONSIDERATION OF SCAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(Sofia, July 11-13, 2005)****FOR DISCUSSION WITH ODD ROGNE (IASC Secretariat)****RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC
RESEARCH (SCAR) AND THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE
(IASC)**

The SCAR Executive requested the SCAR Secretariat to liaise with the IASC Secretariat on the possibility of developing a joint SCAR-IASC Polar Forum that could take place in St. Petersburg in July 2008 in association with the XXX SCAR meeting. The possibility exists of SCAR sharing with IASC the three-day Open Science Conference that will take place there. This would seem appropriate in that the meeting is taking place in an Arctic country during the International Polar Year, in which there will be an emphasis on bipolar activities. The time and place offer an opportunity to explore the bipolar advances being made during the IPY.

The SCAR Executive asked the SCAR Secretariat also to discuss with the IASC Secretariat other matters of common interest to the two organisations, as called for in the SCAR Strategic Plan 2004 - 2010.

Following preliminary discussions between the SCAR and IASC Secretariats in March 2005, this paper has been developed to explore the potential for developing a relationship between the two organisations. Given that both bodies have polar interests, and both are now associated closely with ICSU (SCAR as one of ICSU's Interdisciplinary Science Bodies, and IASC as an International Scientific Associate of ICSU), there are strong grounds for supposing that a closer linkage between them should bring benefits to both parties, not least in an exchange of views and experience on important scientific topics.

Annex I documents the *raison d'être* and operating practices of both organisations. Clearly there is considerable similarity between them.

Annex 2 documents the main scientific research activities of both organisations.

As an initial step towards facilitating the development of a closer linkage, a draft Letter of Agreement is offered for further consideration in Annex 3.

Annex 1

Raison d’Être and Operating Practices of SCAR and IASC

Topic	SCAR	IASC
Founded	1958	1990
Character	NGO	NGO
Relation to ICSU	Interdisciplinary Body of ICSU	International Scientific Associate of ICSU
Aim	To establish through scientific research and international cooperation a broad understanding of the nature of Antarctica, the role of Antarctica in the Earth System, and the effects of global change on Antarctica	Encourage and facilitate international consultation and cooperation in all aspects of arctic research, in countries engaged in arctic research and in all areas of the arctic region
Mission	To be the leading independent organisation for facilitating and coordinating Antarctic research, and for identifying issues emerging from greater scientific understanding of the region that should be brought to the attention of policy makers	To encourage, facilitate and promote the full range of basic and applied research, encouraging cooperation and integration of human, social and natural sciences concerned with the Arctic at a circum-arctic or international level; and to provide scientific advice on arctic issues
Objectives (main activities)	<p>to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system;</p> <p>to provide objective and independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean;</p> <p>to facilitate free and unrestricted access to Antarctic scientific data and information;</p>	To develop research projects for which circum-arctic or international cooperation is required (giving priority to multidisciplinary projects relevant to arctic science issues which require international cooperation;

	to develop scientific capacity in all SCAR Members, especially with respect to younger scientists, and to promote the incorporation of Antarctic science in education at all levels; to communicate scientific information about the Antarctic region to the public.	
Organisation/Structure	Executive Committee; Delegates Meeting; Delegates Committees; Standing Scientific Groups on Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and Geosciences; Standing Committees on Antarctic Treaty System and on Finance; Secretariat	Executive Committee, Council, Regional Board, Secretariat
Responsibilities	Develop policies and guidelines for cooperative scientific research; Establish Programme Planning Groups, Expert Groups and Action Groups as needed; Endorse plans suggested by science groups; Recommend scientific programmes and projects; Recommend implementation plans for activities; Develop plans and facilitate coordination of logistics and operations for SCAR activities; Organise Antarctic Science Conferences; Agree on advice to ATCM	Develop policies and guidelines for cooperative scientific research; Establish working groups (WGs) as needed; Endorse plans suggested by WGs, and recommend scientific programmes and projects; Recommend implementation plans for activities; Develop plans and facilitate coordination of logistics and operations for IASC activities; Organise Arctic Science Conferences
Membership	Representatives of national organisations adhering to ICSU, or nominated by national organisations adhering to ICSU; ICSU Unions whose activity is related to that of SCAR	Representatives of scientific organisations of Arctic countries and of other countries engaged in Arctic research;
Members (<i>including in italics (a) Associate Members in SCAR, and (b) non-Arctic countries in IASC</i>)	Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, <i>Bulgaria</i> , Canada, Chile, China, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Korea (R of), <i>Malaysia</i> ,	Canada, <i>China</i> , Denmark, Finland, <i>France</i> , <i>Germany</i> , Iceland, <i>Italy</i> , <i>Japan</i> , <i>Netherlands</i> , Norway, <i>Poland</i> , <i>Korea (Rep of)</i> , Russia, Sweden,

	Netherlands, NZ, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, <i>Ukraine</i> , UK, USA, Uruguay	<i>Switzerland, UK, USA</i> Note: only 2 IASC Members are not in SCAR (Denmark and Iceland)
Organisational Meetings	Biennial meeting of Delegates; annual meeting of Executive Committee	Annual meeting of Council, during Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW)
Officers	President; 4 Vice-Presidents (2 elected every 2 nd year); Past-president (for 2 years)	President; 4 Vice-Presidents (2 elected every 2 nd year)
Scientific Subgroups	Scientific Research Programme Groups; scientific Expert Groups; scientific Action Groups; History Group: to plan and effect cooperative research in areas of special interest requiring attention in the short term (AG; 2-4 years) medium term (EG 2-10 years), and long term (SRP 5 – 10+ years).	Working Groups (manned by experts): to exchange information; discuss problems, methods and directions; identify opportunities for cooperation; develop and recommend proposals for programmes, projects and activities;
Science Meeting	Biennial SCAR science meeting (of Standing Scientific Groups) associated with biennial Antarctic Open Science Conference; to review scientific advances; report on progress; develop plans and budgets; draft reports on progress, plans, budgets and recommendations for Delegates meeting.	Annual Arctic Science Summit Week including Arctic Science Conference to identify key scientific questions and issues; review current status of Arctic science; provide scientific and technical advice; promote cooperation and linkages; increase understanding and support; produce a report and recommendations for Council.
Secretariat	To serve the organisational needs; directed by an Executive Director; responsible to the Delegates Meeting and Executive Council. Salaries and equipment funded from SCAR contributions; facilities funded by host country.	To serve the organisational needs; directed by an Executive Secretary responsible to the Council; Salaries and facilities funded by the host country; located in an Arctic country.
Operating procedures	Based on the Constitution and Rules of Procedure	Based on The Founding Articles.
Programmes and projects	SCAR is focusing its efforts on a limited number of major international scientific research programmes addressing major, priority scientific issues of global	Priority given to multidisciplinary projects relevant to arctic science issues and which require international cooperation; Programmes and

	or fundamental importance requiring field work and/or observations in the Antarctic. Most of these programmes are interdisciplinary in nature.	projects are expected usually to address circum-arctic issues that require circum-arctic partnerships and cooperation; Project Planning Groups formulate science and implementation plans; Project Catalogue and Project Status Chart are published annually and distributed in hard copy and on the web.
Programme and project Review	Major programme proposals are peer reviewed by independent experts, by COMNAP (for logistical requirements) and by the Delegates Committee on Scientific Affairs. The Executive Committee monitors performance annually and the Delegates' Meeting monitors it biennially	Executive Committee, Council and Regional Board are involved in reviewing project and programme plans; Council monitors performance annually;
Data and Information Management	Encourages freedom of exchange of data and information; is responsible for the Antarctic Master Directory (AMD), through JCADM (Joint SCAR/COMNAP Committee on Antarctic Data Management)	Is responsible for the International Arctic Environmental Data Directory (ADD), through the ADD Council
Funding	Programmes and projects are expected to attract national funding; SCAR's funds come from national contributions; they cover mainly (i) Secretariat salaries, equipment and some running costs; and (ii) the costs of workshops and meetings under the aegis of the Standing Scientific Groups and the Standing Committee on the ATS.	Programmes and projects are expected to attract national funding; IASC General Fund (established from annual contributions) meets common expenses and funds young scientists to participate in programme and project planning; an IASC Group of Funding Specialists provide advice on funding; IASC provides (web) advice on funding sources (Arctic Funding Guide);
Contributions to International Science Plans	Contributes to planning for the IPY; co-sponsors 4 -yearly meetings like the SCAR International Biology Symposium, and the International	Contributes to planning for (i) the International Conferences on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP) (and financially contributes to ICARP); (ii) the

	Symposium on Antarctic Earth Science; Co-sponsors the Cryosphere Theme of the partnership for an Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS)	IPY
Scientific Advice to Policy-Makers	SCAR’s ATS Committee develops for the ATCM information papers on key scientific issues, and working papers addressing matters requiring the attention of ATCM; SCAR also provides advice to CCAMLR and ACAP	Appropriate experts are identified to address requests for advice; advice is provided to the Arctic Council
Communication	Newsletter is published on web and circulated to Members and SCAR science community; SCAR has a Communications Strategy; there is a SCAR poster, and a SCAR PowerPoint presentation; a brochure is being developed (with COMNAP).	Newsletter (IASC Progress) is published on web and available in hard copy on request; Survey of Arctic Meetings (SAM) is published on IASC web site; there is an IASC Brochure
Partnerships	SCAR works closely with COMNAP; SCAR has bilateral agreements with WCRP (including CLIVAR, CliC and IPAB), SCOR, GLOBEC, and IGOS Partners. SCAR works closely with the ATCM (particularly the Committee on Environmental Protection) and advises CCAMLR and ACAP	IASC works closely with FARO; with the Arctic Council (e.g. for the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment); with AOSB for ICARP; and with the Pacific Arctic Group (PAG); International Science Initiative in the Russian Arctic (ISRA) develops cooperation between Russian and other scientists through small projects, workshops etc.
Capacity Building	SCAR Fellowship Programme provides 3-5 study grants of up to US\$10k/yr each; SCAR has a capacity building and education strategy.	IASC supports young scientists to participate in planning and implementation of projects, via travel grants.
Publication	The SCAR Bulletin reports on SCAR meetings; The SCAR Reports cover special topics (e.g. results of SCAR workshops); SCAR’s expert groups publish key results as books or as papers in scientific journals.	Project reports are published on the web site

Annex 2 Main Scientific Research Projects of SCAR and IASC. The 5 SCAR Scientific Research programmes are highlighted in bold – other SCAR activities are either Expert or Action Groups.

	SCAR		IASC	
	Acronym	Project Title	Acronym	Project Title
Biol	EBA	Evolution of biodiversity in Antarctica	ACBio	Arctic coastal biodiversity
	SALE	Subglacial Antarctic Lake Exploration	CARMA	Circum-Arctic rangifer monitoring and assessment
			CEON	Terrestrial circum-Arctic environmental observatories network
		Best Practices for Conservation	CAT-B	Circum-Arctic terrestrial biodiversity initiative
		Biological Monitoring	TTI	Tundra-Taiga interface
	CAML	Census of Antarctic Marine Life		Contaminants and human health in the Arctic
		Birds	NUHIP	Nutrition and health of the northern indigenous peoples
		Seals		
		Human Biology and Medicine		
Phys	AGCS	Antarctica in the Global Climate System	ACD	Arctic coastal dynamics
	ICESTAR	Interhemispheric Conjugacy in Solar-Terrestrial and Aeronomy Research		Arctic hydrology
	PASTA	Plateau Astronomy Site Testing in Antarctica		Marine transport
	MOSAK	Modelling and Observational Studies of Antarctic Katabatic Winds		
		Oceanography		
	AAA	Antarctic and Astronomy and Astrophysics		
		Operational Meteorology in the Antarctic		

	ISMASS	Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Sea Level		
		Ice Drilling Technology		
	IGOS	Cryosphere Theme		
Geo	ACE	Antarctic Climate Evolution	WAG	Working group on Arctic glaciology
		Acoustics in the Marine Environment	LOIRA	Land-ocean interactions in the Russian Arctic
		Marine Survey Coordination	MAST	Map of sediment thickness
	EGGI	Geographical Information		
	EGPPE	Permafrost and Periglacial Environments		
	GIANT	Geodetic Infrastructure of Antarctica		
	ANTEC	Antarctic Neotectonics		
	ADMAP	Antarctic Digital Magnetic Anomaly Project		
	IBCSO	International Bathymetric Chart of the Southern Ocean		

ANNEX 3

DRAFT

**LETTER OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH (SCAR)
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE (IASC)**

Preamble

This letter recognises that there are many common interests between SCAR and IASC in scientific research in the polar-regions, and that there is much to be gained therefore from developing a synergy between SCAR and IASC in polar and bipolar research.

Informal links already exist, for example (i) in joint participation of SCAR and IASC as members of the ICSU/WMO Joint Committee on the International Polar Year (IPY); (ii) in the participation of SCAR as an observer in Arctic Summit Science Week (ASSW); (iii) in the participation of some people as Delegates or Alternate Delegates to SCAR and as national representatives to the IASC Council; (iv) through the activities of many scientists in both the Arctic and the Antarctic regions; (v) through the interests of many scientists in both SCAR and IASC in the teleconnections in the atmosphere and in the ocean between the Arctic and the Antarctic.

A link between SCAR and IASC at this time is encouraged to ensure that both communities together make an integrated and comprehensive contribution to meeting the goals of the International Polar Year, which runs from 1 March 2007 to 1 March 2009.

1. SCAR

SCAR is an Interdisciplinary Body of the International Council for Science (ICSU). Its geographical remit covers Antarctica and the surrounding Southern Ocean including the Antarctic Circumpolar Current south of the Subantarctic Front. SCAR's main aim is to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate leading edge scientific activity in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system. It also provides objective and independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. And it aims to facilitate free and unrestricted access to Antarctic scientific data and information.

SCAR focuses its efforts on a limited number of major international Scientific Research Programmes (SRPs) addressing major, priority scientific issues of global or fundamental importance requiring fieldwork and/or observations in the Antarctic. Most of these programmes will be interdisciplinary in nature and last 5 -10+ years. A number of Expert Groups (EG) and

Action Groups (AG) plan and effect cooperative research in areas of special interest requiring attention in the short term (AG; 2-4 years) to medium term (EG 2-8 years). Three of SCAR's five SRPs address the issue of climate change and its effects, on timescales ranging from the modern to the geological and extending into the next 100 years. Biodiversity is a major interest, along with human health (in the context of resident populations of scientists).

SCAR's 5 SRPs are leading projects within the IPY. SCAR is an active member of the ICSU/WMO Joint Committee that is steering the IPY process.

2. IASC

brief description of IASC (ON SAME MODEL AS SCAR ABOVE) e.g.: IASC is affiliated to the International Council for Science (ICSU) as an International Scientific Associate. Its geographical remit covers the Arctic Ocean and the surrounding landmasses above latitude 60°N. IASC's main aim is to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate leading edge scientific activity in the Arctic region, and on the role of the Arctic region in the Earth system. It also provides objective and independent scientific advice to the Arctic Council and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of the Arctic region.

IASC focuses its efforts on a limited number of international scientific research programmes or projects addressing priority scientific issues of global or fundamental importance requiring fieldwork and/or observations in the Arctic. Most of these programmes will be multidisciplinary in nature. The programmes and projects are organized and run by Working Groups. Several of IASC's research projects address the issue of climate change and its effects. Biodiversity is a major interest, along with human health (in the context of indigenous peoples) and the impacts of environmental change on society.

Some of IASC's projects are leading projects within the IPY. IASC is an active member of the ICSU/WMO Joint Committee that is steering the IPY process.

3. Common Interests and Practices

As set out in Annexes 1 and 2, SCAR and IASC 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 scientific research, in communicating to the public, and in providing advice to policy makers.

4. Declaration of Intent

SCAR and IASC intend to combine their efforts in selected fields and activities (to be decided by mutual agreement) so as to raise the level of impact of both organizations in terms of making scientific advances and of advising policy makers (for example of the likelihood and likely effects of climate change), as well as to avoid duplication.

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

To facilitate the process, SCAR and IASC agree:

- (i) to invite each other to attend the meetings of their major bodies (SCAR Delegates' Meeting and IASC Council);
- (ii) to encourage appropriate linkages between the relevant existing SCAR and IASC scientific projects;
- (iii) to encourage their scientific communities to develop joint bipolar projects and approaches in appropriate fields;
- (iv) to exchange ideas on best practices in data and information management;
- (v) to work together with the Climate and Cryosphere Project of the WCRP on developing and implementing the Cryosphere Theme of the IGOS Partners, as a contribution to the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS);
- (vi) to exchange newsletters and advertise each other's newsletters and web sites on their own web sites;
- (vii) to develop combined approaches to communicating with the wider community on the significance of polar research to the solution of societal issues.

The agreement will remain in force for 5 years, and may be terminated by either party with one month's notice,

Signed

 Odd Rogne
 Executive Secretary, IASC

 Colin Summerhayes
 Executive Director, SCAR

 Date X/X/ 2005

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Annex 1: *Raison d'Être* and Operating Practices of SCAR and IASC

Annex 2: Main Scientific Research Projects of SCAR and IASC