

SCAR CONSTITUTION

1. Definition and Domicile of SCAR

- 1.1 The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, hereinafter called SCAR, was formed in February 1958 and is an interdisciplinary body of the International Council for Science (ICSU).
- 1.2 The legal domicile of SCAR and its Secretariat will be determined by the Meeting of Delegates.
- 1.3 Under the Antarctic Treaty System, SCAR has a unique role to provide, inter alia, scientific advice to Parties at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings.
- 1.4 In the United Kingdom, SCAR is a Private Company (without a share capital) Limited by Guarantee and is registered as a charity with the Charity Commissioners.

2. Vision, Mission, and Objectives of SCAR

- 2.1 The vision of SCAR is to contribute to the peaceful and environmentally sound exploration of the Antarctic region through scientific research and international cooperation to ensure that the full potential of scientific research is used to understand the nature of the region and its processes, the role of Antarctica in the Earth System, and the effect of global and human change on Antarctica.
- 2.2 SCAR's specific mission is to be the leading edge independent organization for facilitating and coordinating research in Antarctica, and identifying issues emerging from greater scientific understanding that should be brought to the attention of policy makers.
- 2.3 To fulfil its mission, SCAR aims to achieve the following main objectives:
 - a. to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate leading edge international scientific activity in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system;
 - b. 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.
 - c. to facilitate free and unrestricted access to Antarctic scientific data and information;
 - d. 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;
 - e. to communicate scientific information about the Antarctic region to the public.

3. SCAR Area of Interest

- 3.1 For the purpose of SCAR the Antarctic Region is considered to include Antarctica, its offshore islands, and the surrounding ocean including the Antarctic Circumpolar Current, the northern boundary of which is the Subantarctic Front. Subantarctic islands that lie north of the Subantarctic Front and yet fall into SCAR's area of interest include Ile Amsterdam, Ile St. Paul, and Gough Island.

4. Membership of SCAR

- 4.1 The membership of SCAR is as follows:

a. Full Member

A Full Member shall be a national organization adhering to ICSU, or nominated by a national organization adhering to ICSU, that represents the scientific community of that country. The country must maintain an active and continuing programme of research in the Antarctic and must have formed a National Committee to communicate with SCAR.

b. Associate Member

An Associate Member shall be a national organization adhering to ICSU, or nominated by a national organization adhering to ICSU, that desires to participate in SCAR for scientific reasons but does not qualify for full membership.

c. Union Member

A Union Member shall be an ICSU Union, whose activity is related to the objectives of SCAR, which wishes to participate in SCAR on a continuing basis.

d. Honorary Member

An Honorary Member shall be an individual who has rendered outstanding service to SCAR and has been so recognized by the Meeting of Delegates.

5. Administration

- 5.1 The decision-making organs of SCAR are:

- a. The Executive Committee;
b. The Meeting of Delegates

- 5.2 Representation and Voting Rights

5.2.1 Each Full Member has one vote and is represented by one Delegate and one Alternate delegate designated by the National Committee communicating with SCAR.

5.2.2 Each Associate Member is represented by one non-voting Delegate designated by the national body adhering to ICSU.

5.2.3 Each Union Member is represented by one Delegate designated by the Union. Union Members have a vote on all matters except Delegates financial matters.

5.2.4 Honorary Members are without voting rights.

6. Meeting of Delegates

6.1 Meetings of Delegates are normally held every two years.

6.2 The President of SCAR shall preside over the Meeting of Delegates.

6.3 The Meeting of Delegates consists of:

a. The Delegate and Alternate Delegate representing each Full Member.

b. The Delegate representing each Associate Member.

c. The Delegate representing each Union Member.

d. Honorary Members in their personal capacity.

e. Invited observers from other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

6.4 Two Delegate Committees, the Delegate Committee on Scientific Affairs and the Delegate Committee on Standing Committees, shall meet at each SCAR Meeting of Delegates

7. Executive Committee

7.1 The Executive Committee consists of the Officers of SCAR as defined in Section 8.1.

7.2 The Executive Committee directs the affairs of SCAR and attends to matters requiring consideration by SCAR. It shall meet as often as necessary, and at least once between SCAR Meetings of Delegates.

7.3 The President of SCAR shall preside over meetings of the Executive Committee.

7.4 The Executive Committee will report all decisions taken to the biennial SCAR Meeting of Delegates

8. Officers of SCAR

8.1 The officers of SCAR are a President, four Vice-Presidents and the immediate Past-President and shall be from six different Full Members.

8.2 The President shall be elected for a term of four years from Delegates and Alternate Delegates of Full Members.

8.3 The Vice-Presidents shall be elected for a term of four years from Delegates and Alternate Delegates of Full Members.

8.4 The Immediate Past-President shall serve as a member of the SCAR Executive Committee for a period of two (2) years.

- 8.5 Election of Officers shall be conducted under the Rules of Procedure for SCAR established by the Meeting of Delegates.

9. Subsidiary Bodies of SCAR

- 9.1 SCAR operates through the following subsidiary bodies: Standing Scientific Groups, a Standing Committee on Finance, and a Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System.
- 9.2 Standing Scientific Groups are bodies representing the Antarctic activities in Geosciences, Life Sciences, and Physical Sciences

10. SCAR Finances

- 10.1 The income of SCAR is obtained from the following:
- a. Annual contributions from its National Members according to the scale determined by the Meeting of Delegates
 - b. Grants and other sources of income obtained from ICSU or from other non-governmental and governmental organizations.
 - c. The fiscal year for SCAR shall be the calendar year, 1 January to 31 December.

11. Legal Representation of SCAR

- 11.1 The President, or if the President is unavailable, a member of the SCAR Executive Committee, designated either by the President or by a vote of the Executive Committee, is the legal representative of SCAR.

12. Modification of the SCAR Constitution

- 12.1 Amendments may be made to the Constitution with the approval by consensus of the voting Delegates present at a Meeting of Delegates.
- 12.2 After ICSU approval the revised Constitution will enter into force thirty (30) days after the SCAR Secretariat forwards copies to National Members and Union Members.

13. Interim Measures

- 13.1 After approval by the Meeting of Delegates of amendments to the Constitution, National Members, Union Members, and Honorary members should voluntarily follow the revisions as if the changes were in force.