

Joint SCAR / CEP Workshop on Further Developing the Antarctic Protected Area System

Workshop Outline

Version 3

1. Background

Article 12(g) of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (Environmental Protocol) established a role for the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) to provide advice and formulate recommendations to the Parties on ‘the operation and further elaboration of the Antarctic Protected Area system’. Annex V to the Environmental Protocol provides for the designation of Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) to protect ‘outstanding environmental, scientific, historic, aesthetic or wilderness values, any combination of those values, or ongoing or planned scientific research’.

Article 3.2 of Annex V to the Environmental Protocol states that ‘Parties shall seek to identify, within a systematic environmental-geographic framework, and to include in the series of Antarctic Specially Protected Areas’ (ASPAs), areas with specified characteristics and values’.

The CEP has regularly expressed its desire to move towards a more systematic and holistic approach to the further development of the Antarctic protected areas system. The CEP has recognised the importance of drawing on the best available scientific information to inform its work, and the important role played by the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) in providing high quality, independent scientific advice. SCAR has a strong interest in, and is actively involved in the development and dissemination of research to enhance the evidence-base to support Antarctic area protection in line with the provisions of Article 3.2 of Annex V.

At CEP XXI, held in Buenos Aires in May 2018, the Committee considered [Working Paper 16 Proposal for a joint SCAR/CEP workshop on further developing the Antarctic protected area system](#) jointly prepared by Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, China, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Russian Federation, SCAR, the United Kingdom, and the United States¹. The Committee strongly supported the proposal to convene a joint SCAR/CEP workshop on further developing the Antarctic protected area system, consistent with actions identified in the CEP Five-Year Work Plan and the CEP Climate Change Response Work Programme (CCRWP).

2. Terms of Reference

As agreed at CEP XXI, the workshop terms of reference are to:

- 1) Review the current status of the Antarctic protected area system.
- 2) Identify information and resources relevant to designating ASPAs within a systematic environmental-geographic framework.
- 3) Identify actions that could be taken to support the further development of the Antarctic protected area system.
- 4) Prepare a report for consideration by the CEP.

3. Timing and venue

The workshop will be held at the Masarykova Kolej (<https://www.masarykovakolej.cz/en/congresses>) in Prague, Czech Republic, on Thursday 27 June 2019 and Friday 28 June 2019. The Masarykova Kolej is approximately 20 minutes from the Vaclav Havel Airport Prague.

A recommended hotel – the Vienna House Diplomat Prague (<https://www.viennahouse.com/en/diplomat-prague.html>) – is located across the street.

4. Participation

The workshop is open to representatives of CEP Members and Observers, and representatives and experts from relevant SCAR bodies and invited external experts.

A list of participants will be circulated closer to the workshop and included in the workshop report.

5. Steering committee

The steering committee is responsible for planning the workshop, in consultation with CEP Members and Observers and relevant SCAR contacts. The steering committee includes:

- **Steven Chown** (SCAR President) – steven.chown@monash.edu
- **Kevin Hughes** (CEP Vice-Chair, United Kingdom) – kehu@bas.ac.uk
- **Ewan McIvor** (Australian CEP representative) – ewan.mcivor@aad.gov.au
- **Birgit Njåstad** (CEP Chair) – birgit.njaastad@npolar.no
- **Chandrika Nath** (SCAR Executive Director) – chandrika@scar.org
- **Polly Penhale** (United States CEP representative) – ppenhale@nsf.gov
- **Antonio Quesada** (Spanish CEP representative) – cpe@mineco.es
- **Alvaro Soutullo** (Uruguayan CEP representative) – cientifica.director@iau.gub.uy
- **Aleks Terauds** (Chief Officer, SCAR Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System) – aleks.terauds@aad.gov.au
- **Zdenek Venera** (Czech Republic CEP representative, host country representative) – zdenek.venera@geology.cz

6. Work program

The workshop will consider the above terms of reference through a series of presentations and discussion sessions. The proposed work program is provided at [Attachment A](#), and possible questions to guide discussions are presented at [Attachment B](#).

7. Co-conveners

The workshop will be co-convened by SCAR and CEP representatives from within the steering committee, as outlined in the proposed work program ([Attachment A](#)).

8. Workshop documents

The SCAR Secretariat has established a website to host workshop documents. Access instructions are as follows:

First, go to: <https://scar.org/users/login/> (username: **cepworkshop2019**; password: **SCARCEP2019**)

Then go to <https://scar.org/cep2019/documents/>

The website provides access to:

- Workshop Notes;
- this Workshop Outline (which may be revised as necessary prior to the workshop);
- reference documents compiled by the steering committee;
- a draft report on the State of the Antarctic Protected Area System, prepared by the steering committee as a reference for discussion at the workshop, particularly under ToR#1;

- papers prepared by representatives from the SCAR community on research of relevance to the workshop, to be presented under ToR#2; and
- workshop background papers submitted by participants, which are relevant to the workshop terms of reference (Note: To maximise time for discussion, it is intended that such background papers will not be presented during the workshop, but will form part of participants' recommended background reading).

9. Workshop report

The co-conveners will prepare a full workshop report as an Information Paper for CEP XXII and for circulation to relevant SCAR groups. It is intended that recommendations arising from the workshop will be agreed by participants, during the workshop, and presented in a Working Paper for CEP XXII.

Attachment A. Proposed work program

Time	Day 1 – Thursday 27 June 2019	Day 2 – Friday 28 June 2019
0800-0900	Registration	
0900-1030	<p>Session 1 (Convener – Ewan McIvor, Australia)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome (Host country representative) Opening remarks (SCAR and CEP representatives) Workshop background <i>Workshop term of reference #1: Review the current status of the Antarctic protected area system</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Presentation</u>: draft report on the State of the Antarctic protected area system (Dr Kevin Hughes, United Kingdom). 	<p>Session 5 (Convener – Dr Polly Penhale, United States)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Day 1 Introduction to Day 2 <i>Workshop term of reference #3: Identify actions that could be taken to support the further development of the Antarctic protected area system</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Discussion</u>: consider research and management needs and related actions that could be taken to support the further development and management of the Antarctic protected area system, taking into account climate change, consistent with the provisions of Article 3.2 of Annex V.
1030-1100	Morning break	
1100-1230	<p>Session 2 (Convener – Ewan McIvor, Australia)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Workshop term of reference #1: continued</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Discussion</u>: consider the state of the current series of ASPAs with regard to the provisions of Article 3.2 of Annex V, and in light of the other provisions of the Environmental Protocol, with a view to informing a CEP report to ATCM on the status of the Antarctic protected area system, as identified in the CEP Five-Year Work Plan. 	<p>Session 6 (Convener – Dr Polly Penhale, United States)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Workshop term of reference #3: continued</i>
1230-1400	Lunch break	
1400-1530	<p>Session 3 (Convener – Dr Aleks Terauds, SCAR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Workshop term of reference #2: Identify information and resources relevant to designating ASPAs within a systematic environmental-geographic framework</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Presentation</u>: Identifying areas of ecological importance using broad scale data from marine species (Dr Yan Ropert-Coudert, Centre national de la recherche scientifique) 	<p>Session 7 (Convener – Dr Chandrika Nath, SCAR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Workshop term of reference #4: Prepare a report for consideration by the CEP</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Discussion</u>: Review of workshop outcomes and agreement to recommendations

Time	Day 1 – Thursday 27 June 2019	Day 2 – Friday 28 June 2019
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Presentation</u>: Recent science outputs to support the development of area protection (Dr Peter Convey, British Antarctic Survey) - <u>Presentation</u>: Data quality and data acquisition in the context of Antarctic area protection (Dr Heather Lynch, Stony Brook University) 	
1530-1600	Afternoon break	
1600-1800	<p>Session 4 (Convener – Dr Aleks Terauds, SCAR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Workshop term of reference #2: continued</i> - <u>Presentation</u>: Preliminary results from the SCAR-coordinated expert elicitation process on systematic conservation planning (Video presentation by the University of Queensland) - <u>Presentation</u>: Conservation planning for systematic protected area development: Challenges and solutions (An external perspective: Prof Mandy Lombard, Nelson Mandela University) - <u>Discussion</u>: consider information and resources relevant to advancing the provisions of Article 3.2 of Annex V. This may include, for example, considering existing classifications and other research available, underway or planned that is relevant to developing the concept of a systematic environmental-geographic framework, as well as discussion of current and future threats to Antarctic values (e.g. associated with human activities in the area or broader pressures such as climate change). 	<p>Session 8 (Convener – Dr Chandrika Nath, SCAR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Workshop term of reference #4: continued</i> • Next steps • Close

Attachment B. Possible guiding discussion questions

Discussion questions	Workshop session(s)
What do we want to aim for?	1,3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should be the goal(s) for the further development of the Antarctic protected area system? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What would a series of protected areas as envisaged in Article 3.2 of Annex V look like? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the current series of ASPAs compare to that vision? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How could threats be addressed in the further development of the Antarctic protected area system? 	
What do we need to get there (science and policy requirements)?	2, 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can science support the further development of the protected area system? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What relevant science is currently available or planned? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the best scientific advice and information be made available and inform discussions on further developing the Antarctic protected area system? How can this be kept up to date? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is further guidance required to assist with identifying/designating/de-designating protected areas in accordance with Article 3.2 of Annex V? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a five-yearly review / revision of ASPA management plans appropriate, even when the PA system is expanded? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where would responsibility appropriately lie for identifying / proposing / managing / monitoring / revising an expanded protected area system? 	
How do we get there (policy)?	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is a whole-of-Antarctic or regional approach likely to be most effective? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For marine areas, how to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication with CCAMLR efforts? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role could the CEP take, and how best could related work be approached? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over what time frame could progress be made? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How could progress be measured? 	