



WP 20  
Agenda Item: 5.1  
Person Responsible: A Van de Putte

**XXXIV SCAR Delegates Meeting**  
**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 29-30 August 2016**

# **SCADM report**

## **Executive Summary**

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### **Important Issues or Factors:**

Since 2014, SCADM has defined a new set of priorities for 2014-2016. These include:

- providing data access through the Antarctic Data Management System (ADMS);
- promoting a distributed, interoperable network of accredited polar data centres; and
- data publication.

The level of participation of countries is highly variable and the request for contact points from national committees / delegates has had a limited response.

### **Recommendations/Actions and Justification:**

- Increase the visibility of the Antarctic Master Directory (AMD) on the SCAR website and other media and fora.
- Relaunch the request for contact points to be provided by national committees / delegates.
- Improve collaboration with SCAR SRPs and external partners.

### **Budget Implications:**

SCADM is requesting \$5000 a year, primarily to organize the annual meetings and to support SCADM members in attending these meetings. This budget is often used largely for the annual meetings (e.g. catering for the meeting, if this is not offered by the host). A budget increase (\$2000) would allow dedicated funding for, e.g. a recurring data rescue grant sponsored by SCADM. Currently such grants are only possible on a biennial basis, depending on the spending for meeting logistics.

## Introduction

The Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADM) helps facilitate co-operation between scientists and nations with regard to scientific data. It guides the development of the Antarctic Data Directory System and advises SCAR and SCAR members on data issues. The SCADM Terms of References are:

- Promotion of Antarctic data management,
- Providing guidance to the Antarctic Master Directory host,
- Establishing Antarctic data management policies and priorities.

### 1.1. Participation in SCADM

SCAR has 39 full members and associate members in total, yet only some 15 members have established or designated a data centre, or a national point of contact for Antarctic data, even though the ATCM called upon nations to establish a National Antarctic Data Centre back in 1998. As a result, very valuable Antarctic data run the risk of being lost forever.

SCADM is working on a targeted approach to include those countries not yet represented in SCADM, and to help those countries in developing the required infrastructure for Antarctic data management.

### 1.2. Priorities 2014-2016

- Provide data access through the ADMS (Antarctic Data Management System);
- Promote a distributed, interoperable network of accredited polar data centres;
- Data publication.

More details are available in the 2015 report submitted to the EXCOM Meeting (see [http://www.scar.org/scar\\_media/documents/meetings/EXCOM15/EC15\\_WP20\\_SCADM\\_Report.pdf](http://www.scar.org/scar_media/documents/meetings/EXCOM15/EC15_WP20_SCADM_Report.pdf)).

### 1.3. Activities 2015-2016

#### Meetings:

- APECS World Summit workshop on “Data Sharing and Open Science in Polar Research“, Sofia, Bulgaria, 6-7 June 2015.
- SOOS Data Management Sub-Committee Meeting, Hobart, Tasmania, 10-12 June 2015.
- SCADM annual meeting, Waterloo, Canada, 26-30 October 2015 (with Polar Data Forum 2).
- European Polar Board Plenary Spring Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden, 11-12 April 2016.
- SOOS Data Management Sub-Committee Meeting, San Diego, USA, 10-13 May 2016.
- Encontro Ciência 2016, Invited lecture and meeting with PROPOLAR (Programa Polar Português), Lisbon, Portugal, 4-5 July 2016.

Monthly conference call (using GoToMeeting) on the last Monday of each month.

## Progress to Date

SCAR/SCADM has become an associate member of the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE - <http://www.iode.org/>), and is in the process of becoming a member of ICSU's World Data System network (<https://www.icsu-wds.org/>).

SCADM has been very happy with the GoToMeeting platform which enables regular monthly meetings to be held.

## **Future Plans**

SCADM plans to develop an MOC (Memorandum of Cooperation) with the Arctic Data Committee. Further collaboration with SCAR's Scientific Research Programmes (SRPs) will be pursued.

## **Recommendations/Expected Outcomes**

- More National Antarctic Data Centres (NADCs) are needed to preserve invaluable Antarctic data.
- Scientists should be encouraged to submit metadata to the Antarctic Master Directory.