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Report of SCAR Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting

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**SCAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM) MEETING  
WASHINGTON, USA, 9-11 JULY 2007**

**Attendees:** Chris Rapley (President), Sergio Marensi, Zhanhai Zhang, Antonio Meloni, Mahlon Chuck Kennicutt II (Vice-Presidents), Jörn Thiede (Past President), Alessandro Capra (Chief Officer SSG-GS), Ad Huiskes (Chief Officer SSG-LS), Maurizio Candidi (Chief Officer SSG-PS), Taco de Bruin (Chief Officer JCADM), Volker Rachold (Observer, IASC Executive Secretary), Alexander Klepikov (Observer, XXX SCAR Local Organising Committee), Maria Uhle (Observer, US National Academies Polar Board), Colin Summerhayes (SCAR Executive Director), Mike Sparrow (SCAR Executive Officer), Peter Clarkson (SCAR support staff)

**Opening Formalities:**

The President welcomed the Members of the Executive Committee, Chief Officers and Secretariat. Apologies we received from S. Chown (Chief Officer of Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System, SC-ATS). The President introduced the new Executive Officer, M. Sparrow, and the observers: A. Klepikov representing the XXX SCAR Local Organising Committee, V. Rachold representing IASC and M. Uhle from US National Academies Polar Research Board.

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The final draft Agenda (document WP-01a), Annotated Agenda (WP01b) and Timetable (WP-02) were adopted. It was noted that the joint SCAR-COMNAP meeting had been moved to Wednesday lunchtime and that item 7.4 (revised election procedure) would be brought forward so the President could participate in this discussion (the President having to leave early because of dental problems). M. Kennicutt was appointed to act as President during the President's absence.

The President reminded participants that SCAR's Implementation Plan (document WP 04), has been amended with a combined list of actions from all recent SCAR management meetings. The Executive Director reminded delegates that the SCAR Implementation Plan was intended to be a "living" document that will be revised on regular basis to reflect recent actions and decisions.

***Action 1: Secretariat to edit the actions in the Implementation Plan to remove completed actions and to add new ones.***

Many action items in the Plan were minor in nature and other, more important ones, were obscured by the lengthy lists. It was decided that the more critical actions should be highlighted for emphasis.

***Action 2: The Executive Officer will revise the Implementation Plan and highlight the more important actions for future reference.***

**2. SCIENCE**

***2.1 Report of the Cross Linkages Workshop***

M. Candidi, as Chairman of the Cross-Linkages Meeting in Rome (November 2006), presented a brief report on the highlights of the meeting, with reference to document WP-05.

The primary objectives of the meeting were: to encourage the development of cross-discipline research within SCAR to develop concrete actions that would lead to a closer

working relationships between SCAR's Scientific Research Programmes (SRPs) and the Standing Scientific Groups (SSGs) including investigating ways to improve these interactions to discuss other activities that would bring the communities closer together

M. Candidi noted that integration activities were already active, for example (i) cross disciplinary research is being done by atmospheric physicists and astronomers to determine the properties of the atmosphere in Antarctica, as relevant to the design of telescopes and (ii) a cross disciplinary AGCS-ACE-EBA workshop took place in Hobart in July 2006.

The Executive Director and M. Candidi highlighted several important actions from the meeting, including:

- The planning for an Antarctic Climate Science Analysis with a view to producing a draft for XXX SCAR (initial information from an analysis of the physics of the climate system had already been presented to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) in New Delhi in May 2007)
- The formation of new POLENET-ICESTAR-GPS-Meteorology working group within the Geosciences Expert Group on Geospatial Information in Antarctica (GIANT)
- Recognition of the need for improved coordination of science activities on King George Island (KGI)

EXCOM discussed ways that SCAR could assist coordination among Members with activities on King George Island to improve scientific investigations. Any action by SCAR in this regard must be sensitive to national interests and independence. It was suggested that one way forward might be to identify critical scientific activities not currently conducted on KG Island and encourage National programs to expand science activities in these directions. EXCOM decided that the KGI Action Group should be expanded to include representatives of countries who have stations on KG, and serviced by the SCAR Secretariat. A KGI workshop could be planned for XXX SCAR.

***Action 3: S. Marensi and the Secretariat will develop a terms of reference for the King George Island Science Coordination Action Group.***

EXCOM agreed that the cross-linkages workshops were an important activity for identifying linkages between the SRPs and SSGs and that additional workshops should be held as warranted. M Kennicutt noted that these workshops were an ideal mechanism to develop future SRPs and ensure that SCAR science continues to be interdisciplinary, relevant and state of the art. It was decided to postpone the next cross-linkages workshop until next year, and concentrate on implementing actions agreed at the Rome and Amsterdam workshops and revisit the topic during XXX SCAR.

***Action 4: In St Petersburg Chief Officers and the Secretariat will review progress on cross linkages actions and plan a follow-up to cross linkages workshop to take place in late 2008.***

## 2.2 Report of the Chief Officers' Meeting

Alessandro Capra summarised the outcomes and suggested actions that arose from the Chief Officers' (CO's) meeting that was held on 7 July, 2008 prior to the EXCOM meeting. Most of the Chief Officer's recommendations were addressed in the appropriate part of the EXCOM meeting and are incorporated in this report.

EXCOM and the COs noted that the Czech Republic had not yet applied for membership of SCAR. The Republic should be approached through official contacts and through individual science contacts to further this issue.

***Action 5: The Executive Director and President will draft a letter to the Czech Republic about membership of SCAR pending responses from COs' science contacts.***

EXCOM noted that the Secretariat was in discussion with Romania, Belarus and Austria about possible Membership.

EXCOM discussed the possibility of SCAR linking to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF). This would improve the use of the SCAR Marine Biodiversity Information Network (MarBIN) within the global biodiversity community.

***Action 6: SCAR will apply for associate membership of GBIF.***

EXCOM noted that there was a continuing action on the Secretariat to review all active Recommendations from previous SCAR meetings.

***Action 7: The Secretariat and President to review past Recommendations by the end of January 2008 and report to the Delegates.***

EXCOM recognised that multiple requests for national information by the Secretariat to national committees and by SSGs was confusing. This will be avoided in the future by coordinating requests for information.

***Action 8: COs and the Secretariat will develop a coordinated strategy for requesting information on SCAR member activities.***

2.3 Highlights, Progress and Plans: SCAR Standing Scientific Groups

Having considered the reports that follow, EXCOM agreed that the SSGs are working well under the new SCAR structure. Exciting scientific findings are emerging and being published in the scientific literature. EXCOM congratulated the three COs on their progress.

The Executive Director reminded EXCOM that SCAR manages a number of services, such as the map catalogue, BEDMAP etc., and produces a number of products for the benefit of the wider community. These services and products should have a higher profile in SCAR. It would be valuable to institute an external review process to evaluate each of the services and product groups, so as to identify opportunities for improvements..

***Action 9: The Secretariat will arrange for a review of SCAR services and products with a view to increasing their profile in, and their value to, SCAR.***

2.3.1 SSG on Geosciences (document WP 35)

Alessandro Capra reported on SSG-GS activities. He noted that the GI (Geographic Information) Expert Group was restructured as a SCAR Standing Committee (Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographic Information - SCAGI) at SCAR XXIX. SCAGI will have its first meeting in November in Buenos Aires (see agenda item 3.2 below). The ANTEC Expert Group has ceased to exist as a separate entity having been absorbed into the International Polar Year (IPY) POLENET Programme (<http://www.polenet.org/>) (see below).

The SCAR cross-linkages workshop (Section 2.1) proposed the creation of a GPS weather working group between ICESTAR/IHY (international Heliophysical Year) and POLENET to contribute to the Upper Atmosphere Monitoring for the IPY Programme UAMPY. There was some discussion as to whether POLENET could be adopted as a future SCAR Scientific Research Programme (SRP). There was general agreement that this was possible, but that there would need to be a strong emphasis on the science questions that could be answered by doing this.

**Action 10: A. Capra and the Executive Director will prepare the case for a programme planning group for POLENET to be considered at XXX SCAR.**

EXCOM noted that with the incorporation of ANTEC into POLENET the SCAR organisational chart must be modified to reflect this change.

**Action 11: Executive Officer to update SCAR organisation scheme**

2.3.2 SSG on Life Sciences (document WP 36)

A. Huiskes reported on SSG-LS activities.

EXCOM took note of the difficulties that SCAR had experienced with the Giant Petrels paper at the Committee on Environmental Protection (CEP) meeting in New Delhi in May 2007.

**Action 12: When presenting papers to ATCM/CEP SC-ATS should take a conservative approach by relying only on peer reviewed material.**

Particular attention was drawn to the plans for a Higher Predators Expert Group that will incorporate the current Birds and Seals Groups (document WP 09). EXCOM discussed the proposal and accepted the recommendation of the SSG-LS, but did not agree that there should be a lengthy interim period before the action is taken. EXCOM agreed that an interim chairman should be appointed to work with the two groups and others to establish the new group. The plan for the new group should be presented to the delegates at XXX SCAR for consideration.

**Action 13: A. Huiskes will work with the interim chair to develop a paper on the proposed Higher Predators group for Delegates to consider at XXX SCAR, including terms of reference.**

A. Huiskes noted that COMNAP's MEDINET and the Expert Group on Human Biology and Medicine were working together closely toward a possible merger.

EXCOM considered the proposal from SSG-LS for the Environmental Code of Conduct for land-based scientific field research in Antarctica, noting that it has to be presented at the ATCM in Kiev in June 2008.

**Action 14: The Code of Conduct paper will be sent to SCAR and COMNAP contacts as soon as possible for comment. National Committees will be asked to comment on the paper by email, so that the final version can be presented at the 2008 ATCM.**

2.3.3 SSG on Physical Sciences (document WP 37)

M. Candidi reported on progress by the SSG-PS. EXCOM noted that astronomy community was working on a proposal for a new Scientific Research Programme on Antarctic Astronomy. EXCOM agreed with the suggestion that the International Partnership for Ice Core Science (IPICS) be reassigned from SSG-PS to SSG-GS, since IPICS is linked to the Antarctic Climate Evolution (ACE) programme of SSG-GS.

**Action 15: Secretariat to reassign IPICS to the SSG-GS on the SCAR web site and link it to ACE.**

EXCOM agreed that the work of ISMASS was critical due to gaps in our understanding of ice sheet contributions to future sea-level rise (See section 2.7.3 below.)

EXCOM noted that a Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) workshop would be held in October 2007 in Bremen.

#### 2.4 Highlights, Progress and Plans: SCAR Scientific Research Programmes

EXCOM was pleased with the progress of the five SRPs reported below. The Executive Director noted that it would be useful for the SRPs to show their progress against key planning targets in their annual reports, and that in future the SRP leaders should send their reports to the Executive Director for transmission to the COs.

**Action 16: In SRP annual reports progress on planning targets should be emphasized.**

**Action 17: The SRP leaders will transmit annual reports to the Executive Director.**

##### 2.4.1 Antarctic Climate Evolution (ACE)

Alessandro Capra noted that ACE is submitting papers to a special issue of the journal *Palaeo-Palaeo-Palaeo* from an ACE session at the European Geophysical Union (EGU) meeting, entitled "Deep Time Perspectives on Climate Change: Marrying the Signal from Computer Models & Biological Proxies". ACE is closely coordinating with the ANDRILL Antarctic drilling programme and developing an international plan for the collection of airborne and ground-based geophysical data on the Antarctic ice sheet (i.e. ice thickness and bed elevation data) from 'data free' zones and in regions of rapid change. ACE is contributing funds and participating in numerous activities at the International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences (ISAES) at Santa Barbara in August 2007. It is also organising a session at the INQUA meeting in Cairns, July 2007, on "Climate and Ice in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean since the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM)".

##### 2.4.2 Antarctica and the Global Climate System (AGCS)

M. Candidi noted numerous science highlights that AGCS has contributed to, for example (i) the important role of mixing processes in the Southern Ocean in the global circulation, (ii) a new assessment of 21<sup>st</sup> Century climate change, based on output from the 2007 IPCC AR4 model runs, which shows that projections of total sea-ice area imply a decrease of  $2.6 \pm 0.73 \times 10^6$  km<sup>2</sup> (33%) over the next 100 years, and (iii) discussion of the role of polar stratospheric clouds in Antarctic winter tropospheric warming.

AGCS has set itself the following targets for 2007/08, to:

- Carry out an assessment of Antarctic portions of the IPCC Assessment Round 4 model predictions
- Investigate the mechanisms responsible for changes in the Southern Annular Mode (SAM)
- Carry out research into the mechanisms behind the mid-tropospheric warming above the Antarctic that has occurred over the last 50 years
- Investigate the current state of the Antarctic climate in the context of the last several hundred years for purposes of assessing natural versus anthropogenic impact
- Look at the relationship between ENSO, SAM, and the Southern Ocean
- Carry out an investigation of the teleconnections between Southern South America, the Southern Ocean islands, New Zealand and the Antarctic
- Obtain an array of 200 year-long coastal cores from Antarctica including proxy data on sea-ice extent
- Investigate marine productivity to understand sea-ice extent from the proxy record (dimethyl sulphide). It was agreed to hold a workshop on this topic
- Quantify the oceanic heat, volume, and fresh water fluxes in the Southern Ocean
- Investigate the interaction of the ocean on the ice sheet, ice shelves, and the atmosphere at the Antarctic margin
- Understand the driving mechanisms of Southern Ocean overturning
- Further drifting buoy deployments
- Contribute to the atmospheric reanalysis efforts
- Write a paper on Antarctic sea ice thickness using the ASPeCt database

- Carry on with developments of databases, such as READER

AGCS is heavily involved with many IPY projects and has developed close relationships with other bodies, in particular the WCRP's Climate and Cryosphere Project (CliC).

M. Candidi noted that AGCS had developed a Climate Status Report for the 2007 ATCM, as a first step in preparing a Climate and Environment Review for XXX SCAR.

#### 2.4.3 Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic (EBA)

A. Huiskes presented some of the key highlights of EBA, including studies that have shown that the marine biodiversity in the Antarctic is dramatically higher than in the Arctic and that the biota does not have a 'recent' origin. EBA has strong links with several IPY projects, such as MERGE (Microbiological and Ecological Responses to Global Environmental Changes in Polar Regions), TARANTELLA (Terrestrial Ecosystems in Arctic and Antarctic: Effects of UV light, Liquefying Ice, and Ascending Temperatures) and ALIENS. ALIENS aims to assess the extent to which the annual migratory human population (about 50,000 people) carry alien propagules (spores and seeds) into the Antarctic region and to take a snapshot of the propagule load during the first IPY summer.

#### 2.4.4 Interhemispheric Conjugacy Effects in Solar-Terrestrial and Aeronomy Research (ICESTAR)

M Candidi reported on progress with ICESTAR. He gave examples of recent highlights, including studies of Arctic and Antarctic polar winter NO<sub>x</sub>, Auroral conjugacy studies based on global imaging, and Global MHD simulation results compared with Polar and SNOE (Student Nitric Oxide Explorer) observations.

Over the next year the ICESTAR programme will focus on the following:

- Continued development of data portals linking together a large number of polar sites with diverse datasets
- Quantifying the role of seasonal differences in polar ionospheric conductance and the effects on magnetospheric, ionospheric, and thermospheric dynamics
- Investigating constraints on models based on conjugate remote sensing of inner magnetospheric dynamics
- Characterizing the spatial and temporal properties of mesoscale convection in the ionosphere.
- Characterizing the basic state of the polar middle atmosphere.
- Quantifying the AC and DC global atmospheric circuit.
- Collaboration between Ionospheric and Meteorological Research Groups
- Help develop the multidiscipline IPY project POLENET (meteorology, glaciology, volcanology, seismology) that will build and maintain an extensive Antarctic network of dual-frequency GPS receivers.
- Contribute to a Special Issue of JASTP
- Contribute to a proposed special issue of JASTP that will focus on the IPY #63 project objectives "ICESTAR/IHY - Heliosphere Impact on Geospace", which is planned with a publication target in the first part of 2008

There was some discussion of the development and funding of data portals. The suggestion was made to develop an ICSU grant proposal.

**Action 18: M. Candidi to work with the ICESTAR community and the Executive Director to develop an ICSU grant proposal.**

#### 2.4.5 Subglacial Antarctic Lake Environments (SALE)

M. Kennicutt presented the numerous activities of SALE during the last year. There have been several important recent publications in Science and Nature and extensive publicity on subglacial lakes –SALE exploration and science have caught the public's imagination. The US National Academy issued its report on environmental stewardship of subglacial environments that extensively noted SCAR's role in SALE exploration, research and environmental issues. This report also garnered significant publicity in the press. There have been SALE sessions at several major science meetings and a Session is planned for the fall AGU meeting in San Francisco in December 2007. M. Kennicutt noted that the first entry into Subglacial Lake Vostok will be by the Russia Antarctic Program in the 2008/9 field season. SALE had its 3rd annual meeting in Boseman, Montana, in June 2007, and the report is available on-line. The meeting was attended by members of the press as observers, and several news pieces are expected to appear in the next few months. A new and improved SALE website will be launched in a few months.

#### 2.4.6 Plans for Reviews of SRP Performance for 2008

The Executive Director presented plans for the review of the SRP performance (see document WP-10). EXCOM commented that we need to find the right balance between ensuring that SCAR SRPs are performing well, but not overly burdening the SRPs with administrative and reporting requirements, given the minimal SCAR funds available to these programmes. The supporting materials for the external review should not be more than five or six pages in length and should be designed to minimise effort, e.g. by the use of links to web sites containing relevant information. There should be no more than three external reviewers for each programme and EXCOM will appoint the reviewers. The review process will start in January 2008 and the results will be considered at XXX SCAR. It is important that SRP conveners be given explicit instructions about the review process so they can prepare the required documents and ensure that the reviews are completed in a timely and efficient manner.

***Action 19: The Secretariat will develop a time-plan for the SRP review process by the end of October.***

The SRP programme chiefs will be invited to present their work at the Delegates Meeting in Moscow (July 2008). If unable to attend the Delegates meeting in Moscow, presentations will be made the SSG COs.

***Action 20: The COs and the Secretariat will work together to ensure that the brief for SRP reviewers is relevant and precise.***

The Executive Director noted that by July 2008 the SRPs will be 4 years old and it will be time to rotate membership and, in some cases, change chairpersons. One possibility is that Scientific Steering Committee members be asked to propose chairs and new members as part of the review.. EXCOM noted that we also wish to encourage and retain people who are actively contributing, while allowing for appointment of new members .

***Action 21: Secretariat to consult with SRPs and COs to develop a mechanism for rotating SRP members and replacing chairpersons as part of the rules of procedure for SCAR subsidiary bodies.***

#### 2.6 IPY: Progress and Plans

The IPY was formally launched on March 1, 2007. The President reviewed progress and plans for the implementation of the IPY with reference to IP 02 "The Scope of Science in the International Polar Year" and IP03 the minutes of the March 06 meeting of the ICSU/WMO Joint Committee.

EXCOM noted that many of SCAR's activities are intimately involved in and contributing to the success of the IPY. EXCOM agreed with a proposal from ICSU that ICSU and WMO will be invited to be co-sponsors of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Open Science Conference, which will be the first official IPY Conference. This is dealt with further under agenda item 7.1

## 2.7 Relations with Scientific Organizations: ICSU, SCOR, IASC, WCRP, IGOS-P, IPICS, SCOSTEP, and Others

### 2.7.1 ICSU

The President noted that SCAR (as an Interdisciplinary Body of ICSU) has been invited to provide input to a review of the Earth System Science Partnership (ESSP) by ICSU and IGFA (the International Group of Funding Agencies for Global Change Research). A primary goal is to determine the added value of the ESSP (which brings together several of ICSU's major environmental research programmes), and to consider the links between the ESSP and ICSU's related activities, notably those of the Interdisciplinary Bodies, like SCAR. The President's letter to ICSU on this topic is document IP 04.

EXCOM agreed that the ESSP did not seem to adequately take into consideration the cryosphere and that ICSU needed to remedy this deficiency.

The Executive Director reminded EXCOM that the International Astronomical Union will formally apply for membership at XXX SCAR.

### 2.7.2 SCOR

The Executive Director reminded participants that SCAR was invited to attend the SCOR Projects Meeting in London in December 2006. This reflects the close linkages that have developed between SCAR and SCOR following creation of the Joint SCAR/SCOR Oceanography Expert Group. The meeting provided SCAR with an opportunity to call formally for Principal Investigators and Funding Agencies to support the collection of bathymetric data from cruises in the Southern Ocean, in such a way as to fill gaps in coverage, for the benefit of the development of the International Bathymetric Chart of the Southern Ocean (IBCSO), which is a SCAR Expert Group and also a component of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO). This call will be communicated to SCAR and SCOR Delegates with a joint letter. The report of the meeting will be available on the SCOR web site. Highlights were to be submitted to EOS as a meeting report. SCAR and SCOR will have a joint planning meeting for a Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) in Bremen (1-3 October 2007) (IP 05). This will be a contribution to the IPY cosponsored by the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). The effort has received additional funding from US NOAA.

### 2.7.3 IASC

The Executive Secretary of IASC, V. Rachold, attended the EXCOM meeting as an Observer.

The Executive Director of SCAR provided a brief report describing links to IASC, with reference to document WP 11.

The President reported on the results of a meeting with the IASC President in Stockholm on 6 June 2007 (document WP 34). Discussions on the way in which SCAR and IASC will take responsibility for managing the IPY legacy led to the proposal presented in WP 35. There is an initial budgetary implication of \$5,000 per year in 2008, 2009, and 2010.

There was enthusiasm both from EXCOM and the IASC Executive Secretary for the creation of a Joint IASC/SCAR Bipolar Action Group. The suggestion was made that the group have a rotating chairperson.

**Action 22: Executive Director and V. Rachold (IASC) will work together to develop a mechanism for formation of a joint IASC/SCAR Bipolar Action Group.**

**Action 23: SCAR President to discuss with IASC, at the IPY steering committee meeting in October, the terms of reference for an IASC/SCAR Bipolar Action Group.**

The President expanded on his ideas for a “Manhattan Project” to improve models of ice sheet dynamics and sea-level change, with reference to document IP 06, a paper by Jim Hansen, Director of the Goddard Institute for Space Sciences, in New York. The paper highlights the possibility of a 5 m sea level rise by 2100, in contrast to the IPCC forecast of 1 m max for ‘business as usual’.

EXCOM was enthusiastic about the proposal for an Ice Sheet and Sea Level Workshop (document WP 39). Representatives from GIANT and POLENET will be invited. *The workshop should take place immediately before the Open Science Conference in 2008. ISMASS should be charged with developing this topic as a major focus for the future and possibly as a new SCAR SRP. EXCOM agreed to allocate \$10k for the meeting in 2008. The IASC Executive Secretary mentioned that IASC is also likely to contribute funds.*

**Action 24: The Executive Director and ISMASS Chairperson will: (i) propose a major international workshop on modelling of ice sheet dynamics and sea-level, to be held in association with the 2008 OSC and (ii) send invitations to the workshop to members of GIANT and POLENET.**

#### 2.7.4 WCRP

The Executive Director introduced this item. SCAR sponsored the attendance of Eberhard Fahrback (Co-Chair of the SCAR/SCOR EG-OCEAN) at the meeting of the CLIVAR/CLIC/SCAR Southern Ocean Implementation Panel in Buenos Aires (14-17, Nov., 2006). SCAR continued working closely with the WCRP Office in Geneva, and with the CLIC Office in Tromsø, on development of the IGOS Cryosphere Theme (agenda item 2.7.5, below).

#### 2.7.5 IGOS-P

The Executive Director reported on progress with the “Cryosphere Theme Report” developed for the Partners for an Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS-P) by SCAR, CLIC and the space agencies, as a contribution to monitoring of the environment from space and Earth. ICSU is one of the IGOS-Partners, and SCAR Represents ICSU in developing the report. The final draft (document IP 07) has been edited and is now available at [http://cryos.ssec.wisc.edu/cryos/docs/cryos\\_theme\\_report.pdf](http://cryos.ssec.wisc.edu/cryos/docs/cryos_theme_report.pdf). The draft report was approved at the May 30 meeting of the IGOS-P and will be printed in August 2007. The report is the implementation plan for the Cryosphere Observing System (CryOS). Several SCAR groups will be involved. SCAR co-sponsored the 3rd IGOS-P Cryosphere Theme workshop in Nordwijk, the Netherlands, 16-18 October 2006.

EXCOM noted that groups such as AGCS and ISMASS should participate in updating the report.

#### 2.7.6 IPICS

The Executive Director introduced this item. He noted that Eric Wolff, Co-Chair of the SCAR co-sponsored International Partnership for Ice Core Science (IPICS) remains a member of the ACE Steering Group, keeping SCAR connected to IPICS activities. Dorte Dahl Jensen of the Niels Bohr Institute gave an IPICS progress report at the Arctic Science Summit Week in Hanover USA (March 2007). She noted that ice core data showed that the global temperatures of the last interglacial (125-140,000 years ago) were about 3°C higher than

today's and that this increase coincided with a sea level 1-3 m above today's (see agenda item 2.7.3).

Good progress is being made in attracting the funds to accomplish IPICS objectives, namely:

- The oldest ice core: A 1.5 million year record of climate and greenhouse gases from Antarctica (a time period where Earth's climate shifted from 40,000 year to 100,000 year cycles) and
- The last interglacial and beyond: A northwest Greenland deep ice core drilling project (a deep ice core in Greenland recovering an intact record of the last interglacial period).

#### 2.7.7. SCOSTEP

M. Candidi provided an update on progress with ICSU's Scientific Committee on Solar Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP), the CAWSES programme (Climate and Weather of the Sun-Earth System), which is connected to ICESTAR, and aspects of the International Heliophysical Year that are relevant to SCAR.

SCOSTEP/CAWES programme people will be invited to attend the Open Science Conference.

#### 2.7.8. An International Union of Polar Sciences

The Past President, J. Thiede, introduced this topic, with reference to document WP 12. An additional perspective was supplied in document WP 38 that described ways in which SCAR and IASC were considering working more closely together to ensure the success of the IPY and create a mechanism for jointly managing the legacy of the IPY.

In an extended debate, some members of EXCOM expressed the concern that if this approach were adopted it would be necessary for a new Union of Polar Sciences to develop alongside SCAR and IASC, at least at the beginning, with associated cost implications. Another concern was that an International Union might not attract the current SCAR members who lack interests in the Arctic. EXCOM agreed for the time being to continue to strengthen links between SCAR and IASC.

***Action 25: A working group chaired by M. Kennicutt, with V. Rachold, C. Summerhayes, J. Thiede and S. Marensi, will discuss ways for SCAR and IASC to work more closely together, including a possible SCAR and IASC merger and report to XXX SCAR.***

### **3. DATA AND INFORMATION**

#### 3.1 Highlights, Progress and Plans: JCADM

T. de Bruin reported on JCADM progress, including the revised terms of reference, referring to WP 13. EXCOM noted that JCADM has developed data portals to each SRP.

EXCOM noted that COMNAP will no longer sponsor JCADM after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 and at that time JCADM will be renamed the SCAR Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SC-ADM). EXCOM noted that discussions are needed on the relevance of JCADM to ICESTAR.

***Action 26: M. Candidi to work with T. de Bruin with regard to ICESTAR/JCADM interactions.***

EXCOM noted with approval that JCADM is developing a data and information strategy

**Action 27: T. de Bruin to devise a consultation process, and a time plan for submitting the data strategy to COs and the Secretariat.**

**Action 28: Executive Officer to link JCADM SRP portals to SCAR website.**

T. de Bruin suggested that the IOC cruise summary database and POGO cruise plan database be more easily accessible to the community to encourage greater usage.

**Action 29: T. De Bruin will send information to the Secretariat on the IOC cruise summary database and the POGO cruise plan database to be added EG-Ocean Expert Group web page.**

### 3.2 Progress and Plans: SC-AGI

The Executive Director reported on progress by the new Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographical Information (SCAGI), referring to WP 14. Considerable effort has gone into re-establishing this group (formerly the Expert Group on Geographical Information) and building up its membership. SCAGI's first meeting will be in Buenos Aires in October 2007.

EXCOM was pleased that SCAGI has been re-established, with a heightened level of activity, and thanked the new CO, Henk Brolsma, for his efforts. EXCOM confirmed its approval of the appointment of Henk Brolsma as SCAGI Chief Officer. With regards to the SCAGI suggestion that recommendations from SCAR Bulletin 138 should be tabled at the next ATCM, EXCOM noted that consultation with the SCATS and EXCOM should occur first. T. de Bruin noted that there were joint issues that should be discussed between SC-AGI and JCADM. EXCOM recognised that SCAGI had proposed a wide range of future activities. In order to make progress it would be useful to prioritise the activities. EXCOM approved the attendance of the Executive Officer at the SCAGI meeting in Buenos Aires.

**Action 30: SCAGI will consult with SCATS regarding a paper for XXXI ATCM containing recommendations from SCAR Bulletin 138.**

**Action 31: T. de Bruin (JCADM CO) will meet with the SCAGI CO to discuss matters of joint interest.**

**Action 32: The SCAGI CO will prioritise SC-AGI activities in consultation with the Executive Director and EXCOM.**

## **4. ANTARCTIC TREATY ORGANISATIONS**

### 4.1 XXX ATCM, Delhi, May 2007

The Executive Director reported on behalf of S. Chown on SCAR's involvement in the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) and Committee on Environmental Protection (CEP), with reference to WP 15. SCAR was represented at XXX ATCM by the President, the Executive Director and the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System (SCATS). SCAR presented 3 Working Papers and 8 Information Papers. All documents were submitted on time to the ATS except the IP for the SCAR Lecture. The President gave the SCAR Lecture, on Climate Change. D. Carlson of the IPY international Project Office was a member of the SCAR delegation and presented a paper on the IPY to the ATCM and C. Rapley presented a digest of the same paper to the CEP. The ATCM approved two Resolutions involving SCAR, one on the need to invest in observing systems as part of the IPY legacy (document WP 15c) and one on the need to improve the collection of data on the Giant Petrel (document WP 15b). Climate change was a high priority topic at the ATCM and

the SCAR Climate Paper and the SCAR Lecture on Climate Change were well received. Norway's proposal for a Climate ATCM agenda item was accepted. In future, ATCM will consider issues related to Climate Research, while CEP will consider issues related to Climate Impacts.

EXCOM thanked S. Chown for his excellent work with the ATCM and for achieving a satisfactory resolution to the difficulties regarding the Giant Petrels paper. EXCOM is pleased to see SCAR presenting a wide range of papers at the ATCM. M. Kennicutt expressed continuing concerns about the growing workload related to the ATCM/CEP. M. Kennicutt also suggested that SCAR table 2-3 IP's each year on selected SCAR science programmes and activities. SCAR should also produce a series of short monographs to be used as part of SCAR promotional materials.

***Action 33: Secretariat will send the ATCM resolution on observing systems (plus the Weyprecht statement) to national committees and encourage them to provide sustained support for Antarctic observing systems.***

The Executive Director suggested that SCAR adapt the PAntOS concept by inviting co-sponsorship by such groups such as WCRP (CliC), CLIVAR, CCAMLR etc., so that PantOS could develop in the same way that the SAON is being developed in the Arctic.

***Action 34: V. Rachold to draft a one page information paper for SCAR regarding development of the Sustained Arctic Observing Network (SAON).***

The Executive Director reminded EXCOM that SCAR's activities in developing observing systems would contribute to the goals of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), which is a mixture of governments and research agencies that is responsible for operation of the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS). The GEO web site is: <http://www.earthobservations.org/index.html>

S. Marensi pointed out that for countries with smaller Antarctic programmes it is difficult to fund long term monitoring. This highlights the importance of countries pooling resources to carry out monitoring programmes.

***Action 35: Secretariat will post advice on the website about development of and contribution to sustained observing systems based on the ATCM's observing system Resolution.***

EXCOM noted and agreed with the withdrawal of the Giant Petrels Working Paper for the ATCM. A workshop will be convened in the spring to develop further advice for the 2009 ATCM/CEP.

***Action 36: A. Huiskes and S. Chown (SC-ATS) will develop a plan for the spring 2008 Giant Petrels workshop, including financial support for the workshop.***

EXCOM discussed papers and lectures for future ATCMs. S. Marensi noted that SCAR will be asked to produce a paper on "Aliens" in Antarctica to address invasive species issues.

EXCOM agreed that SCAR will develop a series of papers that summarise the science behind selected key topics in Antarctic science including highlights to inform the public and ATCM about scientific advances.

***Action 37: Secretariat will develop a series of SCAR papers for consideration at XXX SCAR.***

**Action 38: S. Chown will work with COs and Secretariat to produce a long-term plan for papers for ATCM.**

#### 4.2 XXXI ATCM, Kiev, June 2008

On behalf of S. Chown, the Executive Director reported on plans for SCAR's contributions to XXXI ATCM with reference to WP 15. L. Lanzerotti has been invited to deliver the SCAR lecture on Sun-Earth Interactions and SCAR's ICESTAR programme.

EXCOM discussed possible future SCAR lectures for the next few ATCM meetings. Past SCAR lectures included:

- A. Jones (Madrid, 2003; Antarctic Science – Global Relevance)
- R. Bell (Cape Town, 2004; subglacial lakes – SALE)
- S. Chown (Stockholm, 2005; biodiversity and invasive species - EBA)
- V. Masson-Delmotte (Edinburgh, 2006; ice cores – ACE)
- C. Rapley (New Delhi, 2007; climate change – AGCS)
- To be delivered: L. Lanzerotti (Kiev, 2008; Sun-Earth interactions – ICESTAR)

A plan is needed for future SCAR lectures to ATCM and might focus on:

- ice sheet models and sea level change;
- marine biodiversity.
- long-term geological perspectives on climate change

EXCOM noted that there was an informal agreement to highlight COMNAP activities as part of the SCAR ATCM science lectures and that this should be an integral element of all future presentations.

**Action 39: EXCOM members, COs and the Secretariat will provide advice on topics and speakers for the SCAR ATCM lectures to the ATCM, by end October 2007.**

**Action 40: The Executive Director will contact L. Lanzerotti to confirm the 2008 SCAR ATCM science lecture.**

#### 4.3 CCAMLR

The Executive Director reported on the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) (October 2006), noting that he attended the meeting in Hobart along with the SCAR Observer to CCAMLR, G. Hosie (see WP 16). G. Hosie will attend the 26<sup>th</sup> CCAMLR meeting in Hobart in October 2007.

*E. Fanta, Chair of the CCAMLR Scientific Committee will attend the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) meeting in Bremen in October 2007.*

*EXCOM welcomed the closer interactions with CCAMLR.*

## **5. CAPACITY BUILDING, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, PROGRESS AND PLANS**

### 5.1 Strategy

The SCAR Strategy for Education, Training and Capacity Building has been published as SCAR Report 27. It is available on the SCAR Education and Training Web Page. SCAR Members have been invited to nominate candidates for the Capacity Building Education and Training (CBET) Committee, but few have done so. Members of the IPY Education and Outreach Committee have been invited to consider joining the SCAR CBET Committee, but few have responded.

***Action 41: The Executive Officer will revive efforts to build the CBET Committee, and monitor the progress of the International Antarctic Institute (IAI).***

The Executive Director drafted a PowerPoint presentation on CBET to be given by M. Kennicutt at the Malaysian IPY Launch (March 20-23). M. Kennicutt was stranded in a blizzard in New York so the talk was given by A. Samah, a member of the CBET Committee.

SCAR has been asked to contribute funds for two young international students from countries with less well developed Antarctic programmes (e.g. from Malaysia or Chile) to attend the Antarctic training course offered by Gateway Antarctica (Canterbury NZ). EXCOM decided there were insufficient funds to support this activity.

**5.2 Fellowship Programme**

The Executive Director introduced this item. Contributions to the SCAR Fellowship Programme were solicited from SCAR member nations and South Africa had contributed \$2000 in 2006/7. EXCOM gratefully acknowledged the South African contribution.

SCAR has five current Fellows (2006-7)(see <http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/fellowships0607.html>).

The 2007-8 Fellowship announcement was made on April 3rd. It included an announcement that, as agreed by the Delegates, up to two Fellowships could be made available for the joint SCAR-International Polar Foundation (IPF) IPY programme "The 6<sup>th</sup> Continent Initiative", under which Fellows (especially from countries with no or less well-developed Antarctic research programmes) would work on Antarctic bases or research vessels while carrying out a project at a polar research institution.

The results of the competition for Fellowships for 2007/8 were as follows: (i) 22 applications were received, half from women, and 8 being for IPY 6CI fellowships; (ii) all were examined by the Fellowship Review Panel; (iii) a short list of 6 was provided, based primarily on scientific excellence and relevance. EXCOM decided that the top four should be fully funded. These are:-

Igino Coco (going from Italy to USA: ICESTAR research); Delphine Lannuzel (going from Belgium to Australia; EBA research on RV Aurora Australis) Stefanie Kaiser (going from Germany to UK: EBA/CAML research on James Clark Ross) Glen Phillips (going from Australia to Germany: ACE research)  
(for details see <http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/fellowships0708.html>).

As the two successful 6CI candidates were not from a country with no or a less well developed Antarctic programme they did not qualify for support from the 6CI partners (IPF, IAI and UNEP). Thus they remain in effect SCAR Fellowships.

The total amount requested was \$38,000, to be taken from the 2007 budget as follows: \$30,000 from the SCAR Fellowship allocation; \$5,000 reallocated from the 'secondment fund'; \$2,000 from South Africa; and \$1,000 from the Endowment Fund.

A concern was expressed that SCAR was not receiving enough high calibre applications from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes.

***Action 42: The Executive Director will (i) encourage national committees to promote the Fellowship programme especially for the benefit of countries with developing Antarctic programmes): (ii) encourage agencies proposing to host a fellow to assist in***

***making the best possible case for the fellowship; and (iii) work with 6CI partners to attract applications from a wider spectrum of countries.***

### 5.3 Early Career Scientists

SCAR sent one of its 2006/07 Fellows (V. Fuentes, Argentina) as a representative of SCAR early career scientists to ICSU's meeting on "Global Scientific Challenges: Perspectives from Young Scientists" (Lindau, Germany, 4-6 April 2007). In addition, SCAR and IASC invited two early career researchers to join the Scientific Organising Committee for the 2008 Open Science Conference.

The Executive Director and the Executive Officer attended an IPY Youth Committee meeting at the British Antarctic Survey on June 15, 2007 where the Director made a presentation on SCAR. Posters on SCAR and on the CLIVAR/CLIC/SCAR Southern Ocean Implementation Panel were made available. 90 young scientists from around the world attended the meeting, and were encouraged to participate in future SCAR meetings and activities.

There was no response to SCAR's invitation to Members to second a person for a short period to work in the SCAR office to learn about international scientific coordination. EXCOM agreed that the funds allocated for this purpose (\$5,000) should be reallocated to the current round of SCAR Fellows.

EXCOM is keen to see SCAR support the activities of early career scientist groups such as the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) and the IPY Youth Committee (including for instance the UK Polar Network – UKPN). Special attention should be given to assisting early career scientists from SCAR Member countries, particularly those Members with developing research programmes. A sum of \$5,000 will be made available in 2008 to support early career scientists to attend the 2008 Open Science Conference.

## **6. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION: PROGRESS AND PLANS**

### 6.1 History Group

The 3<sup>rd</sup> SCAR History Group meeting will be held at Byrd Polar Institute, Columbus, USA, in October 2007. A final report will be presented to XXX SCAR. Reports of the three History Group meetings will be separately published.

EXCOM noted the need to continue this group, particularly during the IPY.

### 6.2 Website, Publications etc

#### 6.2.1 Website

The External Recommendations provided by the SSGs and approved by the SCAR Delegates at XXIX SCAR were published on the relevant SSG web pages. For consistency of image and presentation, the three SSG web pages were transferred to the Secretariat, which will maintain them. The Secretariat reminded Action and Expert Groups to create and maintain their own web pages.

EXCOM noted that the SCAR web site is averaging 93,000 hits per month in the first 6 months of 2007. This compares favourably with 94,700 per month in 2006 (an OSC year). These figures compare with an average of 64,000 hits per month in 2005 and 24,000 per month in 2004. The Secretariat was congratulated on the web site's success.

EXCOM agreed that the Executive Director in consultation with COs and EXCOM should have overall editorial control of the website.

**Action 43: COs will appoint web coordinators to take responsibility for editorial control of their web sites and for passing information to the Secretariat.**

#### 6.2.2 Publications

Apart from ACE, the SRPs declined to provide short synopses for the Antarctic Science Journal, on the basis that their work is already being publicised elsewhere. In addition it did not prove feasible to compile selected papers from the 2006 Open Science Conference for the Antarctic Science Journal. However, the Editor of the Journal has been invited to be an observer on the Scientific Organising Committee for the 2008 Open Science Conference to ensure publication goals are established for XXX SCAR. EXCOM approved keynote presentation publication as a special issue of the Journal Antarctic Science. Individual SCAR groups will be encouraged to publish papers from 2008 OSC sessions as special issues in journals.

**Action 44: Keynote papers will be published as a special issue of Antarctic Science. SSGs and SRPs will encourage publication of papers from OSC sessions in special issues of journals.**

#### 6.2.3 Brochure

EXCOM reviewed, and approved the draft SCAR brochure (see WP 17)) and made several suggestions for improvements, for example:

- there should be a paragraph on Antarctica and its importance to the Earth System,
- the map projection with Antarctica showing the SCAR member countries should be changed,
- the list of partnerships should be removed, and
- a list of some of SCAR's successes should be added from the Achievements document.

EXCOM agreed that the brochure must be succinct with few words and approved funds to print 5000 copies of the brochure.

**Action 45: EXCOM and COs will provide any additional comments on the draft brochure to the Executive Officer by mid-September for publication by 31 December 2007.**

#### 6.2.4 National Interactions

The President wrote to India and Pakistan suggesting that discussions be held in conjunction with XXX ATCM in Delhi. Two meetings took place with India in the margins of the Delhi meeting; one a discussion between the President and Executive Director and two senior officials from the Indian National Committee for SCAR. The other was a SCAR-India science seminar with a number of Indian scientist presentations. The prospect of raising India's involvement in SCAR now seems quite high. It was not logistically feasible to arrange a visit to Pakistan.

**Action 46: The President will travel to Pakistan before XXX SCAR for discussions on the engagement of Pakistan in SCAR programmes.**

It is not feasible for the President or Executive Director to visit Members in South America during the current year. However, EXCOM noted that the SCAGI meeting is being planned for Argentina (the Executive Officer will attend), and that SCAR co-sponsored the Southern Ocean Region Implementation Panel and the SCAR History Group both of which recently met in South America.

The invitation of Malaysia for SCAR to attend the launch of the Malaysian IPY programme in March 2007 was accepted (see agenda item 5.1). SCAR was represented at these meetings by J. Turner (AGCS), P. Convey (EBA), and M. Stoddart (CAML). EXCOM noted that Malaysia is proposing to apply for full SCAR membership.

## 7. ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

### 7.1 XXX SCAR, St Petersburg and Moscow

A representative of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) for XXX SCAR, A. Klepikov, reported on progress with the organisation of XXX SCAR (see WP 18). The LOC has engaged the services of a professional congress organiser, Monomax (<http://www.monomax.ru>). Several possible meeting locations were proposed as the basis for discussion.

Following discussion, EXCOM agreed the following set of recommendations for the local organising committee:

- The plenary should be in a large venue, but the rest of the talks could take place in a hotel such as the Pribaltiyskaya, with overflow to the Arctic and Antarctic research Institute (AARI). A final decision on the venue will be made after the visit by the SCAR Executive Director and IASC Executive Secretary to St Petersburg (September 5 and 6, 2007).
- The organisers should purchase a relevant URL for the conference website. IASC and SCAR would then link to the central Conference web site. It is important that the “branding” of the conference occur as soon as possible to facilitate advertising and circular production. “Branding” includes colour schemes, logos, and associated graphics.
- There should be a link from the conference website to the IPY website to stress that this is an IPY conference (ICSU and WMO web sites may also wish to develop such a link, as co-sponsors of the IPY)
- It would be useful to include free tickets for the underground as part of the conference registration fee.
- Since it is also SCAR’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary the conference dinner should be somewhere special.
- The LOC needs to develop a package for spouses etc. for attendance at social events such as the icebreaker, conference dinner etc. Registration must contain a specific selection of social events for all attendees to allow for planning of events.
- 1<sup>st</sup> of March should be the last date for early bird registration.
- The first OSC flyer should be published in September, following the SCAR/IASC visit to St Petersburg. The second circular is to follow within two months with complete details about registration, accommodation, and abstract submission guidelines.
- The due date for abstract submission should be 31<sup>st</sup> December with contingency plans for extending the due date depending on response.
- Abstract submission should be solely electronically via the website and the form must include self-assignment to sessions and a place to indicate career status (i.e. early

career, etc.). Abstract review must be accomplished electronically on the web site including a mechanism for assembling session agendas.

- The final cut-off for reservations for attending the conference should be one week before the conference with an appropriate escalation in registration fee depending on the lateness of registration.

**Action 47: SCAR and IAC Secretariats will coordinate with A. Klepikov as an editorial team for approving “branding”, the content of the conference webpage, and circulars.**

There was concern that many countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes would not be well represented at the conference, particularly considering the location. The SOC will take actions to increase participation.

**Action 48: SCAR and IASC Secretariats and A. Klepikov will develop strategies for reducing costs for countries with less-developed Antarctic programmes.**

EXCOM noted that ICSU has decided that it intends to formally sponsor three IPY Conferences (2008, 2010, and 2012) and the 2008 OSC is the first. It is envisaged that ICSU and WMO, as IPY sponsor, will also sponsor the Conference.

**Action 49: The Presidents of SCAR and IASC will write to ICSU and WMO inviting them to be co-sponsors and ask for a financial contribution to enable countries with fewer resources to attend the OSC.**

All conference material should include the SCAR, IASC, IPY, WMO and ICSU logos.

**Action 50: Logos: (i) SCAR and IASC to provide their logos to A. Klepikov; (ii) SCAR Executive Director to provide A. Klepikov with the ICSU, WMO and IPY logos and (iii) A Klepikov to circulate conference logo to IASC and SCAR Secretariats by mid-September for approval.**

M. Kennicutt reported on the progress made by the Scientific Organising Committee (SOC) for the Joint SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference. The theme is “Polar Research – Arctic and Antarctic Perspectives in the International Polar Year” (see WP 19). Themes and session topics were approved. The next steps include selection and approval of Keynotes and Session Chairs.

Plans have been made for the SCAR Executive Director and IASC Executive Secretary to meet members of the Local Organising Committee and to visit the Conference facilities in St Petersburg, in company with E. Sarukhanian of WMO (representing the IPY sponsors) on 5 and 6 September 2007. The Executive Director and E. Sarukhanian will then visit the facilities for the Delegates meeting, in Moscow on 7 September 2007.

EXCOM agreed that SCAR, programs, services and products should have a high profile at the St Petersburg OSC.

**Action 51: A set of posters on SCAR programmes, services and products will be developed and displayed in the Conference hall entrance.**

A draft timetable for the SCAR business meetings had been put together by the Secretariat and will be circulated for comment. IASC will inform the Secretariat of meeting room requirements. A similar timetable will also need to be drawn up for the OSC.

**Action 52: The Executive Officer will circulate a summary table of room requirements for SCAR business meetings to AG, EG, SSG, and SRP groups for comment by end August.**

**Action 53: IASC will report to the SCAR Secretariat by end August about their meeting room requirements for St Petersburg.**

**Action 54: The Secretariat will work with Scientific Organising Committee to develop a provisional agenda for of all OSC sessions.**

EXCOM had the following recommendations:

- Conference breaks, 1.5 hours is needed for lunch and 0.5 hour for a.m. and p.m. breaks.
- A subcommittee of three or four people is needed to develop a plan for the poster sessions to ensure that they are a valued activity. The subcommittee should advise on how posters are displayed and for how long. There also must plans for sufficient space for the posters
- Include the suggested list of sessions as part of the first circular.
- Encourage SRP leaders and other SSG groups to advertise the meeting and encourage abstract submissions.
- The scope of the theme “Vantage Point” should be defined by abstract submissions.
- Education and Outreach submissions should be incorporated into the science sessions and it is premature for a separate ‘IPY legacy’ session.
- Polar History should include a substantial presentation on the last 50 years
- Co-sponsorship labels should not be included in the titles for joint sessions. Formal co-sponsorship should be recognised in the Conference program materials.
- IASC tabled several recommendations and comments on OSC organisation stemming from a previous teleconference on the subject. Many of the ideas echoed the thoughts of EXCOM. The full IASC text can be seen in Appendix 4.
- EXCOM noted the need for gender and geographical balance in keynote and session Chairs without compromising science quality. Keynotes will present exciting scientific advances not planning activities. No funds are available for Keynote, session Chair or session invited speakers and they are expected to fund attendance at the Conference from other sources. This will be explicitly stated in the invitation letters. The keynote speakers will be invited by the Presidents of SCAR and IASC and the SOC will invite session Chairs.
- EXCOM decided that in the 2008 OSC a named lecture will open the Keynote presentations. It was agreed that the lecture will be the Weyprecht Lecture, in honour of the founder of the International Polar Year concept.

**Action 55: Secretariats to draft letters for Presidents’ signatures inviting Keynote Speakers and for SOC Chairs’ signatures inviting Session Chairs.**

**Action 56: The Secretariat and V. Rachold will develop a process for abstract submission, review and acceptance. M. Kennicutt will send guidelines for abstracts to Executive Officer, A. Klepikov and V. Rachold.**

**Action 57: The Executive Director will compile a summary of the number and lengths of keynote speeches at previous SCAR open science conferences for reference.**

**Action 58: The EXCOM and COs to provide the OSC SOC and Secretariats with feedback on Keynote Speaker selection (end July).**

EXCOM complimented the SOC on its excellent progress.

### 7.2 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

The Executive Director introduced this item with reference to document IP 11. D. Walton and P. Clarkson are co-editing a SCAR anniversary celebration book "Science in the Snow: 50 years of international collaboration in Antarctica", which will have contributors from past SCAR scientists dating back to the IGY and will address scientific highlights and the development of SCAR as an organisation. The draft should be ready for examination by the Delegates at XXX SCAR. IP 11 presented cost estimates for production and a plan to recoup costs over time.

EXCOM agreed in principle with the proposal for the book publication but left the details to be discussed between the Secretariat and the publishers. EXCOM also agreed in principle with the proposed costing, but see agenda item 8.2 for details.

**Action 59: The Secretariat will resolve details of the publication of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary book with editors and publishers .**

EXCOM noted the suggestion by the COs that SCAR consider publishing a popular booklet on Antarctic science. The EXCOM also noted that this is similar to the suggestion to publishing a series of scientific monographs (see agenda item 4.1).

**Action 60: The Secretariat and A. Huiskes to consider strategies for producing popular publications on Antarctic science.**

### 7.3 SCAR Medals for 2008

EXCOM agreed that nominations will be solicited from National Committees and the wider SCAR community at the end of 2007 and examined by an Awards Committee early in 2008. EXCOM agreed to three awards in 2008: (i) the medal for excellence in Antarctic Research, (ii) the medal for International Scientific Coordination; and (iii) the President's Medal. Nominations will also be considered for Honorary Membership for outstanding contributions to SCAR over a number of years and for Certificates of Appreciation for the provision of services to SCAR over long periods.

**Action 61: The President to decide on the award of the President's Medal in 2008.**

**Action 62: The Executive Director will circulate a list of previous medal candidates to stimulate discussion for future medal candidates.**

### 7.4 Revised Election Procedures

The President introduced this item, with reference to document WP 20. Following suggestions made at the EXCOM meeting of 19 July, 2006, a new procedure for elections was proposed. The new procedure will be part of the revised Rules of Procedure (WP 21a) submitted for the consideration by XXX SCAR.

With minor revisions, EXCOM approved the revised rules of procedure for the elections.

***Action 63: The Executive Officer will revise the new election procedure and circulate it to EXCOM by the end of September for approval for presentation at XXX SCAR.***

EXCOM agreed that the revised Rules of Procedure (document WP 21a) will be presented early to the Delegates meeting to take effect during XXX SCAR. It will be circulated to Delegates in advance of XXX SCAR.

The President noted that he will resign after XXX SCAR due to his new position. A Presidential election will be conducted at XXX SCAR in addition to regularly scheduled elections.

#### 7.5 Revised Rules of Procedure for Expert and Action Groups

Having consulted with the Chief Officers, the Executive Director withdrew suggestions for revisions to the Rules of Procedure regarding Action and Expert Groups. T. de Bruin pointed out that JCADM should be included in the Rules of Procedure for subsidiary bodies..

***Action 64: T. de Bruin and the Secretariat will modify the Rules of Procedure for subsidiary bodies to include JCADM.***

#### 7.6 Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association

The Executive Director introduced this item, with reference to documents WP 22 and WP 23. Following suggestions made by the Delegates at XXIX SCAR, a working group led by F. Davey (NZ) worked with the Executive Director to amend the proposed Memorandum and Articles of Association required to convert SCAR to a Company Limited by Guarantee and a Charity.

EXCOM noted addition of a rule that allows SCAR to attract sponsorship, and agreed the documents should be taken forward for processing by the lawyers. Delegates already approved the documents in principle, pending changes to be made at the suggestion of the Davey working group, and those changes had now been made.

#### 7.7 SCAR's Legal and Charity Status

The Executive Director reminded EXCOM that ICSU requires all of its subsidiary bodies to have independent legal status, and that SCAR is now 3 years late in acquiring this status. Delegates have approved the Memorandum and Articles of Association in principle. Now that the revised Memorandum and Articles have been approved by the Executive Committee, SCAR will obtain the status of a Company Limited by Guarantee, following which it may apply for status as a Charity which will confer financial benefits.

EXCOM noted that if the Secretariat were to move to another country in the future SCAR would need to have independent legal status in that new country.

EXCOM noted the excellent work of F. Davey and the Executive Director in bringing this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

***Action 65: Executive Director will work with the lawyers to finalise SCAR's legal and Charity status by 1 January 2008.***

#### 7.8 Improving SSG Business Meetings

M. Kennicutt introduced this topic with reference to document WP 41. This topic was raised at the Executive Committee meeting in Hobart. The paper presents a series of recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of SSG business meetings.

EXCOM agreed that SSG COs should note the recommendations and adopt those that were most useful.

## 8. FINANCE

### 8.1 Financial statements for 2006

P. Clarkson presented (i) the Statement of Income and Expenditure for 2006 (document WP 24); (ii) the Bank accounts at 31 December 2006 (document WP 25); and (iii) the National contributions for 2006 (document WP 26).

EXCOM noted that as per the usual practice SCAR does not pay for travel to the biennial SCAR meeting for EXCOM members and COs. This expense is a responsibility of the National Committees as those individuals are also national representatives in addition to their SCAR management roles. With regard to the COs, SCAR will pay subsistence for their attendance at the Delegates meeting, as well as their travel from St Petersburg to Moscow as this is a SCAR management activity.

EXCOM was pleased by the resolution of most membership arrears and recognized the efforts of the Secretariat in this regard. EXCOM stressed the importance of keeping national dues up to date. EXCOM thanked P. Clarkson for assisting SCAR with the finances.

### 8.2 Budgets for 2007 and 2008

P. Clarkson presented (i) the Budget for 2007 (document WP 27), and (ii) the Budget for 2008 (document WP 28).

The Secretariat noted that significant under-spending continues for science activities leading to large carry-forwards from 2006 into 2007. It is likely this will be repeated in 2008. EXCOM agreed that the SSGs could use residual funds for travel to the 2008 OSC, especially for scientists from countries from smaller Antarctic programmes. The Executive Director reminded the COs that unspent funds at the end of 2008 will revert to the general fund, unless compelling justification is made for a carry forward.

EXCOM noted increased Secretariat salary costs due to the appointment of the new Executive Officer, the retaining of P. Clarkson as a temporary consultant, and increased hours for the Administrative Assistant to handle web work. Additional increases in Secretariat salaries have occurred because salaries are paid in pounds but the income is in US dollars and the dollar has weakened significantly against the pound.

Bearing in mind the unanticipated increase in the Secretariat salaries, EXCOM examined the 2007 and 2008 budgets in depth to identify savings in other administrative categories. Rebudgeting was sufficient to balance the budget..

***Action 66: Executive Officer and P. Clarkson will revise the 2007 and 2008 budgets based on EXCOM's recommendations and post the revised budgets on the members web page by mid September.***

The question of payments for the production of the SSG-GS Newsletter, GeoReach, was raised by the SSG-GS CO, A. Capra. EXCOM considered this to be a matter internal to the SSG that should be funded within the SSG-GS budget.

***Action 67: A. Capra to arrange for payments of costs for the production of GeoReach.***

EXCOM considered a request from the SCAGI group for an additional \$9k for their meeting in Buenos Aires. In principle, EXCOM agreed that SCAGI should be expected to operate like

JCADM, where – to the extent possible - Members support the cost of participation. However, EXCOM also recognised that it was desirable to help countries with less resources to attend meetings. An additional cost savings measure would be to schedule meetings in association with the biennial SCAR meetings. EXCOM, recognising that it is important to give SCAGI the chance to succeed in its new revitalisation, supported the proposed fall meeting in Buenos Aires, and thanked Vice President S. Marensi for hosting the meeting. EXCOM agreed to advise SCAGI to utilize its 2008 allocation (\$4k) for its meeting in 2007 and work within a total budget of \$15k. If more funds prove necessary the Secretariat can be approached for supplemental funding. M. Kennicutt noted that at XXIX SCAR it was agreed that supplemental funding requests were to be accompanied by a formal request and a detailed explanation of the reasons for such funding. He also noted that this was lacking for the SCAGI request, making it difficult to assess the necessity for the request or the use of the funds. He further noted that SSGs and SRPS are receiving minimal budgets and that a priority should be to ensure that these core activities are adequately funded before supplemental requests would be considered.

***Action 68: Secretariat will work with SCAGI to ensure that the Buenos Aires meeting is a success.***

EXCOM agreed that \$5k should be set aside in 2008 against the possibility of holding the first meeting of the proposed IASC/SCAR bipolar working group.

***Action 69: The Secretariat will work with IASC to arrange the first meeting of the IASC/SCAR bipolar working group in St Petersburg.***

In discussing the publication of the proposed 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary book, EXCOM agreed that the financial model seemed reasonable and that money for the book would be a loan against the SCAR Endowment Fund on the understanding that costs would be recouped through sales.

***Action 70: The Secretariat will work with D. Walton and the publishers to ensure that the costs of the anniversary book are recouped through sales within a 2 years period.***

### 8.3 Membership of SCAR

Delegates at XXIX SCAR suggested that Belarus, as a new signatory to the Antarctic Treaty, be invited to join SCAR. This was pursued at XXX ATCM, in Delhi, in May 2007. Discussions were also held with Romania and Austria. All three countries, as well as the Czech Republic, were invited to submit applications in time for XXX SCAR. Malaysia intends to apply for Full membership. Actions regarding the Czech Republic are addressed in agenda item 2.2.

The International Astronomical Union has applied to join SCAR and the application will be considered at XXX SCAR.

### 8.4 Implementing SCAR's Financial Strategy

The President introduced this item, with reference to WP 29 (WP42 from XXIX SCAR). There was not enough time for substantive debate on WP42 in Hobart and further discussion was needed. It was noted that the voluntary double contributions by Germany and the UK (which were designed to help SCAR recognise the IPY) will end in 2009. EXCOM agreed that additional voluntary contributions were unlikely.

***Action 71: The Secretariat will develop a strategy for attracting external sources of funding.***

It was also noted that voluntary support for the CBET programme should be pursued further. EXCOM regarded this matter as part of an overall strategy to raise funds other than membership dues. Additional sources of funding should be sought to support education,

training and capacity building including the Fellowship Programme. The Executive Director noted that the IOC and SCOR have been successful in raising funds for their joint POGO Fellowship Programme with contributions from the Nippon Foundation.

***Action 72: The Secretariat will distribute information on the details of the POGO-Nippon Foundation support.***

The suggestion of a yearly cost of living increase of 3% to dues should be revisited.

The Executive Director noted that all ICSU bodies are experiencing the erosive effects of inflation on contributions from Members. These declines needed to be offset either on an annual basis or at some agreed time interval. EXCOM agreed that the history of income, exchange rates and inflation need to be carefully analysed before strategies can be developed to offset these trends.

***Action 73: The Secretariat will analyse the pattern of exchange rates over the last decade and quantify the effect on SCAR income and forecast the effects on the reserve over the next 5-10 years as the basis for a possible revision to the Finance Strategy to be considered at XXX SCAR.***

As discussed under agenda item 7.6, the rules of procedure will be revised to allow SCAR to attract sponsorship. EXCOM agreed the Secretariat should proceed with the formation of a Development Committee (Board of Donors). EXCOM noted that if experts (Board of Donors) were invited to attend a meeting to advise SCAR on how to raise money they should not be expected to pay their way, at least not in the first instance.

***Action 74: The Secretariat will allocate a \$5k seed corn contribution from the 2008 budget to fund a meeting of the proposed Development Committee.***

EXCOM noted that ethical considerations will need to be taken into account when accepting donations.

***Action 75: The Secretariat to draft a paper on ethical guidelines with respect to accepting donations, for consideration by XXX SCAR.***

The Executive Director reminded participants that in section 3.2 of document WP 42 from XXIX SCAR (WP 29 for this meeting) five basic instruments were considered necessary to establish SCAR's credibility as a 'professional' organisation prior to mounting fund raising activities. These were : (i) a strategic plan; (ii) a brochure (iii) a statement of achievements; (iv) an implementation plan; and (v) scientific plans for the SRPs. The strategic plan and plans for the SRPs were completed prior to XXIX SCAR. The Statement of Achievements was approved by the Delegates at XXIX SCAR, pending modifications that are now complete (see IP 08). A brochure was presented as WP 17 and the Implementation Plan is WP 04. An additional requirement was obtaining charitable status, as noted under agenda item 7.7. The Statement of Achievements will be published as SCAR Report 29. These developments put SCAR in a good position to begin attracting external funds starting in 2008.

***Action 76: The EXCOM and COs will email the Executive Officer additional comments on the Statement of Achievements by end of August.***

## 9. INTERACTIONS WITH COMNAP

A meeting was held between the COMNAP and SCAR EXCOMs during lunchtime on July 10<sup>th</sup>. A full report will be produced by the COMNAP Secretariat. One relevant action to come out of the meeting was:

***Action 77: Ensure that COMNAP is involved in the workshop or review process for the Disturbance Effects paper planned for submission to the next ATCM***

The COMNAP and SCAR EXCOMs were pleased that their Secretariats had arranged for non-conflicting scheduling of the COMNAP and SCAR meetings in 2008 so that COMNAP representatives could attend the SCAR OSC.

## 10. REVIEW OF PROGRESS AGAINST ACTIONS

The Executive Director reviewed progress against Action Items from all SCAR management meetings in 2006. ~ 85% have been completed. Most actions pending will be completed by XXX SCAR. EXCOM noted progress on the action items and agreed that the Secretariat has been efficient at accomplishing the Action Items, which form the basis for the Secretariat's work programme.

The Executive Officer reviewed the draft list of Action Items from the current meeting; the items were accepted with minor modification, pending completion of the final report of the meeting.

***Action 78: The Executive Officer will finalise the draft report and Action Items for circulation to EXCOM and COs for comment and revision by end August.***

## 11. OTHER MATTERS ARISING

V. Rachold, the IASC Executive Secretary, told EXCOM that he was pleased to have been invited to attend the meeting and that it had been very useful for building closer links between the two organisations. EXCOM agreed that this was also useful for SCAR and that it would lead to further improvements in future interactions between IASC and SCAR.

The Meeting was adjourned at 17:00

**ANNEX 1: ORIGINAL AGENDA OF THE EXCOM MEETING****Opening formalities 0900****1. Adoption of the Agenda****2. Science**

2.1 Report of the Cross Linkages Workshop

2.2 Report of the Chief Officers' Meeting

2.3 Highlights, Progress and Plans: SCAR Standing Scientific Groups

*2.3.1 SSG on Geosciences*

*2.3.2 SSG on Life Sciences*

*2.3.3 SSG on Physical Sciences*

2.4 Highlights, Progress and Plans: SCAR Scientific Research Programmes

*2.4.1 Antarctic Climate Evolution (ACE)*

*2.4.2 Antarctica and the Global Climate System (AGCS)*

*2.4.3 Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic (EBA)*

*2.4.4 Interhemispheric Conjugacy Effects in Solar-Terrestrial and Aeronomy Research (ICESTAR)*

*2.4.5 Subglacial Antarctic Lake Environments (SALE)*

2.5 Plans for Reviews of SRP Performance for 2008

2.6 IPY: Progress and Plans

2.7 Relations with Scientific Organizations: ICSU, SCOR, IASC, WCRP, IGOS-P, IPICS, SCOSTEP, Others (including a possible Union of Polar Sciences)

*2.7.1 ICSU*

*2.7.2 SCOR*

*2.7.3 IASC*

*2.7.4 WCRP*

*2.7.5 IGOS-P*

*2.7.6 IPICS*

*2.7.7 SCOSTEP*

**3. Data & Information**

3.1 Highlights, Progress and Plans: JCADM

3.2 Progress and Plans: SC-AGI

**4. Antarctic Treaty Organisations**

4.1 XXX ATCM, Delhi, May 2007

4.2 XXXI ATCM Kiev, June 2008

4.3 XXV CCAMLR October 2006

4.4 Other interactions

**5. Capacity Building, Education and Training: Progress and Plan**

5.1 Strategy

5.2 Fellowship Programme

5.3 Young Scientists

**6. Outreach and Communication: Progress and Plans**

6.1 History Group

6.2 Website, Publications etc

6.2.1 *Website*

6.2.2 *Publications*

6.2.3 *Brochure*

6.2.4 *National Interactions*

**7. Organisation and Management**

7.1 XXX SCAR, St Petersburg and Moscow

7.2 50th Anniversary Celebrations

7.3 SCAR Medals for 2008

7.4 Revised Election Procedures

7.5 Revised Rules of Procedure for Expert and Action Groups

7.6 Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association

7.7 SCAR's Legal and Charity Status

**8. Finance**

8.1 *Financial statements for 2006*

8.2 *Budgets for 2007 and 2008*

8.3 *Membership of SCAR*

8.4 *Implementing SCAR's Financial Strategy*

**9. Interactions with COMNAP (prior to evening meeting with COMNAP Executive Tuesday July 10)**

**10. Review of Progress Against Actions**

**11. Any other Business**

**Closure of the Meeting 1700**

**ANNEX 2: LIST OF MEETING DOCUMENTS**

WP 01a	Agenda
WP 01b	Annotated Agenda
WP 02	Timetable
WP 03	List of documents
WP 04	Implementation Plan
WP 05	Report of Cross-Linkages Meeting, Rome, Nov 06
WP 06	Agenda for Chief Officers' Meeting, Washington, 7-8 July 07
WP 07	Report of Chief Officers' Meeting, Washington
WP 08	SCAR Annual Report for 2006
WP 09	Proposal for a new Expert Group on Higher Predators
WP 10	Plans for the Review of SRP Performance
WP 11	Report on ASSW and links with IASC (Annex I)
WP 12	Proposal to create an International Union of Polar Sciences
WP 13	Report on JCADM
WP 14	Report on SC-AGI
WP 15	Report on SCAR and the ATCM and CEP
WP 15b	Final text of ATCM Resolution on Petrels
WP 15c	Final text of ATCM Resolution on monitoring
WP 16	Report on SCAR and CCAMLR
WP 17	Draft SCAR brochure
WP 18	Local arrangements for XXX SCAR
WP 19	Arrangements for SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference
WP 20	Revised election procedure
WP 21a	Revised Rules of Procedure
WP 21b	Revised Rules of Procedure for Subsidiary Groups
WP 22	Revised Memorandum of Association
WP 23	Revised Articles of Association
WP 24	Statement of Income and Expenditure for 2006
WP 25	Bank accounts at 31 December 2006
WP 26	National contributions for 2006 and 2007
WP 27	Budget for 2007
WP 28	Budget for 2008
WP 29	SCAR Financial Strategy 2006-2010 (WP 42 from XXIX SCAR)
WP 30	Report of last SCAR/COMNAP Execs mtg
WP 31	Draft Agenda for SCAR/COMNAP Execs mtg
WP 32	Combined List of Actions
WP 33	Review of progress against Recommendations
WP 34	Notes of SCAR/IASC meeting, Stockholm, 6 June 07
WP 35	SSG-GS Report
WP 36	SSG-LS Report
WP 37	SSG-PS Report
WP 38	Bipolar SCAR/IASC IPY Action Group proposal
WP 39	Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Sea Level Workshop proposal
WP 40	SCAR Fellowship Report
WP 41	Improving SCAR business meetings
WP 42	Finance Plan Action Plan with timelines
IP 01	Plan for Pan Antarctic Observing System (PAnTOS)
IP 02	The scope of science in the International Polar Year

IP 03	Minutes of the March 07 meeting of the IPY Joint Committee
IP 04a	Letter on Earth System Science Partnership
IP 04b	SCAR Response to letter on Earth System Science Partnership
IP 05	Programme for SCAR/SCOR Southern Ocean mtg (Bremen, Oct 07)
IP 06	Hansen sea-level paper
IP 07	IGOS Cryosphere Theme
IP 08	Statement of SCAR achievements
IP 09	Polar Funding Frameworks (ESF)
IP 10a	Code of Conduct Workshop report
IP 10b	Environmental Code of Conduct for fieldwork
IP 11	SCAR 50th Anniversary Commemorative Book

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**ANNEX 4: SCAR/IASC OPEN SCIENCE CONFERENCE 2008 – IASC INPUT**Notes from IASC Teleconference 2 July 2007

*Participants: Louwrens Hacquebord, Kristjan Kristjansson, Dieter Fuetterer, Byong-Kwon Park, Jackie Grebmeier, Volker Rachold*

**I. General Remarks concerning the program**

- One hour for lunches is probably not enough
- There should be day-time for posters (less presentations – more posters?)
- Presentations should be 20 minutes including discussion (15 + 5)
- Important: SCAR and IASC have to make sure that the meeting facilities are suitable

**II. Specific questions listed in the planning document**

- 1) Reduction in themes from 6 to 5. **OK.**
  - a) How is “Vantage Point” interpreted? **No clear answer.**
  - b) Should Education and Public Outreach be assigned a special thematic session? **No, this is very important and should be part of each session.**
  - c) Should there be a thematic session “Towards an IPY Legacy”? **No, too early.**
  - d) Does Polar History deserve a more prominent place in the program? **If SCAR says yes, IASC would agree. Evening lectures could be an option.**
- 2) A reduction in sub-themes from 48 to 35. **OK.**
- 3) Joint Session labels have been removed. **OK (see below).**
- 4) 9 of 35 (25%) sessions are related to Human Dimensions. **OK.**
- 5) 5 of 35 (14%) Sessions are "General Sessions". **OK.**
- 6) "IPY Urgencies" were incorporated into the titles of sessions. **OK.**
- 7) Sessions descriptions have been revised. **OK.**

**III. Program Structure**

Keynotes and Chairs are mainly male, anglo, and western and northern hemisphere. Multiple Chairs are often listed. - **Members of the IASC Executive Committee are asked to submit their suggestions (2 names for sessions that they feel qualified for) by Wednesday (July 4) to Volker Rachold. The final decisions should be done by the Scientific Organizing Committee (SCAR representatives for the Antarctic and IASC representatives for the Arctic Sessions).**

Session Chairs should select who and how many invited speakers. - **2-3 invited speakers per session to be selected by the Session Chairs and the SOC representative. Invited does not mean paid! (AGU model)**

Abstract Review. - **To be done by the Session Chairs and SOC representatives**

Level and type of Early Career Scientist participation. –**Early Career Scientist as a co-Chair for each session ?– NO. Early Career Scientists are members of the Scientific Organizing Committee (see below).**

Reduce oral presentations to 20 minutes? - **See general comments above**

What is the optimum number of invited speakers per session? **2-3, see above.**

A Committee is needed to develop an effective plan for the Poster Sessions. – **No specific committee but the SOC together with the Local Organizing Committee has to make sure that the poster arrangements are suitable. Note that the session co-chairs are responsible to organize and provide oversight on the poster session coincident with their oral session.**

Should there be Early Career Researcher Keynotes? – **No, Early Career Scientists should be fully integrated in the conference program. A young person should be on the Local Organizing Committee as well.**

“Name” the Keynote Lectures (see general comments below). – **Yes, IASC would agree if SCAR decided to name the keynotes.**

Fund Keynote Travel? – **Depends on the number of keynotes. At maximum 10-12, probably less (1-2 per day).**

Is it useful to have Joint Sessions with other polar organizations? – **No joint session for the time being. Could be added later, when the program is set.**

Are host country selections for Session Chairs effectively incorporated? – **See selection of Session Chairs, above.**

Who issues invitations to Chairs? – **Conference Co-Chairs on behalf of the SCAR/IASC Scientific Organizing Committee.**

Who issues invitations to the Keynote Speakers –Presidents of SCAR/IASC? – **Yes.**

Must have an on-line abstract submission and review process. – **Online submission - yes. Abstract review - see above.**