



# IASC Council Meeting

28 March 2008  
Syktyvkar, Russia

## **Schedule**

|             |                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 09.00-10.30 | Council - Open Session               |
| 10.30-11.00 | <i>Coffee Break</i>                  |
| 11.00-13.00 | Council - Open Session (continued)   |
| 13.00-14.00 | <i>Lunch</i>                         |
| 14.00-15.00 | Strategy Groups - Executive Sessions |
| 15.00-15.30 | <i>Coffee Break</i>                  |
| 15.30-17.00 | Council - Executive Session          |

***Draft Minutes for IASC Internal Use***

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### Council - Open Session

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- ANNEX 2.1b:** President's presentation on the proposed new IASC Structure.
- ANNEX 2.2.1.1:** Second Announcement of the SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference.
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### Council - Executive Session

- ANNEX E2a:** Financing Plan for the IASC Secretariat.
- ANNEX E2b:** Swedish offer to continue the support of the IASC Secretariat.
- ANNEX E3:** Status of the IASC General Funds.
- ANNEX E4:** Discussion paper: IASC Medal.

# IASC Council – Open Session

28 March, 09.00-13.00

## 1 OPENING AND REPORTING

### 1.1 WELCOME AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new Council Members Susan Barr (Norway), Carlo-Alberto Ricci (Italy) and David Hik (Canada) as well as the alternate delegate for Sweden, Magnus Tannerfeldt. The President also introduced Manuel Catalan (Spain) participating as an observer. Manuel Catalan presented a short summary of Spain's activities in the Arctic and underlined Spain's interest in becoming an IASC Member. The Executive Secretary gave some practical information.

### 1.2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last Council Meeting in Hanover 2007 were approved with one change: under item **"4.4 New Initiatives - Network for Arctic Archeologists"** the wording "without any financial support" was deleted.

### 1.3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Item E7 "Any Other Business" was added to the agenda of the Executive Session. The agenda was adopted.

### 1.4 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In his brief report, the President focused on the ongoing restructuring of IASC and IASC's relationship to other organizations, in particular the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Arctic Ocean Sciences Board (AOSB), the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) and the World Climate Research Program (WCRP).

## 1.5 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Executive Secretary provided a short report on the main activities of the IASC Secretariat since the last Council Meeting. He highlighted the launch of the new IASC website under the Arctic Portal and the publication of the first IASC yearbook, the IASC Bulletin 2006/2007, which was distributed at the meeting.

## 2 MAIN ISSUES

### 2.1 IASC STRUCTURE AND STRATEGY TO SUPPORT SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT

At the Arctic Science Summit Week 2007 in Hanover (USA), IASC Council generally agreed that a proposal for a new IASC structure including Terms of Reference and Rules and Procedures should be developed by the Executive Committee and presented to the Council for final approval at the ASSW 2008 in Syktyvkar.

Based on the recommendations of the Strategy Groups and Council Members received in Hanover and other following discussions, the Executive Committee has developed a proposal for the new IASC structure and funding strategy. To inform the relevant Arctic (and Antarctic) organizations about the IASC restructuring and to involve them in the restructuring process, the heads of all organizations that are linked to the new IASC structure were invited to a one day workshop in Stockholm, 5 February 2008.

The President introduced the proposal for a new IASC structure and strategy to support science development.

- ***The outline of the new IASC structure and funding strategy is given in ANNEX 2.1a, the President's presentation is given in ANNEX 2.1b***

Following the President's presentation, Council Members and other participants of the meeting were invited to comment on the proposal. Several comments and suggestions were noted and will be used to improve the proposed structure.

The discussion continued in the IASC Strategy Groups and in the Executive Session of the IASC Council Meeting. In essence, Council approved the proposed new IASC structure. The following decisions were taken in the Executive Session:

- The Scientific Standing Committee (SSC) on Science and Policy will be deleted. The tasks originally assigned to this committee will be transferred to Council and Executive Committee.
- The SSC on Cryosphere/Atmosphere System will be split into two SSCs.
- AOSB is considered the interim SSC for the Marine System.
- Council Members will be invited to nominate interim Chairs for the SSCs by end of April 2008.
- The Executive Committee should appoint one person or a small group of knowledgeable persons (Action Group) to draft detailed terms of reference for the new structure.

The Executive Committee was mandated to modify the structure according to the comments received. This updated structure, including detailed terms of reference, should be developed within the next 6 months.

Action: IASC Executive Committee

### 2.1.1 IASC Regional Board

Steven Bigras, the Chair of the IASC Regional Board (RB), summarized the outcome of the IASC Regional Board Meeting held on 26 March 2008.

Since the last meeting of the RB in Hanover, ASSW 2007, the members have been discussing the future role and responsibilities of the RB within the new proposed IASC structure via e-mail and conference calls.

The Board has also examined its role in light of the changes that have occurred over the last 10 years such as:

- establishment of the Arctic Council;
- increased linkages between IASC and other international Arctic organizations; and
- IASC's desire to restructure and form Scientific Standing Committees and Action Groups.

The Board members took into consideration the recommendation of the IASC Review & Strategy Group to abolish the RB. The members also took into consideration the fact that the IASC Executive Committee generally supported the recommendation of the Review & Strategy Group, and suggested that the RB work towards establishing the SSC on Policy and Science.

In the final analysis, RB members agreed with the conclusion of the Review and Strategy Group that the Regional Board has no useful role in the new IASC structure and decided not to continue to meet.

Please note that this final decision was made in the absence of Finland and Russia and hopefully they will not have any strong objections to this course of action.

It was also decided not to take action on the IASC Executive Committee's suggestion to work on establishing the SSC on Policy and Science. The RB members felt that taking this course of action would be counterproductive and may cause some confusion as the restructure process moves forward.

Finally, several RB members noted that they had found the Board to be a useful forum for discussing issues of particular interest to Arctic-8 science officials and that they might consider forming a new group for that purpose. Members expressed the hope that any such new group would be able to meet as part of ASSW.

A letter will be sent out to each of the RB members, indicating the RB decision to disband.

Action: Bigras and Rachold

## **2.2 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

### **2.2.1 Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)**

#### **2.2.1.1 SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference**

IASC and SCAR have agreed to jointly organize the IPY mid-term conference entitled "Polar Research - Arctic and Antarctic Perspectives in the International Polar Year" in St. Petersburg (Russia), 8-11 July 2008. This joint SCAR-IASC Open Science Conference will be the main event of the Biannual SCAR Meeting. Vice President Louwrens Hacquebord, co-chair of the conference organizing committee, provided a status report.

More information is available at the conference website: [www.scar-iasc-ipy2008.org](http://www.scar-iasc-ipy2008.org).

- ***The second announcement is given in ANNEX 2.2.1.1.***

Council noted the report.



### 2.2.1.2 *Bipolar Action Group*

The Executive Secretary reported that in October 2007 the Executive Committee decided to set up a joint SCAR/IASC Bipolar Action Group (BipAG). The Secretariats of SCAR and IASC were asked to invite the national representatives to nominate candidates.

The terms of reference for BipAG are

- to advise the SCAR and IASC Executive Committees on the development of instruments such as workshops, programs and networks to address bipolar issues and
- to advise the SCAR and IASC Executive Committees on the development of mechanisms to nurture the IPY 2007/2008 legacy, with a special focus on the roles of IASC and SCAR.

Based on the nominations received, the SCAR and IASC Executive Committees have set up the action group which started its work in February 2008.

- ***The final membership approved by the SCAR and IASC Executive Committees is given in ANNEX 2.2.1.2.***

Council noted the progress.

### 2.2.1.3 *Joint SCAR/IASC Workshops*

The Executive Secretary gave a brief overview of two joint SCAR/IASC Workshops. A more detailed SCAR/IASC presentation was given at ASSW 2008 Project Day by Jörn Thiede (SCAR) and Volker Rachold (IASC). This presentation provided an update on joint SCAR/IASC activities and was based on the SCAR/IASC presentation given by Colin Summerhayes (SCAR) and Volker Rachold (IASC) at the ASSW 2007 Project Day in Hanover (USA).

SCAR and IASC have organized a joint workshop on Recent High Latitude Climate Change in Seattle (USA), 22-24 October 2007, which was also co-sponsored by WCRP-CliC.

Recognizing the importance of ice sheets in controlling global sea level, and the inadequacies in current efforts to model the disintegration of ice sheets in response to a warming climate, the SCAR and IASC Executive Committees, together with WCRP-CliC have decided to organize a workshop, which will be held in St. Petersburg (Russia) in conjunction with the SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference.

Council noted the development.

## 2.2.2 Arctic Council

The last meetings of the Arctic Council were held in Tromsø (12-13 April 2007) and in Narvik (28-29 November 2007). The Executive Secretary participated and gave short IASC Presentations at both meetings including an overview of the proposed new IASC structure.

A short summary of Arctic Council activities that are of relevance for IASC was presented by the Executive Secretary. More information about new and ongoing Arctic Council projects was presented at ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- ❑ Snow, Water, Ice, and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA), presented by Odd Rogne
- ❑ Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP), presented by Christoph Zöckler

Council noted the development.

## 2.2.3 International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA)

Following the recommendations of the IASC Review and Strategy Group, the Executive Committee has been working with IASSA towards developing a Letter of Agreement (LoA) between the two organizations. Joan Nymand Larsen from IASSA introduced this agenda item.

- ***The proposal for an IASSA-IASC LoA is given in ANNEX 2.2.3.***

Council welcomed the development and, following the formal approval, the proposed LoA between IASC and IASSA was signed by the President. It was noted that an amendment to the LoA has to be formulated to correct the LoA concerning the IASC Regional Board and the proposed IASC Scientific Standing Committee on Science and Policy.

## 2.2.4 Climate and Cryosphere (CliC) project of the World Climate Research Program (WCRP) and SCAR

IASC has been in contact with WCRP and SCAR on coordination of research on Arctic and global change. A specific way of strengthening the cooperation between the three organizations was identified in the course of these consultations. WCRP and SCAR propose to IASC to become a sponsor of their joint Climate and Cryosphere (CliC) project. Vladimir Ryabinin from WCRP introduced this agenda item.

- ***The proposed WCRP-IASC-SCAR Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the co-sponsorship of CliC is given in ANNEX 2.2.4.***

IASC Council welcomed the proposed MoU and accepted that the updated existing WCRP/SCAR MoU on the co-sponsorship of CliC which includes IASC as a new CliC sponsor will be signed by the IASC President during the SCAR/IASC Open Science Conference in St. Petersburg.

## 2.2.5 Arctic Ocean Sciences Board (AOSB)

The relationship between IASC and the Arctic Ocean Sciences Board (AOSB), in particular the role of AOSB in the new IASC structure, was on the agenda of the last Executive Committee and Council Meetings.

Under this agenda item Harald Loeng, Chair of AOSB, summarized AOSB's view regarding the new IASC structure. AOSB generally supports the suggested Scientific Standing Committee (SSC) structure of IASC. AOSB views itself as the main component of the SSC for the Marine System and therefore could be the first SSC operating right away. The main issues that have to be clarified over the next months are (1) membership, (2) timing and (3) finances. Financial support for AOSB is currently coming from the US National Science Foundation. Thus, AOSB would continue for a transition phase of another 18 months before appointing its members under the new IASC structure.

Council noted the report and welcomed the development. In the Executive Session of the Council Meeting, it was decided that AOSB is considered the interim Scientific Standing Committee (SSC) for the Marine System.

## 2.2.6 International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS)

The Executive Secretary reported that ICSU Council has agreed to form a new International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS), from the 2005-2007 Union Commission on Cryospheric Sciences. This development should bring cryospheric sciences to the forefront in discussions within ICSU.

The IACS officers are:

- President: Georg Kaser (Austria)
- President-elect: Ian Allison (Australia)
- Secretary General: Manfred Lange (Germany)

IASC's relationship to the new organization was discussed in the Executive Committee and also with SCAR. The existing Letter of Agreement between

SCAR and IASC was sent to IACS aiming for a tripartite agreement between IASC, SCAR and IACS. Julian Dowdeswell added that the aims are to fill gaps between IASC and SCAR and to avoid duplication.

Council noted the development.

## 2.3 MAJOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Under this agenda item short status reports of some major planning activities were presented. These reports were for information only and did not require any decisions of the Council. The reporting was kept brief because some of the activities were introduced at ASSW 2008 Project Day.

### 2.3.1 International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP II)

The President reported that the final report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP II), entitled "Arctic Research – A Global Responsibility" and published by the ICARP II Steering Group and the ICARP II Secretariat at the Danish Polar Center in Copenhagen (Denmark), was released in October 2007. The report includes a synopsis of the ICARP II process and summaries of the 12 ICARP II Science Plans. The full Science Plans are available on an accompanying CD-ROM.

The IASC Secretariat has taken over the ICARP II website ([www.icarp.dk](http://www.icarp.dk)) which was moved to the new IASC website under the Arctic Portal ([www.iasc.se](http://www.iasc.se)). The ICARP II documents including the final report and the science plans are available for download.

The release of the ICARP II final report was announced in an international teleconference, end of October 2007.

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- ❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP II), presented by Kristján Kristjánsson and Bernie Coakley.

Council noted the report.

### 2.3.2 International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC)

The President reported that the International Program Office (IPO) for the International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC) with Maribeth Murray as the ISAC Director is currently being set up in Stockholm.

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- ❑ International Study of Arctic Change (ISAC), presented by Jackie Grebmeier.

Council noted the report.

### 2.3.3 International Polar Year (IPY)

The last meetings of the IPY Joint Committee (JC) were held in Paris, April 2007 and in Quebec, October 2007. The Executive Secretary participated in the meetings and provided a brief summary.

Council noted the report.

### 2.3.4 Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)

The Executive Secretary presented a status report on the development of SAON ([www.arcticobserving.org](http://www.arcticobserving.org)). The first SAON Workshop was held in Stockholm, Sweden, 12-14 November 2007. The second workshop, to be held in Edmonton, Canada, 9-11 April 2008, will be hosted by the Canadian IPY Secretariat.

- ***The program of the second SAON Workshop is given in ANNEX 2.3.4.***

A third workshop in Helsinki, Finland, is planned for 13-15 October 2008, to be hosted by the Finnish Meteorological Institute.

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- ❑ Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON), presented by David Hik

Council noted the report.

## 2.4 ARCTIC SCIENCE SUMMIT WEEK (ASSW)

### 2.4.1 ASSW 2009

Vice President Louwrens Hacquebord reported that the ASSW 2009 will be held in Bergen (Norway), 23-28 March 2009 and will be the first ASSW that is organized according to the new structure with a stronger focus on science.

Consequently, a Scientific Steering Group (SSG) has been appointed by the Arctic organizations that are represented on the ASSW International

Coordination Group. IASSA and the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) have been invited to join the Coordination Group and to nominate a representative for the ASSW 2009 SSG.

The ASSW 2009 SSG comprises:

- Louwrens Hacquebord (IASC) (co-Chair)
- Harald Loeng (AOSB) (co-Chair)
- Jörn Thiede (EPB)
- John Calder (PAG)
- Marty Bergmann (FARO)
- Joan Nymand Larsen (IASSA)
- Jenny Baeseman/Hugues Lantuit (APECS)
- Asgeir Sorteberg (Local Host, Norway)

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- ❑ Arctic Science Summit Week 2009, Bergen (Norway), presented by Harald Loeng

Council noted the development.

## 2.4.2 ASSW 2010

On behalf of Denmark/Greenland, Tom Greiffenberg announced the offer to host the ASSW 2010 in Greenland.

Council acknowledged the offer and thanked Denmark/Greenland.

## 2.5 OTHER IASC ACTIVITIES

Under this agenda item other IASC sponsored activities were presented mostly for information only. Again, some of these activities were also introduced at ASSW 2008 Project Day. Thus, the reporting was kept brief.

### 2.5.1 Workshop: Arctic Coastal Zones at Risk

The Executive Secretary introduced this agenda item. The workshop on the impact of global climate change on the Arctic coastal zones was jointly organized by IASC, the Land-Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zones (LOICZ) program of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP) / International Human Dimensions Program on Global Environmental Change (IHDP), the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) and the

International Permafrost Association (IPA) and held at the Polar Environmental Centre in Tromsø (Norway), 1-3 October 2007.

- ***The workshop report which was jointly published by IASC and LOICZ is given in ANNEX 2.5.1.***

A follow-up meeting of the organizing committee and chairs of the workshop breakout groups was held in conjunction with the Arctic Frontiers conference in Tromsø, 24-25 January 2008. During this meeting an outline and timeframe for a report/assessment focusing on the state of the Arctic coast entitled “*Responding to Change on Arctic Coasts - Circumpolar State and Capacity Assessment*” was developed.

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- Responding to Change on Arctic Coasts - Circumpolar State and Capacity Assessment, presented by Hugues Lantuit

Council noted the development.

## 2.5.2 Arctic Paleoclimate and its Extremes (APEX)

The Executive Secretary introduced APEX which is a network research program aiming to understand Arctic climatic changes beyond instrumental records. The particular emphasis is to focus on the magnitude/frequency of the climate variability and, in particular, the "extremes" versus the "normal" conditions of the climate system. It is an interdisciplinary program that integrates marine and terrestrial science and utilizes modeling and field observations. APEX involves scientists from 15 European countries, Canada and USA and is one of the coordinating programs for paleoclimate research during the IPY. For more information about APEX, please visit: [www.apex.geo.su.se](http://www.apex.geo.su.se). The IASC Executive Committee has recently agreed to endorse APEX as an IASC Network.

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- Arctic Paleoclimate and its Extremes (APEX), presented by Dmitry Subetto

Council noted the report.

### 2.5.3 Polar Archaeology Network (PAN)

Vice President Louwrens Hacquebord introduced the Polar Archaeology Network (PAN), which is a forum to meet the need for addressing scientific issues, research policies, education, public outreach, cultural heritage and other questions relating to archaeology and early history of the Arctic and Antarctic. The IASC Executive Committee has recently agreed to endorse the PAN as an IASC Network. Goals of the PAN are:

- to strengthen continuity and development of archaeological research, education and public outreach in the polar regions of the world;
- to further and strengthen international contacts and collaboration among and between scientific environments and researchers from the North and the South dealing with polar archaeology;
- to communicate archaeological research to the wider community of polar researchers;
- to promote dialogue and collaboration between researchers and the public;
- to encourage interdisciplinary approaches to and circumpolar and global perspectives on polar prehistory and early history;
- to facilitate development of new methodological and theoretical directions;
- to enhance awareness of research on cultural resource management and the protection of sites and monuments in the Arctic and Antarctic;
- to encourage and promote the involvement of local communities in the development and the conduct of archaeological projects.

More information was provided in a presentation during ASSW 2008 Project Day:

- ❑ Polar Archaeology Network, presented by Louwrens Hacquebord

Council noted the report.

### 2.5.4 Human Dimensions of Arctic Environments: A Multilingual Web Resource

The President reported that, at its last meeting during the ASSW 2007, Council had agreed to support the project "Human Dimensions of Arctic Environments - A Multilingual Web Resource" which is led by the Stefansson Arctic Institute in Akureyri, Iceland. The web resource aims at disseminating information on Arctic cultures and environments moving beyond the image of the Arctic as a frozen wasteland and wilderness without people. The new web resource, built on the existing webpage [www.thearctic.is](http://www.thearctic.is) will provide a venue for scientific collaboration, communication and dissemination, seeking to



enhance understanding of key human dimensions of Arctic social and ecological systems.

- ***A status report provided by the Project Leader Niels Einarsson is given in ANNEX 2.5.4.***

Council noted the status report.

## 2.5.5 Arctic Coastal Dynamics (ACD) II

The Executive Secretary introduced Arctic Coastal Dynamics (ACD) which was an IASC Project that ended in 2007. The project group has developed a Science Plan for the second phase of the project.

- ***The Science Plan for ACD II is given in ANNEX 2.5.5.***

As an active and ongoing project that originated with IASC support, the Project Leaders (Paul Overduin and Nicole Couture) requested to retain IASC affiliation as an IASC Network and the Executive Committee has decided that ACD II should receive continued IASC endorsement as an IASC Network.

Council noted the report.

## 2.5.6 Working Group on Arctic Glaciology (WAG)

The President reported that, at its last annual meeting in Obergurgl (Austria), 30 January 2008, the Working Group elected Andreas Ahlstrøm (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland) and Martin Sharp (University of Alberta, Canada) as the new co-chairs of the WAG.

- ***A letter to IASC prepared by the new Co-Chairs of the WAG is given in ANNEX 2.5.6.***

The Council discussion concerning the WAG letter was postponed to the Executive Session during which Council decided to approve WAG's request to become an IASC Network. Council also agreed that WAG's interests should be well represented in the new IASC Scientific Standing Committee on the Cryosphere System.

### 3 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### 3.1 INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE INITIATIVE IN THE RUSSIAN ARCTIC (ISIRA)

The Executive Secretary reported on the latest development of the International Science Initiative in the Russian Arctic (ISIRA). The last ISIRA meeting was held back-to-back with the Heads of the Arctic and Antarctic IPY Secretariats (HAIS) Meeting in St. Petersburg, 5-6 November 2007.

The minutes of the ISIRA meeting and the ISIRA national reports are available on the IASC website:

[www.arcticportal.org/iasc/links/welcome-to-isira](http://www.arcticportal.org/iasc/links/welcome-to-isira)

Council noted the report.

#### 3.2 PACIFIC ARCTIC GROUP (PAG)

Vice President Jackie Grebmeier gave a short introduction to this agenda item. Organized under IASC, the Pacific Arctic Group (PAG) has the mission to serve as a Pacific Arctic regional partnership to plan, coordinate, and collaborate on science activities of mutual interest. A PAG IPY synthesis activity was presented at ASSW 2008 Project Day by the PAG Chair, John Calder.

At its last meeting the Executive Committee noted the latest development of PAG and agreed that it will be important to clarify PAG's future development in view of the new IASC structure, i.e. a sub-group of IASC or an independent organization. A consequent letter was sent to the current PAG Chair.

John Calder reported that the matter has been discussed within PAG. The general thought is that PAG should not be part of the formal new IASC structure, but rather an independent body. But there is a strong view that PAG would want to associate with IASC through the Scientific Standing Committees and Action Groups. In particular, the Marine Systems Standing Committee is of great interest for PAG.

Council agreed to PAG's proposal to become an independent body. It was emphasized that PAG should maintain the link to IASC through the participation in IASC's new Scientific Standing Committees and Action Groups.

# IASC – Strategy Groups

28 March, 14.00-15.00

The discussion about the proposed new IASC structure presented in the Open Session of the Council Meeting was continued in the Strategy Groups. Summaries of the Strategy Groups Meetings were presented by the Vice Presidents in the Executive Session (see below).

## Members of the IASC Strategy Groups

|                              |   |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Strategy Group I + II</b> | <b>Chairs:</b><br><b>Byong-Kwon Park, Vice President</b><br><b>Jackie Grebmeier, Vice President</b>                     | <b>E-mail:</b><br><a href="mailto:bkpark@korp.re.kr">bkpark@korp.re.kr</a><br><a href="mailto:jgrebmei@utk.edu">jgrebmei@utk.edu</a>   |
| Participants                 | David Hik<br>Carlo-Alberto Ricci<br>Karl Erb<br>Tom Greiffenberg<br>Hiroshi Kanda<br>Julian Dowdeswell<br>Steven Bigras | <a href="mailto:dhik@ualberta.ca">dhik@ualberta.ca</a><br><a href="mailto:riccica@unisi.it">riccica@unisi.it</a><br><a href="mailto:kerb@nsf.gov">kerb@nsf.gov</a><br><a href="mailto:tog@gh.gl">tog@gh.gl</a><br><a href="mailto:kanda@nipr.ac.jp">kanda@nipr.ac.jp</a><br><a href="mailto:jd16@cam.ac.uk">jd16@cam.ac.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:bigrass@polarcom.gc.ca">bigrass@polarcom.gc.ca</a> |
| <b>Strategy Group III</b>    | <b>Chair:</b><br><b>Louwrens Hacquebord, Vice President</b>   | <a href="mailto:L.Hacquebord@let.rug.nl">L.Hacquebord@let.rug.nl</a>   |
| Participants                 | Liqi Chen<br>Kari Laine<br>Susan Barr<br>Anders Karlqvist   | <a href="mailto:lqchen@soa.gov.cn">lqchen@soa.gov.cn</a><br><a href="mailto:kari.laine@oulu.fi">kari.laine@oulu.fi</a><br><a href="mailto:susan.barr@ra.no">susan.barr@ra.no</a><br><a href="mailto:anders@polar.se">anders@polar.se</a>   |
| <b>Strategy Group IV</b>     | <b>Chair:</b><br><b>Dieter Fütterer, Vice President</b>   | <a href="mailto:dfuetterer@awi-bremerhaven.de">dfuetterer@awi-bremerhaven.de</a>   |
| Participants                 | Jacek Jania<br>Vladimir I Pavlenko<br>Magnus Tannerfeldt (alternate for Magnus Friberg)<br>Hanne Petersen               | <a href="mailto:jjania@us.edu.pl">jjania@us.edu.pl</a><br><a href="mailto:pavlenko@presidium.ras.ru">pavlenko@presidium.ras.ru</a><br><a href="mailto:Magnus.tannerfeldt@polar.se">Magnus.tannerfeldt@polar.se</a><br><a href="mailto:hpe@fi.dk">hpe@fi.dk</a>   |

# IASC Council – Executive Session

28 March, 15.30-17.00

## Participants

### **Council Members**

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Canada:            | David Hik   |
| China:             | Liqi Chen   |
| Denmark/Greenland: | Tom Greiffenberg                                  |
| Finland:           | Kari Laine  |
| France:            | <i>absent</i>                                     |
| Germany:           | Dieter Fütterer (Vice President)                  |
| Iceland:           | Kristján Kristjánsson (President)                 |
| Italy:             | Carlo-Alberto Ricci                               |
| Japan:             | Hiroshi Kanda                                     |
| Netherlands:       | Louwrens Hacquebord (Vice President)              |
| Norway:            | Susan Barr  |
| Poland:            | Jacek Jania                                       |
| Korea:             | Byong-Kwon Park (Vice President)                  |
| Russia:            | Vladimir Pavlenko                                 |
| Sweden:            | Magnus Tannerfeldt (alternate for Magnus Friberg) |
| Switzerland:       | <i>absent</i>                                     |
| UK:                | Julian Dowdeswell                                 |
| USA:               | Jackie Grebmeier (Vice President)                 |

### **Regional Board Members**

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Canada:            | Steven Bigras    |
| Denmark/Greenland: | Hanne Petersen   |
| Sweden:            | Anders Karlqvist |
| USA:               | Karl Erb         |

### **Guest**

Harald Loeng (AOSB)

### **Secretariat**

Volker Rachold (Executive Secretary)

## E1 NEW IASC STRUCTURE

### E1.1 REPORTS FROM THE STRATEGY GROUPS

Under this agenda item, the Vice Presidents presented brief summaries of the discussions in the Strategy Group Meetings. The following points were noted.

#### **Strategy Group I & II (Jackie Grebmeier and Byong-Kwon Park)**

- Scientific Standing Committees (SSCs)
  - Chairs should be selected immediately
  - Chairs have to be carefully selected, consider interdisciplinary aspects
  - Member organizations should get some direction from IASC on how to select SSC members
  - Split Atmosphere/Cryosphere System
  - Start with AOSB for the Marine System and modify
- Action Groups (AGs)
  - Can be used as an IASC instrument for everything
- Terms of Reference for the new structure
  - Appoint one focused person to develop a draft
  - Make sure that ToRs are also in compliance with ICSU
  - Reference to Arctic Residents in ToRs
- Make sure that the IASC logo guarantees quality

#### **Strategy Group III (Louwrens Hacquebord)**

- Scientific Standing Committees (SSCs)
  - Include Science in the Public Interest / Outreach in the SSCs
  - Include a legacy of the Regional Board
- Secretariat should support the IASC instruments for science development
- Action Group on Science and Policy, how to get IASC to the forefront
- Arctic Science Summit Week
  - Make IASC more prestigious, attract people to the ASSW
  - Avoid duplications, avoid exotic places

### Strategy Group IV (Dieter Fütterer)

- Scientific Standing Committees (SSCs)
  - Indigenous knowledge should be included under all SSCs
  - Social System is social sciences
  - Avoid the term “policy”, move the SSC Science and Policy under the Council and rename
- Mention Early Career Scientist support under the instruments

## E1.2 DECISION ON THE NEW STRUCTURE OF IASC

In essence, Council approved the proposed new structure of IASC and agreed on a timeline for its implementation. The details are given under agenda item 2.1 of the Open Session.

## E2 IASC SECRETARIAT

The President reported that the future financial support to the IASC Secretariat has been discussed with the Director of the Swedish Research Council and the Swedish IASC Council Member in a conference call beginning of December. In preparation of the conference call the following documents have been sent to the Swedish Research Council:

- (1) A Memo summarizing the background and objective of the meeting;
- (2) The report of the IASC Review and Strategy Group;
- (3) The updated outline of the new IASC structure;
- (4) A financing plan for IASC and its Secretariat.

➤ ***The financing plan is given in ANNEX E2a.***

The Swedish Research Council underlined its interest in keeping the IASC Secretariat in Stockholm and made an offer to support the Secretariat over the next 5 years with an option for another 5 years. This offer includes the salaries for two assistants to the Executive Secretary and the costs for having the Secretariat at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (overhead cost). The offer depends on IASC’s decision to expend its activities within the proposed new structure. It is valid under the condition that IASC, through membership fees, covers the salary of the Executive Secretary and all other secretariat cost not covered by the host country.

➤ ***The offer from Sweden to continue the support of the IASC Secretariat is given in ANNEX E2b.***

Furthermore, the President reported that the current IASC Executive Secretary, Dr. Volker Rachold, has decided to move back to Germany after his 3-year contract with IASC (2006-2008). This decision is only based on private reasons and he sincerely regrets having to leave the position as IASC Executive Secretary.

Following the decisions of the Executive Committee, in February 2008, the President approached the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI) exploring the possibility of housing the IASC Secretariat in Germany. Vice President Dieter Fütterer reported that the matter was discussed within the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI) and the German Science Foundation (DFG). He introduced a preliminary offer from Germany to host the IASC Secretariat at the Research Department Potsdam of the AWI. The offer includes the salary of the Executive Secretary plus two assistants and overheads. He underlined that the final confirmation of this offer depends on the approval of the AWI board of trustees which is expected for May 2008 and that the offer is connected to the current Executive Secretary.

Council discussed both the Swedish offer and the preliminary German offer. The Executive Committee was mandated to proceed with the German offer once this is definitely confirmed.

## E3 IASC ECONOMY

The Executive Secretary presented the accounts for 2007 and the proposed budget for 2008 (IASC General Funds).

- ***The status of the IASC General Funds is given in ANNEX E3.***

Council scrutinized and approved the accounts and the proposed budget.

## E4 IASC MEDAL

At the IASC Council meeting during the ASSW 2006 it was suggested that IASC should have a mechanism to honor 'outstanding efforts in Arctic research and/or Arctic scientific coordination'. The Council decided that a medal would provide the most appropriate means for this and that the Executive Committee should move the idea forward. A group consisting of Magnus Friberg (Sweden), Julian Dowdeswell (UK) and Jacek Jania (Poland) was delegated to provide a more detailed discussion paper.

- ***The discussion paper is given in ANNEX E4.***

Council approved the proposed means for awarding an IASC Medal.

## E5 ELECTIONS

Two Vice Presidents had to be elected: Louwrens Hacquebord's second term and Byong-Kwon Park's first term ended in 2008.

The one-person nomination committee, Vice President Dieter Fütterer, reported that the following nominations were received: Julian Dowdeswell, David Hik, Kari Laine, Byong-Kwon Park and Vladimir Pavlenko.

Council elected Byong-Kwon Park and David Hik.

Council Members congratulated the re-elected and new Vice Presidents and expressed their sincere thanks to the former IASC Vice President Louwrens Hacquebord.

## E6 NEXT MEETING

The next IASC Council Meeting will be held during the ASSW 2009 in Bergen (Norway), 23-28 March 2009.

## E7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Under this agenda item, Council discussed the request of the former IASC Working Group on Glaciology (WAG). It was agreed that WAG should be kept under the IASC umbrella as an IASC Network and also represented in the Scientific Standing Committee on the Cryosphere System (see agenda item 2.5.6 of the Open Session).