



# **IASC Council Meeting**

**ASSW 2011, Seoul (Korea)**

Monday, 28 March 2011 (09.00-13.00)

***draft* Report**



# **IASC Council Meeting**

**ASSW 2011, Seoul (Korea)**

## **Open Session**

**Monday, 28 March 2011**

- 09.00-11.00 Morning Session I (Open Session)**
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee Break**
- 11.30-12.30 Morning Session II (Open Session)**

## Table of Content

<b>1</b>	<b>OPENING AND REPORTING .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	WELCOME AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION .....	1
1.2	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING .....	1
1.4	ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.....	1
1.5	PRESIDENT´S REPORT .....	1
1.6	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY´S REPORT .....	1
<b>2</b>	<b>MAIN ISSUES .....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.....	2
2.2	IASC WORKING GROUPS.....	2
2.3	SECRETARIAT .....	3
2.4	PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.....	3
2.4.1	Letter of Agreement between IASC, IASSA and UArctic.....	3
2.4.2	Renewal of SCAR/IASC Letter of Agreement .....	4
2.4.3	Letter of Agreement between IASC and INCHR .....	4
2.5	NEW IASC MEMBERS .....	4
2.6	NEW IASC ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING .....	5
<b>3</b>	<b>MAJOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	SAON .....	5
3.2	IPY.....	5
3.3	SWIPA.....	5
3.4.	STATE OF THE ARCTIC COASTS 2010 .....	6
3.5	ISAC.....	6
3.6	ICARP III .....	6
3.7	INTERNATIONAL POLAR DECADE.....	7
<b>4</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	ASSW 2012.....	7
4.2	ASSW 2013.....	7
4.3	IASC MEDAL .....	7
4.4	ICSU FUNDED IPY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ASSESSMENT .....	7

## Annex

- ANNEX 2.4.1:** Final text of the IASC, IASSA, UArctic agreement.
- ANNEX 2.4.2:** Final text of the renewed IASC/SCAR agreement.
- ANNEX 2.4.3:** Final text of the IASC/INCHR agreement.
- ANNEX 2.5:** Presentation of India's Arctic research program.
- ANNEX 4.2:** ASSW 2013 Presentation.



# **1 OPENING AND REPORTING (09.00-09.15)**

## **1.1 WELCOME AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

The President opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He thanked the Korean organizers for hosting the ASSW 2011.

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

The Secretariat did not receive any comments on the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved.

## **1.3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted with one addition: agenda item 3.7 International Polar Decade.

## **1.4 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President introduced and welcomed the new IASC Council Members:

- Huigen Yang (China, not present at the meeting, represented by Wu Jun, Deputy Director General of the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration)
- Karin Lochte (Germany)
- Þorsteinn Gunnarsson (Iceland)
- Carlo Barbante (Italy)
- Martin Luethi (Switzerland, not present at the meeting)
- Cynan Ellis-Evans (UK)

and invited guests from Austria, the Czech Republic and India.

He briefly introduced the most important issues to be discussed at the Council meeting.

## **1.5 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Executive Secretary introduced the staff members of the IASC Secretariat, Sara Bowden and Mare Pit, and explained that a report on the Secretariat's activities would be provided under agenda item 2.3.



## 2 MAIN ISSUES (09.15-11.00)

### 2.1 DISCUSSIONS WITH THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The President reported on the ongoing discussions with the Russian Academy of Sciences. He welcomed the Russian IASC Council Member and invited him to provide comments. Vladimir Pavlenko stated that the Russian position had been communicated to IASC and forwarded to IASC Council Members.

Council noted that a meeting with the Russian Academy of Sciences will be held within the next few weeks and appreciated Russia's invitation to arrange this meeting in Moscow. The President asked the Council Members of the eight Arctic countries to meet after the Council meeting in order to discuss possible dates. (Note: After the Council meeting it was agreed that the meeting in Moscow would be held on 19 May 2011.)

### 2.2 IASC WORKING GROUPS

After the last meeting of IASC Council, member countries had been invited to appoint members of the five IASC Working Groups (WG):

- Terrestrial WG;
- Cryosphere WG;
- Marine WG (Arctic Ocean Sciences Board);
- Atmosphere WG;
- Social and Human WG.

To date, 18 out of 19 IASC member countries have appointed members and a kick-off workshop, bringing together all five WGs, was held in Potsdam (Germany) on 11-14 January.

Under this agenda item, the Chairs of the five Working Groups presented brief reports of the WG meetings held during the Potsdam workshop, including the scientific foci and priority activities identified at the workshop.

Council noted the reports and agreed that the WGs are the core elements of IASC and that their activities carry the IASC logo and have IASC's endorsement.



## 2.3 SECRETARIAT

The Executive Secretary provided a status report on the main activities of the IASC Secretariat, including the IASC Working Groups Workshop held in Potsdam, the launch of the new IASC website [www.iasc.info](http://www.iasc.info) and the IASC Bulletin 2011 which was distributed at the meeting.

Council noted the report.

## 2.4 PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Council noted that IASC currently has formal partnership agreements with the following organizations:

- Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS)
- World Climate Research Program (WCRP)
- International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA)
- International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- International Permafrost Association (IPA)
- Pacific Arctic Group (PAG)
- Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)

In the interest of time, only one of the partner organizations was invited to present a short report. Ian Allison, President of IACS, provided a brief overview of the association and reconfirmed IACS's interest to cooperate closely with IASC on topics of mutual scientific interest.

Council noted the report. It was agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a short report on the outcome and functioning of the various formal agreements for the next Council meeting held at ASSW 2012.

### 2.4.1 Letter of Agreement between IASC, IASSA and UArctic

Over the last months, a draft text of a trilateral agreement between IASC, the University of the Arctic (UArctic) and the International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) has been developed. The President introduced this agreement.

Council appreciated the development and approved the agreement between IASC, IASSA and UArctic.

- ***The final text of the IASC, IASSA, UArctic agreement is given in ANNEX 2.4.1.***

## 2.4.2 Renewal of SCAR/IASC Letter of Agreement

The term of the existing agreement between IASC and SCAR ends in 2011 and the two Executive Committees have developed a renewed agreement for another 5-year term.

Council unanimously agreed to renew the agreement between IASC and SCAR.

- ***The final text of the IASC/SCAR agreement is given in ANNEX 2.4.2.***

Under this agenda item, the President and Executive Secretary also briefly reported on the outcome of two joint meetings of the SCAR and IASC Executive Committees and the formation of the renewed joint IASC/SCAR Bipolar Action Group (BipAG II).

Council noted the report.

## 2.4.3 Letter of Agreement between IASC and the International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR)

The President reported that the health research community is very interested in partnering with IASC in the future. Consequently, a draft letter of agreement between IASC and International Network for Circumpolar Health Research (INCHR) had been developed.

Council agreed that this cooperation would be very useful and approved the agreement between IASC and INCHR.

- ***The final text of the IASC-INCHR agreement is given in ANNEX 2.4.3.***

## 2.5 NEW IASC MEMBERS

Council noted that the Executive Secretary is in contact with the Czech Republic, Austria and India in terms of their possible IASC membership. The Czech Republic had presented its Arctic research activities to IASC Council at ASSW 2009 and Austria reported at ASSW 2010.

Under this agenda item, India presented a brief overview of its Arctic research activities to Council.

- ***The presentation of India's Arctic research program is given in ANNEX 2.5.***

Council thanked India for the report and noted that three potential new IASC member countries are about to submit an application for IASC membership.





## 2.6 NEW IASC ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

The President provided a summary of the IASC supported activities that had been approved by the Executive Committee since the last Council meeting at ASSW 2010.

Council noted the report.

## 3 MAJOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES (11.30-12.15)

### 3.1 SUSTAINING ARCTIC OBSERVING NETWORKS (SAON)

The President introduced the final report of the SAON Steering Group in a short presentation. He explained that this report would also be submitted to the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in May 2011 for approval.

Council discussed and approved IASC's future role and involvement in the SAON process as described in the report. It was noted that SAON is a partnership between IASC and the Arctic Council. The President will communicate IASC's view to the Arctic Council.

### 3.2 INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR (IPY)

Under this agenda item, the President and Executive Secretary provided

- an outlook on the IPY 2012 Montreal Conference (Executive Secretary) and
- a status report of the IPY Overview Report (President).

Council noted the reports. (Note: The IPY Overview Report was formally launched on March 29 in the opening ceremony of the ASSW Science Symposium).

### 3.3 SNOW, WATER, ICE AND PERMAFROST IN THE ARCTIC (SWIPA)

The Executive Secretary briefly introduced the final SWIPA report which will be presented at a conference in May 2011, organized by the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP).

Council noted the report and that a SWIPA presentation will be given during the ASSW 2011 Science Symposium.

### **3.4 STATE OF THE ARCTIC COASTS 2010**

The Executive Secretary briefly introduced the final State of the Arctic Coasts 2010 report.

Council noted the report and that a State of the Arctic Coasts 2010 presentation will be given during the ASSW 2011 Science Symposium.

### **3.5 INTERNATIONAL STUDY OF ARCTIC CHANGE (ISAC)**

The President reported that the ISAC Science Plan was presented in January 2011. ISAC was not formally represented at the meeting and, thus, there was no further discussion.

Council took note of the report.

### **3.6 THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ARCTIC RESEARCH PLANNING (ICARP III)**

Under this agenda item, the President introduced a proposal for IASC to organize a Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III), in conjunction with the IASC 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2015. He presented a concept paper prepared by the Executive Committee.

Council discussed the proposal and agreed that the concept should be developed further. The Executive Committee was mandated to continue the planning as described in the concept paper.

### **3.7 INTERNATIONAL POLAR DECADE**

The President introduced an initiative from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to launch an International Polar Decade. He reported that IASC has been invited to a scoping workshop to be held in St. Petersburg mid April 2011 and that he would attend on behalf of IASC and also SAON.

Council briefly discussed the idea of an International Polar Decade and agreed that IASC should be involved in the discussions. It was noted that the IPD could be a mechanism to secure continued polar observations and data sharing after the end of the IPY. However, it was also noted that it would be unlikely to maintain a funding level comparable to that of the IPY observing period.



## 4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (12.15-12.30)

### 4.1 ASSW 2012

Council noted that the ASSW 2012 would be held in conjunction with the IPY 2012 Montreal Conference ([www.ipy2012montreal.ca/index.html](http://www.ipy2012montreal.ca/index.html)). The ASSW business meetings will be held on April 20-21.

### 4.2 ASSW 2013

Under this agenda item, Poland (Jacek Jania) presented an invitation to hold the ASSW 2013, including a Science Symposium, in Krakow (Poland).

- ***The ASSW 2013 presentation is given in ANNEX 4.2.***

Council thanked Poland for the generous offer and accepted the invitation to hold the ASSW 2013 in Krakow (Poland). (Note: To avoid overlap with the European Geosciences Union General Assembly, it was later agreed to hold the ASSW 2013 on 14-20 April).

### 4.3 IASC MEDAL

The Chair of the IASC Medal Committee, Magnus Friberg, introduced this agenda item. He explained that the award ceremony for the 2011 medalist Martin Jakobsson would be held during the Science Symposium.

Council noted that two members of the medal committee stepped down and that the current chair will only continue for one more year. Thus, Council members who are not members of the Executive Committee were encouraged to volunteer.

### 4.4 ICSU FUNDED IPY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ASSESSMENT

Jenny Baeseman, Director of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists, briefly summarized the activities within the ICSU funded IPY Education and Outreach Assessment.

Council thanked Jenny Baeseman for the report and took note of IASC's co-sponsorship of the assessment.



# **IASC Council Meeting**

**ASSW 2011, Seoul (South Korea)**

## **Executive Session**

**Monday, 28 March 2011**

**12.30-13.00 Morning Session III**



## Table of Content

<b>E1</b>	<b>IASC ECONOMY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>E2</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS.....</b>	<b>1</b>

## Annex

<b>ANNEX E1:</b>	IASC General Funds – accounts 2010, proposed budget 2011 and financing plan for the next 5 years (2011-2015).
------------------	---



## E1 IASC ECONOMY

The Executive Secretary presented the accounts for 2010 and the proposed budget for 2011 (IASC General Funds). He mentioned that an auditing of the 2010 accounts took place in January 2011. In addition, he presented a financing plan for the next 5 years (2011-2015).

➤ ***The status of the IASC General Funds is given in ANNEX E1.***

Council scrutinized and approved the accounts for 2010 and the proposed budget for 2011.

Council appreciated that the German contribution to the IASC Secretariat is secured until end of 2013 and that the US National Science Foundation (NSF) has agreed to provide additional support for an IASC sub-secretariat in Washington DC for two years (April 2011-April 2013).

Council noted that options for hosting the Secretariat beyond the current commitment from Germany and the US should be discussed. The German Council Member Karin Lochte mentioned that the issue would be discussed with the German Science Foundation (DFG). It was noted that also the possibility of a dispersed secretariat with contributions from several IASC member countries should be explored.

## E2 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair of the Terrestrial Working Group of IASC brought up some questions regarding the functioning of the Working Groups.

Council had a brief discussion and then decided to postpone a more detailed deliberation to a meeting of the IASC Working Group Chairs held on March 29.