

Report on a meeting of Canadian, Soviet and American
representatives

A meeting of representatives to the IASC Planning Group from USSR, Canada and USA took place in Moscow, June 28 and 29, 1989, pursuant to the recommendation of the Planning Group at its meeting in Helsinki, May 19 and 20, 1989. The purpose of the meeting was to attempt to reach an agreement on the draft Founding Articles of IASC.

The representative of Canada expressed his strong preference for the text agreed to in Leningrad in December 1988. He reiterated the view that the Leningrad text represented an adequate balance between the regional interests of the eight Arctic countries and the principle of scientific openness.

The Soviet delegation fully shared the Canadian position. It was prepared, however, to consider the draft proposal resulting from the Helsinki meeting in the hope of reaching a generally acceptable text of the Founding Articles.

The US representatives noted that the USA preferred to use the Helsinki modifications to the Leningrad text, in particular, as they affect the composition of the Board.

Their respective positions having been stated, the three delegations proceeded to examine the Helsinki draft text with a view to narrowing their differences.

An informal understanding was reached to call the main body of IASC, the Commission. Participation in the Commission would be as provided for in the Helsinki text, section B.