



# **IASC Council Meeting**

**ASSW 2012, Montreal (Canada)**

Palais des Congrès de Montréal

Room Number 513-AB

Friday, 20 April 2012 (09.00-18.00)

***Actions and Decisions***

# **IASC Council Meeting**

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## **Open Session**

**Friday, 20 April 2012**

<b>09.00-10.30</b>	<b>Morning Session I (Open Session)</b>
<b>10.30-11.00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>11.00-12.30</b>	<b>Morning Session II (Open Session)</b>
<b>12.30-14.00</b>	<b>Lunch (provided)</b>
<b>14.00-16.00</b>	<b>Afternoon Session I (Open Session)</b>

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# **1 OPENING AND REPORTING**

## **1.1 WELCOME AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

The President opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. Council Members introduced themselves in a tour de table.

All IASC member countries, except Russia, Denmark/Greenland and Switzerland, were represented at the meeting.

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

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

## **1.3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted.

## **1.4 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

For information.

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

For information.

## 2 IASC GROUPS

### 2.1 WORKING GROUPS

Council noted the status reports given by the five Chairs of the Working Groups.

Working Groups should review where there are disciplinary gaps in their scientific expertise and notify Council of those areas where they would benefit from increased participation. Future nominations from member countries to the Working Groups could potentially help to fill those missing fields of expertise.

### 2.2 NETWORKS

Council approved the Terms of Reference for IASC Networks with one addition: a mechanism to review the Network activities every three years should be added.

***Action: IASC Secretariat***

Council agreed that IASC should continue to encourage and support cross-cutting activities (see agenda item E1 of closed session: IASC Economy).

***Action: IASC Secretariat***

### 2.3 ACTION GROUPS

#### 2.3.1 2<sup>nd</sup> SCAR/IASC Bipolar Action Group (BipAG II)

Council noted the report.

It was suggested that a historian be added to the BipAG II. The Executive Committee will need to consider whether or not to extend BipAG for a third term. These discussions will also include SCAR as a joint decision will be required.

#### 2.3.2 Proposal for an IASC Action Group on Geosciences (AGG)

Council approved the proposal to form an IASC Action Group on Geosciences (AGG) and mandated the Executive Committee to establish the Action Group.

Council members may offer names to the Executive Secretary. The AGG will be established as soon as feasible.

**Action: IASC Executive Committee**

### 2.3.3 Proposal for an IASC Data Policy Group

Council approved the proposal to establish an IASC Data Policy Group.

**Action: IASC Executive Committee**

## 2.4 SECRETARIAT

Council discussed the future of the IASC Secretariat, in particular in terms of the secretarial support for the IASC Working Groups. It was agreed that the model of a dispersed Secretariat with an administrative headquarters and smaller sub-Secretariats in various IASC member countries should be explored.

Council noted the German offer to continue hosting the headquarters of the Secretariat in Potsdam for another five years (2014-2018). It was, however, noted that the level of support would depend on the financial contribution from the German Science Foundation (DFG) which is not confirmed yet.

Council noted that Korea offered support for a full-time person, based at the Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI), to provide secretariat support for the IASC Working Groups.

Council noted that Canada (Canadian Polar Commission), the Netherlands (Arctic Centre) and Sweden (Swedish Polar Research Secretariat) expressed interest in providing additional support for the IASC Secretariat.

It was agreed that the Executive Committee would work with the member countries that offered support towards sustaining the secretarial service for IASC and its Working Groups.

It was agreed that an IASC fellowship program is a good concept and one that should be discussed further by Council, but not to provide secretariat support, only as a training and fellowship program for ECS.

**Action: IASC Executive Committee**

### 3 IASC PARTNERSHIPS

#### 3.1 ARCTIC COUNCIL

For information.

##### 3.1.1 Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)

For information.

##### 3.1.2 Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic (AACA)

Council noted the report and decided that IASC Working Groups should be asked to position themselves in terms of possible contributions to AACA.

***Action: IASC Secretariat***

##### 3.1.3 Arctic Resilience Report (ARR)

For information.

#### 3.2 INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE (ICSU)

For information.

#### 3.3 SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH (SCAR)

For information.

#### 3.4 PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Council noted the report and agreed that options for a closer cooperation with the European Polar Board (EPB) should be explored. Council members suggested adding ScanNet, INTERACT and IODP to the list of partner organizations.

***Action: IASC Secretariat***

### **3.5 NEW POTENTIAL LONG-TERM POLAR COOPERATIVE ACTIVITY (STEMMING FROM THE INITIAL PROPOSAL TO ORGANIZE AN INTERNATIONAL POLAR DECADE)**

Council noted that the initiative should not only include research, but also service, education and outreach, policy advice etc. Other major ongoing initiatives, such as AACA (agenda item 3.1.2) and ICARP III (agenda item 4.3) should be considered in the planning process.

*Action: Hik and Rachold*

## **4 MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **4.1 ARCTIC SCIENCE SUMMIT WEEK 2013**

Council noted the report.

### **4.2 ARCTIC SCIENCE SUMMIT WEEK 2014**

Council thanked Finland for the offer and agreed that the ASSW 2014, possibly including an Arctic Observing Summit, would be held in Finland.

*Action: Laine and IASC Secretariat*

### **4.3 IASC AFTER 25 YEARS - ARCTIC SCIENCE SUMMIT WEEK 2015, INCORPORATING THE 3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ARCTIC RESEARCH PLANNING (ICARP III)**

Council approved the concept paper, agreed to form a small Steering Group to plan ICARP III and agreed that ICARP III should involve the IASC Working Groups and focus on cross-cutting initiatives, rather than producing another assessment or set of science plans.

*Action: IASC Executive Committee*

Council thanked Japan for the offer to host the event and agreed that the IASC 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, including the ASSW 2015 and ICARP III would be held in Tokyo.

*Action: Ohata and IASC Secretariat*



## 5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Council noted Karin Lochte's announcement that the "ECRA pilot workshop: Arctic Climate Stability and Change – a research theme of European dimension" would be held in Brussels on 14-15 May 2012.

# **IASC Council Meeting**

**ASSW 2012, Montreal (Canada)**

## **Executive Session**

**Friday, 20 April 2012**

**16.30-18.00 Afternoon Session II (Closed Session)**

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## E1 IASC ECONOMY

Council approved the IASC 2011 accounts and 2012 budget (General Funds and IASC Working Groups) and asked the Secretariat to add the financial support for the IASC Secretariat provided by the Alfred Wegener Institute, the German Science Foundation and the US National Science Foundation.

**Action: Rachold**

## E2 ELECTIONS

Council elected the Chinese Council Member Huigeng Yang as new IASC Vice-President and member of the IASC Executive Committee.

Council requested that guidelines for elections be updated and approved prior to the next election.

**Action: IASC Secretariat**

## E3 NEW IASC MEMBER COUNTRIES

Council approved the membership applications received from India and the Czech Republic and welcomed the two new IASC member countries.

**Action: IASC Secretariat**

## E4 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Council noted that Russia is a full member of IASC though the member organization (Russian Academy of Sciences) has not formally appointed members of the IASC Working Groups yet.