

International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
2019 Activities' Report
Carlo Barbante

Most of the activities carried out in 2019 were centered around the ASSW (Arctic Science Summit Week) that was successfully held in May, 2019 in *Arkhangelsk, Russia*. The IASC Council meeting was held on May 23rd 2019

The ASSW was the largest annual Arctic Science Meeting in the world, and this was the first time it was held in Japan. During the first 4 days, committee meetings of IASC and other Arctic organizations were held to discuss ongoing and new research projects, as well as the role of Arctic science in society, science priorities for the coming decade and new strategies to promote international cooperation. During the final 4 days, joint sessions were held. During the about 35 scientific sessions, there were many presentations and much discussion about Arctic natural science as well as human and social science. The next ASSW will be held in Iceland in 2020.

The decision of the Council meeting are available in the attached file[Minute Open Meeting.pdf]

During the ASSW there was a report of the five IASC Working Groups. Each WG leader presented a brief status reports of the WG activities in 2019 and an outlook on their future plans. Further information can be found at <https://iasc.info/working-groups>.

The main function of the WGs is to encourage and support science-led international programs by offering opportunities for planning and coordination, and by facilitating communication and access to facilities. Each WG is composed of up to two scientists from each IASC member country, appointed by the national adhering bodies.

The Italian representatives in the WGs are now actively participating to the workshops. We think that it was a great idea to nominate Italian researchers within these groups. We do not have yet a national representative within the **Social and Human WG**. We will carefully think about this possibility in the future.

The Executive Secretary of IASC provided a status report on the main activities of the IASC Secretariat, including an overview of outreach and communication activities, such as the IASC Bulletin 2019.

Some recommendations for a better participation of the Italian scientists

1. The fees paid by CNR to participate to IASC is fully justified, in the light of the increasing role that our country exert in polar research. We recommend that CNR International Office will continue to support this initiative, now that we have started to establish a solid network within four of the five Working Groups
2. The Italian National Community has to promote in the future a national representative within the Social and Human WG. These themes are more and more important in the Arctic research especially considering the role of our Country as an Observer member in the Arctic Council.

3. One of the greatest benefits in participating to the IASC activities is that of encouraging and facilitating cooperation between Italian and international researchers in all aspects of Arctic research and in all areas of the Arctic region.
4. The newly established Institute of Polar Sciences of the CNR should become the contact point for most of the International activities in the Arctic.
5. It is extremely important to encourage the participation of Italian Scientists to the governing bodies of IASC and of the Working Groups and in particular in key positions such as those of vice-Chair and Chair. I think that in a few years we will be in a position to propose someone
6. Improve the exchange of information between the *Tavolo Artico, Gruppo di Lavoro Artico* within the CNR and the IASC community
7. Improve the presence within the IASC activities of the national researchers involved in social sciences.
8. Candidate Italy to host one of the ASSW in the future
9. If you need to have access to the documentation please feel free to contact me.

The Minute of the open Meeting of the Council is attached to this report. Other documents stored in the protected area of the IASC website, are available on request.

Carlo Barbante carlo.barbante@cnr.it
Italian National representative @ IASC

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