

**Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)
between the WCRP Climate and Cryosphere Project,
the International Arctic Science Committee,
and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research**

1 The Parties

The Parties to this MoA are the WCRP Climate and Cryosphere Project (CliC), the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR).

1.1 WCRP Climate and Cryosphere Project

The World Climate Research Programme's (WCRP) Climate and Cryosphere project (CliC) encourages and promotes research into the cryosphere and its interactions as part of the global climate system. It also encourages communication between researchers with common interests in cryospheric and climate science, promotes international co-operation, and highlights the importance of this field of science to policy makers, funding agencies, and the general public. CliC promotes and publishes significant findings regarding the role of the cryosphere in climate, and recommends directions for future study. It is governed by a Scientific Steering Group, and day-to-day operations are carried out by the CliC International Project Office (CIPO) headed by the Director, in cooperation with the WCRP Joint Planning Staff.

1.2 International Arctic Science Committee

The International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) is an International Scientific Associate of the International Council for Science (ICSU). It was established in 1990. The IASC's mission is to initiate, develop, and coordinate leading edge scientific activity in the Arctic region and on the role of the Arctic region in the Earth system. It also provides objective and independent scientific advice to the Arctic Council and other organizations on issues of science affecting the management of the Arctic region. The decision-making bodies of IASC are the Council and the Executive Committee. The day-to-day operations of IASC are supported by its Secretariat headed by the Executive Secretary. IASC's geographical remit covers the Arctic Ocean and the surrounding landmasses.

1.3 Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is an Interdisciplinary Body of ICSU. It was established in 1958 to continue the international coordination of Antarctic scientific activities that had begun during the ICSU-led International Geophysical Year of 1957 - 58. Its mission is to initiate, develop, and coordinate high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system. In addition it provides objective and independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica. The decision-making bodies of SCAR are the Meeting of Delegates and the Executive Committee. The day-to-day operations of SCAR are supported by its Secretariat headed by the Executive Director. SCAR's remit covers Antarctica and the surrounding Southern Ocean including the Antarctic Circumpolar Current south of the Sub-Antarctic Front.

2 Rationale for the MoA

The Parties share common goals of working internationally and across disciplines to increase our understanding of the cryospheric elements of the Earth's climate system and their interconnections. IASC, SCAR and CliC have a long history of successful collaboration through a number of activities and initiatives involving ice sheet mass balance, sea ice, permafrost, and polar oceanography. This strong collaborative relationship has resulted in many workshops, publications, and tangible progress toward improved understanding of the Polar Regions. A WCRP/IASC/SCAR MoU was signed in 2008 to reflect this collaboration. It expires in July 2013. The current Agreement serves to reflect the evolution of the partnership between the three organisations and to encourage further fruitful and strategic collaborations in the future. It supersedes, with immediate effect, the above mentioned WCRP/IASC/SCAR MoU of 2008.

3 Terms of the Agreement

This MoA identifies a joint commitment to excellence in the field of cryospheric research, to the pursuit of scientific advances and advice to policy makers, as well as improved public awareness and support of early career researchers and countries with less well developed science programmes. CliC, IASC, and SCAR intend to combine relevant efforts as efficiently and effectively as possible so as to raise the level of impact of all three organizations. To facilitate the process, CliC, IASC and SCAR agree:

- i. to invite each other to attend the meetings of their decision-making bodies (CliC Scientific Steering Group Meetings, IASC Council Meetings, and SCAR Delegates' Meeting);
- ii. to encourage representation of each organization in their relevant working committees/groups, as required;
- iii. to encourage appropriate linkages between the relevant CliC, IASC and SCAR science projects and to develop joint projects and approaches in areas of common interest;
- iv. to work together in arranging workshops, conferences, and reports on topics of common scientific interest;
- v. to exchange ideas on best practices in data and information management; and to foster involvement of the parties in their respective data management committees, based on opportunities for greater progress;
- vi. to foster and promote integration of cryospheric observing systems promoted by each organization (e.g. SCAR-led Southern Ocean Observing System and IASC-led Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks);
- vii. to exchange updates and publications, and to promote each other's newsletters, publications and web sites on their own web sites;
- viii. to develop a coordinated approach to communicating the relevance of the cryosphere, climate, and the Polar Regions to society with the wider community; and
- ix. to coordinate and sponsor meaningful involvement of early career researchers, especially those from under represented countries, in ongoing activities, strategy, planning, and other opportunities.

4 Financial Implications of the Agreement

Parties to this Agreement will be responsible for the costs of their own activities, but this does not preclude pooling resources or funds for activities of common interest. Actual financial contributions to the activities and other implications of this MoA will be considered and agreed to by representatives of the Parties as corresponding needs arise. Such arrangements may be changed in accordance with evolving requirements of the Parties without any effect on the substance of this Agreement.

5 Non-binding Implications of the Agreement

This agreement is between CliC, IASC, and SCAR. It does not preclude the Parties from establishing other Agreement(s) with other programs and organizations, or bilaterally between the Parties.

6 Duration, Revision and Termination of this MoA

This MoA remains in force for 5 years, at which time it will be reviewed for possible extension. The MoA may be revised at any time by mutual agreement between the Parties. Parties wishing to withdraw from this Agreement should do so by a formal letter signed by the President/Chair and Chief Executive Officer (i.e. Director, Executive Secretary, or Executive Director) at least three months in advance of the withdrawal from the MoA.

Signed 16 April 2013



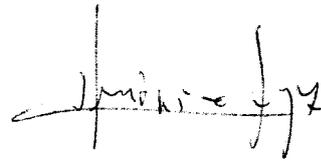
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