

Mandate for representatives to Standing Scientific Groups and Standing Committees under the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)

1. Background

The overall objective of the Research Council of Norway's *Policy for Norwegian polar research 2010-2013*, is that *Norway will be the leading nation in certain fields of polar research and Norwegian polar research will provide important input to research of global interest.*

To be successful, polar research must be based on international cooperation. Norway therefore plays an active part in a range of international organisations associated with polar research. In keeping with this, Norway has given priority to taking active part in the following bodies:

- International Arctic Science Committee (IASC);
- Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR);
- European Polar Board (EPB).

Norwegian participation in these bodies is intended to promote Norwegian polar research and link it to the international research agenda. It is therefore essential that Norway's views on polar research are adequately and correctly presented to international committees and that the discussions taking place in these fora are communicated back to the Norwegian polar research community.

This mandate concerns the Research Council's appointment of Norwegian representatives to the Standing Scientific Groups and Standing Committees within the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR). SCAR is a committee under the International Council for Science (ICSU), and is responsible for initiating, promoting and coordinating scientific research in the Antarctic. SCAR also provides scientific input in connection with, among other things, the Antarctic Treaty.

2. Role

Lars Robert Hole of the Norwegian Meteorological Institute (Met.no) has been appointed to serve as Norway's representative to SCAR Standing Scientific Group - Physical Science for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Kenichi Matsuoka of the Norwegian Polar Institute (NP) has been appointed to serve as Norway's deputy representative to SCAR Standing Scientific Group - Physical Science for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Kit Kovacs of the Norwegian Polar Institute (NP) has been appointed to serve as Norway's representative to SCAR Standing Scientific Group - Life Science for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Olav Rune Godø of the Institute of Marine Research (IMR) and Katrine Borgå of the Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA) have been appointed to serve as Norway's deputy representatives to SCAR Standing Scientific Group - Life Science for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Joachim Jacobs of the University of Bergen (UiB) has been appointed to serve as Norway's representative to SCAR Standing Scientific Group - Geoscience for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Synnøve Elvevold of the Norwegian Polar Institute (NP) has been appointed to serve as Norway's deputy representative to SCAR Standing Scientific Group - Geoscience for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Stein Tronstad of the Norwegian Polar Institute (NP) has been reappointed to serve as Norway's representative on SCAR Standing Committee on Data Management (SC-ADM) for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

Yngve Melvær of the Norwegian Polar Institute (NP) has been reappointed to serve as Norway's representative on SCAR Standing Committee on Geographic Information (SC-AGI) for the period from 16 May 2012 to 31 March 2015.

3. Tasks

The representatives shall:

- a) Prepare for and take an active part in the meetings of their respective groups/committees.
- b) Participate in pre-meetings held prior to the joint meetings in SCAR. The Norwegian delegate to SCAR is responsible for sending out notices of meetings.
- c) Establish an informal, professional national network within the relevant group's/committee's area of responsibility in order to circulate information to interested parties in Norway, and to obtain input as needed.
- d) Maintain regular contact with the Norwegian National Committee on Polar Research (the National Polar Committee):
 - Participate in annual meetings with the National Polar Committee upon invitation;
 - Prior to SCAR committee meetings: Provide updates on meeting dates and issues of potential interest to the National Polar Committee, via its secretary;
 - Following SCAR meetings: Submit a summary report to the secretary of the National Polar Committee on issues of relevance that were discussed and decisions taken (see designated template for reports from committee and Standing Scientific Group meetings). The report will be made available on the Polar Research Programme's website.