PRESIDENT: Professor Peter Burkill
SECRETARY: Dr. Corina Brussaard
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Dr. Edward R. Urban Jr.

Secretariat: College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment
Robinson Hall
University of Delaware
Newark, DE 19716 USA

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To: National Committees for SCOR, Nominated Members of SCOR, SCOR Executive Committee, Chairs of SCOR Subsidiary Bodies, Affiliated Organizations, Corresponding Organizations, Interested International Organizations

From: Ed Urban, Executive Director

2015 SCOR ANNUAL MEETING

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF WORKING GROUP PROPOSALS

Ten working group proposals that have been submitted to the SCOR Secretariat for consideration at the 2015 SCOR Executive Committee Meeting are available on the SCOR Web site at http://scor-int.org/SCOR_EC_2015.html. The Executive Committee will be very grateful for comments from SCOR National Committees, individuals, and interested organizations to assist in the review of these proposals. This is, in fact, one of the most important ways in which SCOR's National Committees and cooperating organizations can provide input to SCOR on scientific priorities. Instructions for the review are given on the following pages.

Additional membership nominations are welcome from SCOR National Committees. This is an opportunity to involve scientists from countries participating in SCOR in our working group activities. Due to financial limitations, however, working groups may not have more than 10 Full Members (including the chair(s)), so not everyone who is nominated can be selected as a Full Member. Some individuals may be invited to serve on working groups as Associate Members, but their travel funds must come from sources other than SCOR. The primary consideration for selection as a member of a SCOR working group is the scientific expertise of the individual. Another important criterion is SCOR's aim to ensure an appropriate international balance in all of its groups.

Please send your comments on these proposals to me, by e-mail if possible, before **15 October**, so that I can forward them to the appropriate Executive Committee member responsible for leading the discussion of each proposal. Finally, please consider whether financial support might be arranged from your country or organization for any of these groups. SCOR funding for working group activities is limited, so we depend on external funding to increase the number of working groups and the variety of topics covered. Even if external funding is certain, proposals will be evaluated on the basis of scientific merit, relevance to SCOR, and appropriateness of the proposed terms of reference and membership. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Instructions for Reviewing SCOR Working Group Proposals

Please answer the following questions as you review the proposals for new SCOR working groups:

- Is the proposal timely?
- Is the topic a priority for ocean science and for SCOR?
- Is a SCOR Working Group a good mechanism to advance this topic?
- Are the terms of reference appropriate?
- Are the membership suggestions appropriate? (Please note that individuals listed as potential members may not have been contacted yet and that membership is not final until approval by the SCOR Executive Committee.)
- Do you have any other comments to improve the proposal?
- How would you rank the priority of SCOR funding for these proposals? In recent years, discussions of proposals at SCOR annual meetings have focused on categorizing proposals as those that should be or might be funded versus those that should not be funded. Each reviewer (national committee, organization, or individual) should recommend no more than two proposals in the "must fund" category. Proposals in this category should be those that substantially meet the above criteria, although may need minor adjustments to their terms of reference and/or membership.

The SCOR meeting will provide an opportunity for national SCOR committee representatives and other meeting participants to provide comments on each proposal. In the first phase of discussions, a short list of proposals in the "must fund" category will be created. The short list will include proposals that are ranked as "must fund" by more than half of the national SCOR committees represented at the meeting. A second round of discussions will reduce this short list to two or three proposals that SCOR will fund beginning in 2015. (The ad hoc SCOR Finance Committee appointed for the meeting will advise the meeting how many new groups can be funded.) The first and second round of discussions, in addition to identifying up to three proposals to fund, will provide comments that will be summarized and provided to proponents whose proposals were not approved in case that they wish to re-submit their proposal in a later year.

Comments from [country name] SCOR Committee

[Name of proposal]

Timeliness	
High priority for ocean science and for SCOR?	
Is a SCOR Working Group a good mechanism here?	
Are the terms of reference appropriate?	
Are the membership suggestions appropriate?	
Any other comments or suggestions for improvement of proposal	
Rating: *must fund, may fund, do not fund*	