

**COMNAP Annual General Meeting (AGM) XXX (2018)**  
11–13 June 2018, Garmisch-Partenkirchen  
Final Report



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## Executive Summary

The COMNAP AGM XXX was held in the Congress Centre, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, from 11–13 June 2018 and was hosted by Germany's national Antarctic program, the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research. The COMNAP AGM was attended by representatives from 29 (of 30) COMNAP Member organisations. Apologies were accepted from the Ecuador National Antarctic Program. Observers from the national Antarctic programs of Canada, Malaysia, Portugal, Switzerland and Turkey also attended. The Observer program from Venezuela sent apologies.. Other invited Expert Observers from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP), the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO), the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) project and the Year of Polar Prediction (YOPP) project were also in attendance for various portions of the meeting. It was one of the largest COMNAP gatherings held, with a total of over 200 participants in the AGM, with the exhibitors, and with participants in the range of side meetings.

Members engaged in lively discussions and exchanged pre-season information for Antarctic research season 2018–2019. The COMNAP Safety Expert Group held a workgroup discussion on the topic of harassment in the Antarctic, there was a telemedicine update including a live-link to the winter-over doctor currently deployed to Germany's Neumayer Station, and a session which focused on facilitation of science, particularly in the context of marine platforms. Many national Antarctic programs shared information on their research vessel capabilities including many new builds in the process or just completed. The new COMNAP Asset Tracking System (CATS) continues to evolve and to expand to include aircraft as well as vessel movements. The tool was recognised by the AGM as an important science support system which is designed to optimise asset movements in order to support international science coordination and in cases where an emergency situation may arise. COMNAP continues significant work on environmental topics. This year the focus was on understanding plastic sources and how to reduce impacts from plastic in the Antarctic terrestrial and marine environments. National Antarctic programs recognise that further research is needed and should be encouraged in and around Antarctica to further our understanding of the impacts of plastic pollution. The Environment Expert Group also looked at cumulative impacts, reducing risk of introduction of non-native species and further reduction of fossil fuel use in Antarctic operations. Promotion of energy efficiency practices and technologies at research stations was a key message to all COMNAP members.

COMNAP continues to focus on a range of issues related to safety of human life. Announcing its intention to convene Search And Rescue (SAR) Workshop IV in New Zealand in May 2019 and also continuing to gather data related to air activity in the Antarctic, including the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) used in support of science, operations and logistics to inform discussions planned for the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) XLII in 2019.

Dr Kelly K Falkner, Director of the Office of Polar Programs of the US National Science Foundation, continues in her three-year term as COMNAP Chair. Rob Wooding (AAD/Australia) completed his four-year term as Vice Chair and Peter Beggs (Antarctica New Zealand) was elected to the Vice Chair position for a three year term (to AGM 2021). Peter joins, COMNAP Vice Chairs: Javed Beg (NCAOR/India), John Guldahl (NPI/Norway), Agnieszka Kruszewska (IBB PAS/Poland) and Uwe Nixdorf (AWI/Germany) who all continue in their terms. Michelle Rogan-Finnemore (Executive Secretary) continues in her appointed role and completes the seven-member COMNAP Executive Committee.

COMNAP celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a range of events and announced that Professor Kazuyuki Shiraishi, Immediate Past COMNAP Chair, was honoured with confirmation that a geographic place name in the Antarctic had been confirmed in recognition of his three decades of work in the Antarctic. The place is Shiraishi Peak, a partially ice free peak at 1640m, on a prominent ridge in the Meteorite Hills, south Victoria Land, Antarctica.

The next AGM will be held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, from 29 July–31 July 2019 and will be hosted by the Bulgarian Antarctic Institute.

## ACTIONS ARISING

<b>All</b>	
All national Antarctic programs with air-related facilities in Antarctica to confirm information in the electronic AFIM.	By 1 August each year
Refer to the COMNAP ATOM on a regular basis to ensure it is up-to-date with your national Antarctic program information and to respond to requests from the COMNAP Secretariat for updates to information.	Ongoing
Refer to the COMNAP Year Planner (Appendix 3) on a regular basis.	Ongoing
All national Antarctic programs that operate vessels and aircraft are asked to switch to the CATS. National Antarctic programs with assets are encouraged to contact Robb Clifton at AAD to get set-up for the CATS.	ASAP
If not shared in the regional Break-out Group sessions, all national Antarctic programs are encouraged to send their advance season information, including SAR points of contact, to the COMNAP Executive Secretary as soon as possible for sharing/exchange of information-including use of the Regional information exchange template.	ASAP (each season)
All national Antarctic programs that operate vessels in the Antarctic Treaty area are encouraged to collect bathymetric data and continue to provide that data through government channels, as appropriate, to the Hydrographic Commission for Antarctica (HCA) and participate in the Hydrography Seminar planned on the margins of ATCM XLII (2019), Prague, Czech Republic.	As required
All national Antarctic programs are encouraged to refer to Antarctic Roadmap Challenges (ARC) project outcomes through-out the year and to report back as to what actions they took in relation to those outcomes.	Carried over from 2016; as required
<b>EXCOM</b>	
Consider the invitations from CCAMLR and IAATO to send a COMNAP Observer to their meetings.	EXCOM Meeting
Consider and agree what papers COMNAP will produce for ATCM and for CEP.	EXCOM Meeting
Update the COMNAP Workplan to reflect AGM proposals.	EXCOM Meeting
Prepare the AGM XXXI (2019) Agenda and schedule, including any workshops.	EXCOM Meeting
Finalise COMNAP Budget 2018/2019 accordingly. Consider the financial implications of the long-term maintenance of the database in particular.	EXCOM Meeting
<b>Executive Secretary</b>	
Place the COMNAP AGM XXIX (2017) Final Report on the COMNAP website as the full and final record of that meeting.	ASAP
Update the COMNAP website to reflect changes to EXCOM, COMNAP Projects and any other changes required.	ASAP
Update the COMNAP 5-year Plan to reflect AGM discussions, place on COMNAP website.	As required
Circulate an informal survey to all MNAPs.	Early August 2018
Work with all national Antarctic programs in order to review, update and publish an up-to-date e-AFIM for the upcoming Antarctic season.	By end of September 2018.
Lead the participation in the ATCM and CEP ICGs.	As required
Lead the drafting of COMNAP Working Papers and Information Papers to the ATCM and CEP	As required

Update leadership roles and EXCOM Oversight roles for all Expert Groups in discussion with those groups.	ASAP
Complete, for independent review, the Financial Statement End of Year Accounts 2017/2018.	After 30 June
Work with colleagues from the BAI in the planning for COMNAP AGM XXXI to be held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.	As required
<b>Others</b>	
All Expert Group Leaders to review their Groups' Terms of Reference in consultation with EXCOM	Ongoing
All national Antarctic programs to work with KOPRI through COMNAP survey to produce an Information Paper for ATCM XLII (2019) and CEP XXII (2019) in regards to non-native fly species in sewage treatment facilities.	
Robb Clifton to continue development of the new COMNAP CATS for the upcoming season and to work with those that request assistance to get their assets information into the system.	As required
Peninsula Regional Break-out Group to prepare a proposed agenda for a taskforce meeting in September 2018. EXCOM to consider financial request to support that meeting.	ASAP
Paul Sheppard in his capacity as Air Expert Group Leader to lead the update of the RPA Handbook	Ongoing
Paul Sheppard in his capacity as Air Expert Group Leader and the Executive Secretary to lead the work in regards to a survey of national Antarctic programs and this air activity to inform the COMNAP paper to the ATCM XLII (2019).	Ongoing

## Acronyms

COMNAP	The Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs
MNAP	Manager of National Antarctic Program
NAP	National Antarctic Program
AEON	Antarctic Environmental Officers Network ( <i>former</i> )
AFIM	Antarctic Flight Information Manual
AFOPS	Asian Forum for Polar Sciences
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AINMRS	Accident, Incident and Near-Miss Reporting System
ATCM	Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting
ATME	Antarctic Treaty Meeting of Experts
ATOM	Antarctic Telecommunication Operators Manual
ATS	Antarctic Treaty System
CATS	COMNAP Asset Tracking System
CCAMLR	Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CEE	Comprehensive Environmental Evaluation
CEP	[Antarctic Treaty's] Committee for Environmental Protection
EIES	[Antarctic Treaty's] Electronic Information Exchange System
EXCOM	COMNAP Executive Committee
HCA	[IHO's] Hydrographic Committee on Antarctica
IAATO	International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICG	Intersessional Contact Group
IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IPY/IGY	International Polar Year/International Geophysical Year
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
MRCC	Marine Rescue Coordination Centre
NNS	Non-Native Species
OSC	Open Science Conference
RAPAL	Reunión de Administradores de Programas Antárticos Latinoamericanos
RPAS	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System
SAR	Search and Rescue
SCAR	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
SOOS	Southern Ocean Observing System
SPRS	Ship Position Reporting System
YOPP	Year Of Polar Prediction



*Delegates to the COMNAP AGM XXX (2018). On left, at the Zugspitze, Sunday 10 July 2018. On right, at the AGM venue, Congress Center, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, 12 June 2018. Photos: Esther Horvath/AWI.*

# **Annual General Meeting (AGM) - COMNAP XXX Final Report (Draft)**

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*COMNAP XXX – Day 1, Monday 11 June 2018*

## **1. Opening, apologies, introductions and administrative arrangements**

### **1.1 Opening**

COMNAP Chair, Dr Kelly Falkner, Director US Antarctic Program (USA), opened the AGM on Monday 11 June 2018 and welcomed delegates to Garmisch-Partenkirchen. She introduced the COMNAP Executive Secretary, Michelle Rogan-Finnemore.

She thanked the host of COMNAP AGM XXX, Uwe Nixdorf, Deputy Director of the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), and also Eberhard Kohlberg, the Head of the Local Organising Committee and his team for their excellent preparations for the meeting.

Uwe Nixdorf in reply, welcomed all to the city of Garmisch-Partenkirchen, and noted that he was delighted to host the COMNAP AGM. He wished everyone a successful and productive meeting.

### **1.2 Apologies**

The Chair noted that there were apologies received and accepted from the Ecuador national Antarctic program and from the COMNAP Observer national Antarctic program of Venezuela, both programs were unable to send representatives to the AGM.

Also, personal apologies were received and accepted from Javed Beg (India), and Fernanda Millicay (Argentina) and Patricia Ortúzar (Argentina).

The Chair asked if there were other apologies to note and there were none.

### **1.3 Introductions**

The Chair referred the AGM to Meeting Paper 1.3 (Appendix 1) which was the list of AGM registrants and welcomed all delegates from the 30-Member strong national Antarctic programs. She also welcomed representatives from the three COMNAP Observer programs of Portugal (accepted as a COMNAP Observer program in 2015) and Canada (accepted as Observer program in 2016) and Malaysia (accepted as Observer program in June 2018). She noted that two new Observer programs also joined us for their first COMNAP AGM, that of Turkey and Switzerland. She also extended a warm welcome to many new MNAPs around the AGM plenary table.

International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO), the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP), the Year of Polar Prediction (YOPP) project and the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) project were all extended an invitation to send representative experts to this meeting and they would be in attendance at various sessions of the AGM. Other invited experts would provide keynote presentations on plastics and on energy efficiencies at Antarctic stations.

The Chair acknowledged those working in Antarctica and wished them a successful and safe completion to their Antarctic working season. A minute silence was observed in respect for those who died in Antarctica over the past year.

#### **1.4 Administrative arrangements**

The Executive Secretary, Michelle Rogan-Finnemore, welcomed delegates and outlined administrative arrangements for the AGM. She referred to Meeting Paper 1.1 (see Appendix 2) which was the proposed agenda and schedule, and also to Meeting Paper 1.2, the annotated agenda and list of Meeting Papers (MPs) for COMNAP AGM XXX. She asked if anyone wished to add any item to the agenda. There being no requests to do so, the agenda in Meeting Paper 1.1 was adopted.

Michelle introduced Andrea Colombo, assistant to the Executive Secretary for the AGM. The Head of the AGM Local Organising Committee, Eberhard Kohlberg, made announcements.

### **2. Adoption of COMNAP AGM XXIX Final Report**

The draft Final Report of COMNAP XXIX (31 July–2 August 2017, Brno, Czech Republic), had been circulated as Meeting Paper 2.1. The draft Final Report had been distributed in September 2017 and also made available on the COMNAP website. Changes or corrections requested since that time were not substantive and had been incorporated. The Executive Secretary proposed that the AGM move to accept the report as a final and full record of COMNAP XXIX. The AGM agreed. The Final Report is therefore adopted and will be placed on the COMNAP website as the full and final report of that meeting.

The Executive Secretary then referred the AGM to Meeting Paper 2.2 which was an update of actions arising from COMNAP AGM XXIX. She noted that the majority of the actions had been completed or were, by their nature, on-going. She asked for any comments in regards to any of the action items. There were none.

### **3. COMNAP Chair's Report**

The Chair introduced Meeting Paper 3.1 and referred to the COMNAP Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting in Christchurch, New Zealand, in November 2017, which was held at the COMNAP Secretariat. She also referred to Meeting Paper 3.2 which was the report of the joint COMNAP/SCAR EXCOM Meeting which was held in July 2017, in Brno, Czech Republic. She noted the joint EXCOM Meeting 2018 would be held in Davos, Switzerland on 19 June 2018.

The Chair reported that the COMNAP EXCOM Meeting had been very productive and focused on three things:

- Item 1: COMNAP as an organisation. Kelly indicated that EXCOM felt that COMNAP was a productive and effective organisation. She noted thanks to Michelle for her leadership and to Andrea for his dedicated work in the Secretariat. She noted that as an organisation we should always strive to deliver more in support of our Membership and she expressed EXCOM's wish to informally request from all 30 COMNAP MNAPs their views on:

- What we are doing well; and
  - What we can improve on/change for the better. Such an informal survey of MNAPs will take place soon and will inform the EXCOM Meeting scheduled for end of August 2018.
- Item 2: The COMNAP Expert Groups. The EXCOM Meeting looked carefully at the Terms of Reference of each of the current Expert Groups, noting some of these groups are very active and others are not active at all. It was agreed that there should be a review of the Terms of Reference for each Expert Group, in consultation with each Expert Group Leader and active members of each group. She referred to Meeting Paper 5.3 noting thanks to Expert Group Leader Miguel Ojeda (Spain) who had already provided EXCOM with feedback in relation to the Marine Platforms (formerly the Shipping Expert Group) new Terms of Reference. Further discussion of the review will take place under agenda item 5.
  - Item 3: The EXCOM takes very seriously the opportunity for all COMNAP Members and Observers to meet annually at the AGMs. The EXCOM therefore considered the AGM schedule and focus for plenary and break-out group sessions. She noted that we needed to ensure we used our time together wisely and that there was often differing requests for topics for parallel sessions and workshops. While some topics, such as safety, were critical to discuss every year, other topics could follow the workplan or could be included if timely and important for the majority of Members.

The Chair completed her report and then opened the floor for questions and comments.

Peter Beggs (New Zealand) asked for clarification on the status of the informal survey/MNAP consultations. The Chair clarified that her report represented the intention to begin this informal survey in the very near future in order to inform EXCOM for their August 2018 Meeting.

There were no further comments or questions.

The Executive Secretary noted that, while not a formal part of the COMNAP AGM agenda, in recognition of COMNAP's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, she wished to advise the AGM that on 24 May 2018, Immediate Past COMNAP Chair and Immediate Past Director-General of Japan's National Institute of Polar Research, Professor Kazuyuki Shiraishi, had been honoured with the naming of "Shiraishi Peak", Antarctica. Stating it was "A partially ice free peak at 1640m, on a prominent ridge in the Meteorite Hills, South Victoria Land, Antarctica. Feature depicted on topographic map NZ AntTopo50-MM03."

The AGM responded with applause.

The Executive Secretary closed Agenda Item 3.

#### **4. COMNAP Executive Secretary's Report**

The Executive Secretary referred to Meeting Paper 4.1 which is essentially what was presented to ATCM XLI as COMNAP Information Paper (IP) 11 *The COMNAP Annual Report for 2017/2018*, with an additional section entitled "preface" which focused on the key activities of the Executive Secretary, EXCOM and the Secretariat. The Executive Secretary was of the view

that COMNAP was a strong, Member-led, organisation which should be proud to be celebrating 30 years of association, and she also noted that the publication of the *COMNAP Antarctic Station Catalogue* was a significant achievement which was well-received by the ATCM XLI as a "...useful and well-developed tool that had increased efficiency." She thanked all national Antarctic programs for their contributions of data and images for the database which informs the catalogue and other COMNAP products and for their continuing support.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and discussions.

Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) congratulated the Executive Secretary on the *COMNAP Antarctic Station Catalogue*, confirming that the ATCM had received the publication with great enthusiasm. He also thanked her for her work in preparation of each ATCM and CEP Meeting, noting, in particular, the usefulness of the summary of all submitted Working Papers and Information Papers that Michelle produces for all MNAPs in preparation for the annual meetings, and for her efforts in leading the drafting of COMNAP papers which ensures that COMNAP provides sound advice of a practical, technical and non-political nature into the governance meetings.

There being no further requests for the floor, the Chair closed the agenda item and she thanked the Executive Secretary for her report.

## **5. Administrative & Policy Matters**

### ***Election of one COMNAP Vice Chair***

The Executive Secretary referred to Meeting Paper 5.1 which was the list of all current MNAPs and DMNAPs for the purposes of COMNAP. She asked for all delegations to immediately review the list and bring any corrections or updates to her attention. The list is shared on the COMNAP Member's Only webpage and as part of the COMNAP Antarctic Telecommunications Operators Manual (ATOM), so it is important for everyday communications and in times of emergency/Search and Rescue (SAR) situations. The ATOM is now generated automatically as a report from the COMNAP database; therefore it is important that the database is kept current/up-to-date.

She also announced, that at the end of the AGM, Rob Wooding (Australia) would complete his three-plus-one-year term as Vice Chair and therefore nominations are now being called for the position of Vice Chair for a three-year term (to end of AGM 2021). She explained the procedure for the election of Vice Chairs, referring also to Meeting Paper 13.1 which outlined the *COMNAP Rules of Procedure* for the election of EXCOM Vice Chairs, noting the deadline to receive nominations in writing was local time 12noon (1200 hrs) on Tuesday 12 June 2018. According to the *COMNAP Rules of Procedure* and since there were already two Deputy MNAPs (DMNAPs) on EXCOM, only those listed in Meeting Paper 5.1 in the column titled "MNAPs" would be eligible to be nominated for the vacant position.

The Executive Secretary asked if there were any questions in regards to the process or the position available.

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) referred to Meeting Paper 13.1 and commented that there was no MNAP or DMNAP listed for the Belgium national Antarctic program. Michelle confirmed that this was indeed the case. Following on, Nighat asked why this was the case and Michelle

replied that the Belgium Government had not confirmed to COMNAP who is the MNAP and DMNAP for the purposes of COMNAP.

There were no further questions or requests for the floor.

### ***COMNAP Year Planner***

The Executive Secretary then briefly introduced Meeting Paper 5.2 (see also Appendix 3) which is designed to assist the Executive Secretary and all COMNAP Members with administrative and information sharing obligations and requests, and which presented deadlines for the next 12-month period. She encouraged all Members to refer to it on a regular basis through-out the year. She also welcomed contributions from Members for the *COMNAP Updates* which she regularly produces and sends out by email.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion of any of the Agenda Items 1–5. There were no requests for the floor.

## **6. Reports from Invited Representatives (Cooperation with other organisations)**

### ***Antarctic Treaty Executive Secretary Report***

The Chair then introduced Albert Lluberas, Executive Secretary of the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat. Albert spoke to Meeting Paper 6.1a and Presentation (PPT1) in regards to ATCM XLI. Albert noted the special circumstances of the meeting which was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He noted that due to the special nature of the meeting, the ATCM and CEP were shorter than was normal and therefore the reports from Observers and all Information Papers were not introduced unless by special request. The agenda was shortened with Working Groups 2 and 3 greatly reduced. Of particular note for COMNAP are the following as per the ATCM Workplan (Meeting Paper 6.1b):

- The AT Secretariat to cooperate with COMNAP in ways to reduce duplication and increase compatibility across their databases.
- Working Group 2 (WG2-Operations) to discuss exchange of information and COMNAP advice on Modernisation of Antarctic Stations in context of climate change.
- ATCM to ask COMNAP...to provide an overview of aviation activity, and to present this information at the ATCM XLII to inform discussion. The focused discussion on air activity is scheduled for Friday 5 July 2019.
- There is also a proposal to have a dedicated seminar at the ATCM on hydrography in Antarctica, with a presentation of IHO.

He noted the meeting also congratulated COMNAP on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and thanked COMNAP for holding the Data Management Workshop at the COMNAP Secretariat in order to increase exchange of data from the COMNAP database to the AT Secretariat database.

The Chair thanked the Antarctic Treaty Executive Secretary for the report of the ATCM XLI and congratulated him and the local organising committee from Argentina for efficient organisation of the meeting in special circumstances. She opened the floor for questions or discussion.

### **Discussion**

Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) thanked Albert for the report. Uwe added that there had been discussion of an inspection report (ATCM XLI WP26, Norway) and, at the end of that discussion, COMNAP was

asked to look into the issues raised in regards to safety and information exchange. Since these were both very broad topics, Uwe asked if there was further guidance as to how COMNAP can provide information on these topics to the next ATCM in a meaningful manner. He also added that there is an on-going informal intersessional discussion on science collaboration that would be of interest to COMNAP Member national Antarctic programs.

Albert replied to Uwe's queries referring to exchange of data between the two Secretariats, noting the COMNAP data is currently being used for the inspections database and soon will be used for the Site Guidelines database. He noted that soon he will update all Parties and Observers by way of a Secretariat Paper in regards to the air activity discussion confirmed for 2019, that discussion may address some of the issues raised in the WP26.

### ***CEP Chair Report***

The Chair introduced Antonio Quesada (Spain), CEP Chair representative to this AGM in the absence of Patricia Ortúzar, First Vice Chair of the CEP. Antonio referred to Meeting Papers 6.2a and 6.2b, and to PPT2, that collectively form the report back on CEP XXI outcomes of particular relevance to COMNAP. Antonio reported the key outputs were:

- Two draft Comprehensive Environmental Evaluations (CEEs) were discussed: 1. Proposed Construction and Operation of a New Chinese Research Station, Victoria Land, Antarctica (ATCM XLI WP13, China); and 2. Proposed Rothera Wharf Reconstruction and Coastal Stabilisation (ATCM XLI WP19, United Kingdom).
- Inspection Report (ATCM XLI WP26, Norway) which noted many positives related to the facilities inspected.
- Six Management Plans were approved.
- The CEP agreed to develop a formal checklist to aid the future review of Site Guidelines.
- The CEP recommended the ATCM endorse the Environmental Guidelines for operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) in Antarctica (Resolution 4 2018) and agreed the importance of reviewing and revising the guidelines, as appropriate, to reflect the current state of scientific knowledge of the environmental impacts and benefits of RPAS and that it would be useful to have a central source of related information and welcomed the offer by COMNAP and SCAR to compile peer-reviewed literature.
- The CEP recommended that the ATCM endorse SCAR's Environmental Code of Conduct for Terrestrial Scientific Field Research in Antarctica (Resolution 5 2018).
- The CEP has requested a report from COMNAP on "The implementation of quarantine and biosecurity measures by its members".
- The CEP supported the proposal to hold a joint SCAR/CEP Workshop on "Further developing the Antarctic Protected Area System", Prague, Czech Republic, just prior to CEP XXII (2019).
- Birgit Njåstad (Norway) was elected as the CEP Chair.

The Chair thanked Antonio and Patricia for the CEP report and opened the floor for questions or discussion.

## **Discussion**

Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) thanked Antonio for the CEP report and wished to add that several Parties had submitted IP050 which presented information on monitoring in regards to non-native fly species that had been found in some Antarctic stations sewage treatment facilities in the Peninsula region. She further noted that COMNAP was already playing a role in understanding the extent of this issue and expressed her support for the sharing of best practice to monitor or eliminate the flies should they be confirmed as non-native species.

Hyoung Chul Shin (Republic of Korea) noted that Korea was a co-author of the IP050 and wished to make further comments, but would do so in the Environmental Expert Group session later in the AGM.

Rob Wooding (Australia) welcomed the discussion on this topic noting that it would be a focused item of discussion in the Environmental Expert Group session which he would chair on Day 2 of the AGM.

### ***SCAR President Report***

The Chair introduced Steven Chown, President of SCAR, who spoke to the SCAR report (Meeting Paper 6.3). He thanked COMNAP for the invitation to attend, noting the joint COMNAP/SCAR EXCOM Meeting would be held on 19 June 2018 in Davos, Switzerland, on the margin of the SCAR Meetings there. He noted the close working relationship between SCAR and COMNAP. He hoped that SCAR and COMNAP would continue to work collaboratively on “big science” challenges and how scientists and science supporters can ensure good lines of communication so as to smoothly deliver results. He noted there was much overlap of topics of interests to members of both organisations, mentioning the SCAR Action Group on micro-plastics, and the SCAR Action Group on novel pollutants. He reminded the AGM that Polar science is globally important science and only by working together can we deliver key messages from our science to the global community. In conclusion, he mentioned the June 14<sup>th</sup> edition of *Nature* would have a special Antarctic section and that ICSU, SCAR’s parent body, was to merge with the International Social Science Council.

The Chair thanked the SCAR President for his presentation and congratulated SCAR on its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She opened the floor for discussion.

## **Discussion**

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) noted the importance of innovative and environmentally friendly technologies needed to support science. He wondered if SCAR had considered a focus on this for inclusion in their next strategic plan.

In reply Steven noted that SCAR is bearing technology requirements in mind, but that engineering and autonomous technologies was an area that COMNAP Members had expertise in and hoped that SCAR and COMNAP could work together to develop needs of the Polar science community. Kelly added a reminder of the SCAR Horizon Scan and the COMNAP Antarctic Roadmap Challenges (ARC) projects which continue to be important for our informed advancement on critical technologies in support of science. She also noted the importance of understanding sources of micro-plastics in the Antarctic Treaty area and the sources of the newly discovered increase in atmospheric CFC-11. We have many successes of translating our

science outcomes into policy and we need to continue informing policy-makers with our information.

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) noted the EU2020 INTERACT reports on technologies and offered to share the series of reports with all COMNAP Members.

There being no further requests for the floor, the Executive Secretary noted Meeting Paper 6.4 from IAATO which would be taken as read. Michelle thanked IAATO for inviting COMNAP as an Observer to their May 2018 Meeting and congratulated IAATO for establishing an early career fellowship in partnership with COMNAP. COMNAP will work with IAATO to administer and announce this opportunity for 2019.

The Executive Secretary also referred to Meeting Papers 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8 and 6.9 which were all taken as read. She thanked Rob Wooding (Australia) for attending the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the International Ice Charting Working Group as the invited COMNAP delegate and noted that Mika Kalakowski (Finland) would attend the 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting which will be held in Finland in September 2018.

The Chair introduced invited expert Erik van Sebille, from Utrecht University, Netherlands. Erik spoke to PPT3 on “Our Plastic Ocean: Sources, fate and risks of marine litter in Antarctic waters”.

After the presentation, the Chair reminded delegates that the topic of plastics would be the focus of the AGM Day 2 afternoon session, she therefore suggested questions and comment be held until that time. She then closed Agenda Item 6, which completed the Day 1 plenary session.

*The remainder of the Day 1 was spent in Regional Break-out Group Sessions (Agenda Item 7).*

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*COMNAP XXX – Day 2, Tuesday 12 June 2018*

*The day began in plenary with a continuation of Agenda Item 7.*

## **7. Improving Support of Science / International Collaboration**

*This Agenda Item was principally held in Regional Break-out Group sessions after the morning coffee break and into the afternoon of Day 1.*

The Executive Secretary opened the plenary session by inviting Regional Break-out Group leads to briefly report on key discussions and outcomes from their Day 1 discussions.

**Ross Sea Region** (see Meeting Paper 7.1)

**Co-chairs: Peter Beggs (New Zealand) and Stephanie Short (United States of America)**

Peter spoke to this item noting that the group participants had shared their pre-session information before the AGM and that this information would be made available on the COMNAP Member's Only webpage. Of particular interest, he noted the following key items from each national Antarctic program:

- The RAE advised its on-going interest to begin activity again in the vicinity of Russkaya station beginning in 2019/2020 season.
- The USAP noted they were not sending a fuel tanker to McMurdo Station this coming season as a result of a general decrease in fuel use. It was also noted that aviation is anticipated to increase in the Dry Valleys and it is therefore important to find solutions to

- communicate and coordinate, including regarding RPAS. The USA offered to coordinate a Standard Operating Procedure for the Dry Valleys for helicopter and RPAS use.
- KOPRI advised they are working a very deep field this season using helicopters; also advised a very busy year ahead with Jang Bogo Station heavily booked for science and collaborative science projects; and announced that they have located the barge that went adrift two years ago from Jang Bogo Station-location details will be sent to COMNAP.
  - CHINARE advised their ongoing work at Inexpressible Island in preparation for the new station build and investigations for a proposed ASPA in that area, for which they will hold a workshop later this year. The *Xuelong* will be in the Ross Sea twice in the upcoming season.
  - Antarctica New Zealand advised on its increasing deep field traverse operations and a desire to move to long term contracts for intracontinental aircraft lease and also gave an update on the new vessel *Aotearoa*, an ice strengthened supply vessel that will operate in the Ross Sea from the 2021/2022 season. It noted increase use in RPAS and provided an update on the redevelopment of Scott Base (PPT4). The CEE is expected by February 2020, with construction beginning season 2021/2022.
  - Italy's ENEA confirmed that they are flying more aircraft this coming season and they are seeking a replacement charter vessel now that the *Italica* has been retired. They showed an update on progress to date of the Boulder Clay airstrip and noted it would be completed to 1400m length by the end of the 2018/2019 season.
  - BAS noted they are starting major construction at Rothera Station this coming season (PPT5) and that transiting aircraft will be impacted. They requested national Antarctic programs advise them by end of June 2018 if they require Rothera Station support.
  - An update on the renovated Gondwana Station was also provided by Germany's BGR in the form of a model display of the renovated station.

Peter also noted that the group had discussed SAR-related issues, including the importance of participation in the COMNAP Asset Tracking System (CATS), further discussed aircraft and vessel safety, invited all participants to share information on science support assets that could contribute to Ross Sea Region Marine Protected Area research and monitoring, and invited nominations for future leadership of the RSR Regional Break-out Group.

**Peninsula** (see Meeting Paper 7.4)

**Co-chairs: Agnieszka Kruszezka (Poland) and Antonio Quesada (Spain)**

Agnieszka reported back that the group discussed: 1. Best practices for ASPA management, using ASPA 126 as an example (PPT6); 2. Potential use of a digital platform to facilitate operational collaboration (PPT7); and 3. Information exchange by use of the information exchange template and by presentations during the session. She expressed a wish for a standardised template to exchange information for the region. She indicated that some members of the group were in support of establishing a sort of "task force" to consider ways to improve operational, logistics and science collaboration in the Peninsula, to avoid duplication of efforts and to increase efficiency of operations and outputs. A proposal would be put forward to the COMNAP AGM plenary session on Day 3.

Antonio added that activity in the Byers Peninsula region required greater coordination and noted a request to any national Antarctic programs that are planning on visiting that region to contact INACH/Chile or CPE/Spain as soon as possible, as there is a limit on visitor/people numbers that can visit the area each season. A more formal email request will be made after the AGM. The group also noted information provided by the SCAR representative, that SCAR and IAATO were working together to produce a Systematic Conservation Plan for the Peninsula (see ATCM XL IP166, SCAR/IAATO) and welcomed national Antarctic program input into the plan.

There were presentations made by Argentina (video), Brazil (PPT8), Chile (PPT9), Poland (PPT10), the Republic of Korea (PPT11), Turkey (Meeting Paper 7.11 and PPT12) and the United Kingdom (Meeting Paper 7.7).

***Larsemann Hills Management Group*** (see Meeting Paper 7.5)

**Chair: Bo Sun (China)**

Bo Sun reported that three key issues were discussed by this group:

- The increase in aviation activity and the need to support the proposed air operation workshop for station leaders that is likely to be held next year. This is coupled with the need to exchange information on air movements, reiterating the importance of advance notification of all aircraft movements in support of safety.
- The ASMA Management Plan and the ASPA itself were scheduled for review and that Australia would lead the review. Each country is asked to nominate a point of contact to work with Australia on the review.
- The group agreed to share their oil spill contingency plans via email or by way of the COMNAP Secretariat.

Also of note, was the RAE indication of its plans to modernize Vostok Station in the future; BAS informed the group of the limited space at Rothera Station due to construction personnel on-site this season for the upgrade there; it was noted there are similar issues being faced in regards to traverse capabilities to inland stations; and there was a willingness amongst the group to agree on runway usage and weather forecasting provision.

It was agreed, that while the usual practice would be to rotate in a new chair for the group, Bo Sun (China) agreed to remain in the role an additional year, noting that India should take on the role after the COMNAP AGM 2019.

***East Antarctica*** (see Meeting Paper 7.3)

**Chair: Javed Beg (India)**

On behalf of Javed who had sent apologies to the AGM, Rob Wooding (Australia) reported that all members in this regional break-out group had reported on their proposed activities for the upcoming Antarctic season and had a very productive discussion. Proposed activities reported included:

- The Belarus national Antarctic program showed a video which documented progress on the update to their station, which, by 2021 would be a winter-over station.
- CHINARE noted that they will undertake a major traverse this season to Taishan, Kunlun and the Dome C region.
- Australian Antarctic Division announced their intention to build a paved runway at Davis Station and that they would close Wilkins Runway for 3 months for maintenance and upgrading. Also, that they would participate in a traverse with France, China and Russia in the upcoming summer season.
- Japan's NIPR reported on their participation in the DROMLAN SAR exercise, suggesting that the East Antarctic Group might want to run a similar exercise as part of next year's COMNAP AGM Regional Break-out Group agenda.

It was also generally noted that good cooperation exists between several national Antarctic programs in this region in regards to air operations.

***Dronning Maud Land*** (see Meeting Paper 7.2)

**Chair: Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)**

Uwe noted that the region was particularly challenging for operations last season, due to inclement weather, but that members of this group continued to cooperate and share assets, particularly vessels in support of science, operations and logistics (PPT13). The group reflected on the importance of information exchange, including the use of the information exchange templates in

advance of the AGM. They noted that information exchange between COMNAP Member national Antarctic programs was good, but urged non-governmental organisations and companies operating in the region to also exchange information in advance of each season.

To learn more about non-governmental activities being carried out in the region, the group had invited members of the IAATO delegation from the company White Desert to attend in order to share information on their growing activities in the region, and in particular to understand the air operations in relation to their activities (PPT14). Finally, the group discussed the increase in balloon launches during the Antarctic Special Observation Period (SOP) of the Year of Polar Prediction (YOPP) which will take place from 16 November 2018 to 15 February 2019, noting that any increase would bring with it increased risk in relation to safe air operations. National Antarctic programs are encouraged to report any increase in air activities, including additional balloon launches, and RPAS activity.

It was noted by the DROMLAN Chair, Mika Kalakowski, that DROMLAN would send a copy of their Annual Report for 2017/18 to the COMNAP Secretariat.

## **Discussion**

There being no further items to report from the regional break-out group sessions, the Executive Secretary opened the floor for discussion, noting that there seemed to be at least two common themes across all the regional groups, which were:

- That advance information exchange of all activities is important and that the information exchange templates were very useful for this.
- That air activity advance notification and tracking of assets, including balloons and RPAS, was vital to ensure safety, and supported the common goals of environmental protection and cooperation and that the COMNAP AFIM played a key role in this with all involved in air operations to ensure they maintain the currency and accuracy of their AFIM-related information.

There were no requests for the floor.

The Executive Secretary continued the Agenda Item by noting Meeting Paper 7.10 on new arrangements by Argentina to facilitate access to Antarctica for the purposes of scientific and technical activities in the framework of the Antarctic Treaty. She then invited David Scott (Canada) to update the AGM on Polar Knowledge Canada's activities. David spoke to Meeting Paper 7.12 and PPT15.

## **Discussion**

Christo Pimpirev (Bulgaria) thanked David for the presentation then asked when Canada intended to formalise its Antarctic research program. In reply, David noted that it was their intention to work in partnership with COMNAP Member national Antarctic programs to grow Canada's Antarctic science program, but this required dedicated funding and government support and a formalization of Canada's national Antarctic program. For now, Canada's Antarctic research priorities aligned with SCAR science priorities.

## 8. Strategic Project Reports

*This Agenda Item allows the Project Managers to provide an update on COMNAP Projects and for all Members to propose new projects for consideration.*

Vice Chair John Guldahl (Norway) chaired this Agenda Item, which began with the Executive Secretary providing an update on the COMNAP database.

### **COMNAP Database**

**Project Managers: Andrea Colombo & Brad Herried (EXCOM oversight: Michelle Rogan-Finnemore)**

Michelle spoke to a live link to the database which Andrea Colombo showed on screen. She reported that the database structure is complete and populated with information from national Antarctic programs. It now informs the AFIM, the ATOM, and other projects such as the *COMNAP Antarctic Station Catalogue* and the on-line GIS. The goal would be to give each COMNAP Member national Antarctic program access to the database for administration purposes and for use. Currently COMNAP is in negotiation in regards to licensing fees for the Quickbase software which is the platform for the database. There is a cost per user which, in total, is significant and so negotiating an annual fee is important, and there will be cost implications which will need to be added to the COMNAP budget. The Executive Secretary noted her thanks to the US Polar Geospatial Center for their continuing support of the database and also noted that the non-confidential data, in particular the data that was formerly part of the COMNAP Facilities List, is now publicly served by way of a “GitHub” facility so that others can use the data, including use by the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat.

### **Discussion**

Rob Wooding (Australia) thanked the Secretariat for working on the database, noting the importance of a single source for COMNAP Member data.

### **COMNAP Asset Tracking System (CATS)**

**Project Manager: Robb Clifton (EXCOM Oversight: John Guldahl)**

Robb Clifton (Australia) spoke to Meeting Paper 8.2 and to the direct connection to the CATS interface which he showed on the screen. He noted that based on feedback the CATS allowed for individual username and passwords, worked independently of the Google Earth platform which not everyone could access from their home countries, moved to a polar stereographic map system provided by the British Antarctic Survey, included the COMNAP facilities locations, now included vessels and aircraft, and could allow for automatic updates from the COMNAP database. Robb believed we could move away from the SPRS at this stage and use CATS exclusively over the next season and that AAD would monitor and further develop the system over the next 12 months based on user feedback. He encouraged all national Antarctic programs using vessels to contact him to ensure their ship position feed was going into the CATS.

### **Discussion**

Kelly Falkner (USA) commended Robb and asked if Robb had been monitoring usage of CATS to date. Robb replied that they had not, but would be in a position to do so over the next season.

Nishendra Devanunthan (South Africa) commented that the system was important in SAR or other emergency situations and noted that in the South Africa SAR exercise there was a need to communicate by phone what assets were available in the area to support the emergency response. He noted the importance of sharing the CATS with all Rescue Coordination Centres (RCCs).

Robb confirmed that, like the SPRS, the CATS would be made available to all five of the RCCs with Antarctic co-ordination responsibility.

Miguel Ojeda (Spain) noted that the SPRS reported with each email all the contact details of each ship reporting, drawing the contact information from the COMNAP database. He suggested that the contact details for each ship should also be available through the CATS. He added that it would be useful to have a help contact listed on the front end of the CATS in case of technical issues with the position feeds or the system itself.

In response, Robb agreed to follow this suggestion up with the technical point of contact for CATS in order to add the ship contact information and a help point of contact.

Tim Stockings (United Kingdom) expressed appreciation for all the work that had been done on the new system and noted its usefulness as an information share tool.

John Guldahl (Norway) echoed the comments of Tim and also noted that the CATS supported SAR activities. He also reminded the AGM of the COMNAP SAR Workshop IV which is confirmed for May 13–17, 2019 in New Zealand.

#### **New Project Proposal: Tractor Traverse Mapping (Meeting Paper 8.5)**

Mike Dinn spoke to Meeting Paper 8.5 and PPT16, and proposed a new project for consideration. The aim of the proposed project is to show current state of the extent and range of these crossing networks of safe large-vehicle route ways as they develop around the continent. The objective of the project is to record the data into a GIS, attaching meta-data that gives qualitative information about the routes. The value of the project is: 1) Record of the potential for impact of this activity; 2) To provide guidance and offer an avenue to addressing a particular transit and safety; and 3) To provide a platform for information exchange to seed potential collaborations. The project required no funding but did require data gathering/input.

#### **Discussion**

Simon Trotter (New Zealand) noted his support for the project, as did Rob Wooding (Australia).

Nishendra Devanunthan (South Africa) thought it was a useful project not only for COMNAP Members' information but also for others in the Antarctic community, noting as example the RCCs.

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) agreed it was an interesting proposal and expressed a wish for the GIS/mapping system to include all traverses. That is, those for operations, logistics and for science.

Paul Sheppard (USA) cautioned that showing on a map anything that appeared to be a well-established traverse route, may be misleading in a changing Antarctic environment, given that, change in ice conditions is always occurring. Traversing requires resource and information coupled with hazard understanding and risk management. He expressed concern with the project in regards to these safety considerations.

Mike replied that the traverse routes would be coupled with meta-data which would be verified.

The being no further requests for the floor, John Guldahl noted that EXCOM would consider the project proposal and comments made at the AGM.

### **New Project Proposal: Antarctic Solargraph (Meeting Paper 8.6)**

The Executive Secretary spoke to MP8.6 and proposed a new project for consideration on behalf of Antarctic early career artist, Adele Jackson, a PHD candidate at Gateway Antarctica, University of Canterbury. Adele has been working informally with several of the COMNAP Member national Antarctic programs and she wished to formalise the arrangement and offer the project to COMNAP. The project proposal notes that a solargraph is a single long exposure photograph of the sun made using a pinhole 'solar collector' camera. The camera is light, inexpensive and relatively easy to mount and use and return for processing of the image collected. The project aims are: 1. Establish an international creative collaboration with research stations across Antarctica; 2. Creatively explore the cycles and spheres of Antarctica's natural environment; and 3. Engage the public in seeing Antarctica in different ways. The request is for COMNAP to support the artist to deploy the cameras to Antarctic stations that agree to be part of the project, then to collect them for processing. COMNAP would then be free to use the collection of images for an outdoor exhibition, perhaps at COMNAP AGM 2020 or beyond. The project comes with a funding request of \$US5400.

### **Discussion**

Many COMNAP Member national Antarctic programs including United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Finland, and the Czech Republic voiced their support for this project, in particular Lisolomzi Fikizolo (South Africa) who noted that SANAP had just participated in the project by hosting a camera at their Capetown facility and were delighted to have taken part in the experience and would support the hosting of a camera at their Antarctic station.

Dick van der Kroef (Netherlands) supported the concept of the project, but registered his concern that a similar project was undertaken in the Arctic in 2015 and that the artist responsible for the Arctic work should be contacted, noting that he is interested in repeating the work in the Antarctic also. Dick thought that there should be a competition to award the solargraph project to an artist and not to give support to someone because they reached out to COMNAP on their own. He would follow up his suggestions in an email exchange with the Executive Secretary for the EXCOM to consider.

There being no further requests for the floor, the session chair introduced Sunny Choi (Republic of Korea). Sunny spoke to Meeting Paper 8.8 and PPT17 which provided information on the KOPRI pilot project "POLARPASS" which is a mobile application and platform for logistics information sharing under development. The application allows for real-time updates by way of text/SMS to expeditioners and includes information on flight schedules, access permissions, cargo movements, emergency contact information, weather information and vessel schedules. It allows for sharing of information to summer teams and is very useful for station managers. A demonstration was shown to the AGM and an update from KOPRI will be presented next year.

After the presentation, Lisa Kelley (IAATO) commented that such new technology developments have also allowed IAATO to develop the “IAATO Polar Guide: Antarctica” application, which is a support tool for polar guides in the field and is free to download.

There being no further discussion, the session chair thanked all the presenters in the session, asking if any COMNAP Member had any further proposals for new projects. Peter Beggs (New Zealand) suggested that COMNAP consider setting up a “peer-review panel” to establish a panel of experts that could be called upon to review national Antarctic program projects or proposed infrastructures and their support systems.

Tim Stockings (United Kingdom) was very supportive of the suggestions and thought it was worth exploring. Robb Clifton (Australia) added his support. There were no further comments or suggestions for new projects.

The session chair referred back to the CATS project and proposed that we move from the SPRS to CATS this season. There was general support for this, and so Robb Clifton (Australia) will contact all national Antarctic programs which use ships in the area below 60S latitude, to assist them with their transition over to the CATS.

There being no further requests for the floor, Meeting Paper 8.7 was noted in regards to COMNAP Symposium 2018 “Facilitation of Internationally Collaborative Antarctic Science” which would be held on Thursday 14 June 2018 and was open to everyone.

The session chair closed Agenda Item 8.

The Executive Secretary noted that Agenda Item 9 would begin in the afternoon in parallel Expert Group sessions, as follows:

**Session A:**

***Environment*** with a focus on fossil fuel reduction, reducing plastics wastes, continuing our understanding of cumulative impacts, and understanding extent of non-native fly species at Antarctic facilities.

**Session B:**

***a. Safety with a focus on Harassment***

***b. Medical with a focus on telemedicine***

***c. Marine platforms/Science facilitation*** (Included a poster session with a range of poster contributions showcasing vessels and their capabilities.)

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COMNAP XXX – Day 3, Wednesday, 13 July 2018

## **9. Expert Groups / Topical Discussions**

The Chair opened Day 3 of the AGM by inviting conveners from the topical break-out sessions to briefly report back from those sessions.

***Environment*** (see Meeting Papers 8.3, 8.4, 9.3, 9.10, PPT3, PPT18, PPT19, PPT21 and PPT22)  
**Expert Group Leader: Anoop Tiwari (India); VC Oversight: Rob Wooding (Australia)**

Rob Wooding reported on the very good discussion in this session. He noted the following key points from each sub-topic:

- Fossil fuel reduction: The presentation (PPT22) from invited expert Michel Abi Saab, from Masdar, highlighted that the key was to review systems and services especially on stations, but also at field sites and on vessels and explore ways to improve fuel efficiency. Post review, savings of up to 20% are not uncommon, and that can save money and increase environmental protection. There was strong support for national Antarctic programs to share, through COMNAP, their energy savings improvements.
- Reducing plastic wastes: National Antarctic programs use macro-plastics in support of science, for operations and logistics in the Antarctic. Often, using plastics make good sense and reduces fuel requirements for shipping since plastics weigh less than alternatives that exist. National Antarctic programs have good macro-plastic waste management and waste return systems in place. Research into micro-plastic distribution show that micro-plastics have been found in the marine area south of 60S. Four key recommendations emerged from the discussions, it was suggested that EXCOM consider these key outcomes in order to develop a COMNAP “statement on our ‘war’ on plastic pollution”:
  - **Take Action on Micro-Plastics.** Artificial fabrics and personal care products often contain micro-plastics which can enter the marine environment. Educate your expeditioners about this. Ban personal care products that contain micro-plastics from being brought to Antarctica (see list at <http://www.beatthemicrobead.org/product-lists/>). Investigate ways to prevent micro-plastics from clothing from entering the Antarctic environment—particularly through washing. Perhaps wash clothes less often in Antarctica, use a wash bag, or install filters that capture micro-plastics before they can enter the Antarctic environment.
  - **Do Research and Talk with your Suppliers.** Clearly, much of the plastic pollution from in the area south of 60S latitude comes from outside of that area. However, it is not clear from where exactly. Research is the key to understanding sources of plastic pollution and such research should be supported. This includes research into the consumer-drivers for plastics and how we, as consumers, can work with our suppliers to reduce plastics going to Antarctica when possible.
  - **Clean-up Plastic Pollution when Discovered and Record Meta-data.** If possible, remove any plastic pollution you discover in the Antarctic environment. But note details of the plastic and record the position where found. Also remember it is important to record areas that are pollution free.
  - **Couple Clean-up Activities and Actions with Research.** We need cost-effective responses to reduce plastics of all types entering the Antarctic environment. This requires research, support to the research and feedback into national Antarctic programs procedures.
- Continuing our understanding of cumulative impacts: Recognising that COMNAP has been leading discussions on understanding cumulative impacts since 1988, it seems timely to revisit the topic to ensure that COMNAP continues to provide technical and practical advice to the CEP and ATCM on the topic, to assist national Antarctic programs to understand Environmental Protocol requirements and to support future planning and coordination of activities. EXCOM will discuss this further at their annual meeting.
- Understanding extent of non-native fly species at Antarctic facilities: Work on the non-native species fly survey has progressed and the survey will be distributed in July/August for completion. The data collected will inform a paper to ATCM/CEP 2019.

***Safety with a focus on harassment*** (see Meeting Paper 9.1 and PPT23)

**Safety Expert Group Leader: Simon Trotter (New Zealand); VC Oversight: Agnieszka Kruszezka (Poland)**

Simon reported back on this well-attended, interactive session which used scenarios and small group discussions to explore harassment, bullying and behaviours which were threatening or made people feel unsafe in their workplace in Antarctica. It was recognised that we are from a range of cultures. Yet, it was a very useful opportunity to share experiences and responses to unwelcome behaviours. Key outcomes from the discussions were:

- There is a strong need for a “safe” environment for reporting harassment. This is sometimes difficult to provide in close communities, especially in the smaller winter-over groups or in field situations.
- Leadership is important. Station Leaders/managers should lead by good example, should take each report of harassing behaviour seriously and manage the consequences in an appropriate manner.
- A COMNAP Member’s Only webpage where policies and best practices can be shared would be useful.

Agnieszka added that training of Station Leaders was important and the sharing of best practice or “promising” practice would also assist in such training, recognising that one set of solutions may not be a one-size-fits-all.

***Marine platforms/Science Facilitation*** (see Meeting Papers 9.2, 9.7, PPT24, PPT25 and PPT26)

**Marine Platforms Expert Group Leader: Miguel Ojeda (Spain); Science Facilitation Expert Group Leader: Robb Clifton (Australia); EXCOM Oversight: Kelly Falkner (USA)**

Miguel reported back on the new format of both Expert Groups, noting, in particular, the revised Terms of Reference for the Marine Platforms Expert Group (formerly the Shipping Expert Group) which will be placed on the COMNAP webpage as soon as possible. The session included a poster session on ships and their capabilities which would be taken also to POLAR2018, and videos were presented by Renzo Whitembury (Peru) on the *BAP Carrasco*, and by Yanping Zhao (China) on *Xuelong II*.

Robb then referred to the science facilitation portion of the session which, like Marine Platforms Expert Group agreed to revised Terms of Reference (formerly the Science Expert Group) which will be placed on the COMNAP webpage as soon as possible. He noted the focus of the session was on facilitation of SOOS and YOPP. As a result of hearing presentations from both SOOS and YOPP representatives, he noted that the Expert Group wished to:

- Engage with the various SCAR Scientific Research Programmes as appropriate.
- Encourage national Antarctic programs to engage with the relevant SOOS Regional Working Groups and to decide if the sharing of the information exchange templates had information of value to SOOS.
- Through the Australian Antarctic Division, COMNAP to share the historical vessel position data from the CATS with SOOS to assist SOOS to understand usual vessel routings.
- Encourage national Antarctic programs to engage with YOPP for the upcoming Antarctic Special Observation Period (SOP), particularly for those working in the Peninsula region.

**Medical** (see Meeting Paper 9.4 and PPT27)

**Joint Expert Group Human Biology and Medicine Leader: Anne Hicks (United Kingdom)**  
**VC Oversight: Javed Beg (India)**

On behalf of the group, the Executive Secretary reported back on the session which was an opportunity to provide an update from the Telemedicine Workshop 2015. Pete Marquis (United Kingdom) led the discussions during the session with a live link to the winter-over doctor at Neumayer Station, facilitated by Eberhard Kohlberg (Germany). Key messages are:

- All telemedicine equipment and training must be coupled with good pre-medical screening and medical understanding of the personnel on the station.
- There should be selection and training of doctors to match deployment location, activity, risk and staff profile.
- Select telemedicine equipment that supports doctor and patient. Bear in mind any service schedules, consumables expiry dates, working conditions, storage, communications capability, clinical value-added and training needs.
- Select medical specialists who understand the locality to give advice to deployed doctor.
- Skill fade in deployed medics is a significant problem (on-going education and practice on site required to counter this).
- Mental health support required just as much as physical.
- Military colleagues can provide very appropriate advice both medical and technical.
- Need to consider medical information governance, quality and safety regulations, doctor's registrations and licenses and indemnity / insurance issues.
- Training of lay staff to support single-handed doctor and long-term nursing requirements.

**Education, Outreach & Training** (see Meeting Paper 9.6 and PPT28)

While no formal AGM session was devoted to the topic of Education, Outreach & Training, Expert Group Leader Dragomir Mateev (Bulgaria) was asked to provide information from the discussions within the ATCM Intersessional Contact Group (ICG) on Education and Outreach. He noted that the ICG has requested that the ATCM consider establishment of a dedicated webpage which focuses on the education and outreach initiatives of Treaty Parties which would be publicly available. This had not yet been agreed to by the ATCM. Beyond the ICG, he requested that COMNAP consider including the in the AGM 2019 schedule a half-day session on education and outreach.

## **Discussion**

Peter Beggs (New Zealand) asked how COMNAP could support the idea for a webpage that links back to the national Antarctic program information on education and outreach initiatives.

Dragomir replied that ATCM delegations have a role to play in this and that COMNAP as an organisation with permanent observer status at the ATCMs can emphasize that by linking directly to national Antarctic program webpages, there is no risk of serving out-of-date or non-official information. Each national Antarctic program would remain in control of the information.

Marcelo Leppe (Chile) noted that education and outreach was a key component of INACH's activities and noted that the topic would be discussed at the upcoming RAPAL meeting. He supported the inclusion of a half day workshop at next year's AGM and the AT Secretariat creating a webpage with links to national Antarctic programs education and outreach activities.

Sergio Gago Guido (Brazil) added that Brazil would host this year's RAPAL meeting from 3–6 September, 2018, and expressed his hope that all South American COMNAP Member national

Antarctic programs would participate in the meeting. He also invited others to attend as observers to the meeting.

### **Air Operations** (see Meeting Papers 9.8 and 9.9)

While no formal AGM session was devoted to the topic of Air Operations, Expert Group Leader Paul Sheppard (USA) presented three air operations items for discussion:

- Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS). Paul spoke to MP9.8 and noted that the CEP endorsed the *Environmental guidelines for the operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) in Antarctica* which are ATCM XLI (2018) Resolution C rev 1 (which will be renumbered when final administration from ATCM XLI is complete). The CEP also agreed that it would be useful to have a central source of related information and welcomed the offer by COMNAP and SCAR to compile peer-reviewed literature and provide a summary that could be used to inform content to be included in the Antarctic Environments Portal. Paul further noted that the COMNAP *Antarctic Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) Operator's Handbook* remains a relevant and evolving document that has been revised based on peer-reviewed published research and in consultation with SCAR on wildlife impacts and that COMNAP would continue to evolve the handbook.
- Greater awareness of all air operations in Antarctica. Paul suggested that the CATS may be an opportunity for us to have wider awareness of air operations, and could be expanded to include RPA deployments and non-governmental air activities. He noted that the AFIM also plays a key role in air operations safety and urged national Antarctic programs and non-governmental organisations that have air operations and air-operations-related facilities, to ensure they regularly review their AFIM information and provide updates into the COMNAP system at least annually (by 1 August each year), but always when changes to the information occur.
- ATCM dedicated discussion on air activity at ATCM XLII (2019). Paul showed on the screen information from the draft COMNAP Working Paper “Overview of Aviation Activity to inform ATCM Discussions”, which is being prepared at the request of the ATCM for discussion in ATCM Working Group 2 which is provisionally scheduled for 5 July 2019. The Working Paper would include statistics on inter-continental air movements and all take-offs from Antarctic locations for a 3-year period (2014–2017). The draft Working Paper will be circulated to COMNAP Members for comment, corrections and other considerations in August 2018 with a goal to complete the draft by end of November 2018 in order to meet submission deadlines for the ATCM XLII (2019).

The Executive Secretary thanked Paul for leading this work for COMNAP and noted that Paul will be part of the COMNAP delegation to the ATCM XLII as our air expert on the delegation. She encouraged air experts from other national Antarctic programs to participate in the discussions through their ATCM delegations. She opened the floor for discussion.

### **Discussion**

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) questioned the statistics on screen in regards to air activities from the gateway cities. Paul responded and clarified that those numbers were take-offs only from those gateways, so they indicate level of activity and not destinations.

Simon Trotter (New Zealand) noted that there had been discussion of air operations in the Ross Sea Region Regional Break-out Group, especially given the increase level of air activity in that region and the safety implications of that increase.

Paul noted that he was aware of areas, such as the Dry Valley region, that tend to attract helicopter activity as opposed to fixed-wing aircraft, and that advance communication of planned activities must include all air activity-fixed wing, helicopters, RPAS and balloons for example.

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) further queried as to whether the statistics in the draft Working Paper were currently only fixed wing statistics. Paul confirmed that they were only fixed wing but there is an intention to include helicopter activity as well noting that such statistics were difficult to accurately capture and that such activity was certainly growing.

There being no further requests for the floor, the Chair closed Agenda Item 9.

## **10. Strategic Directions**

The Executive Secretary noted that this agenda item was an opportunity for all COMNAP Members to table ideas for EXCOM consideration in regards to the strategic direction and strategic priorities for COMNAP as an organisation. This past twelve months, EXCOM had been actively reconsidering the role and terms of reference of the Expert Groups and, at this AGM, some changes have been adopted. This work will continue. There may be other topics to focus on and she opened the floor for further discussion on this.

### **Discussion**

Peter Beggs (New Zealand) introduced the concept of personal “wellness”, meaning “the quality or state of being healthy in body and mind”. Wellness has become a recent focus in human resource/personnel management and could be considered as part of our safety discussions.

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) noted that many of the people who actually work in Antarctica do not have the opportunity to attend the COMNAP AGMs. She suggested, in the context of training, that COMNAP consider convening a workshop targeted at providing practical training on topics of interest to those who will be working on Antarctic stations, such as safety, waste management and vehicle servicing. Such workshops would also give those people an opportunity to connect/speak with each other.

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) noted the importance of highlighting the work that COMNAP has done, such as achievements and benefits from our working together. He suggested the publication of “metrics” to inform the public, but also especially to inform our government funders.

Tim Stockings (United Kingdom) supported the suggestion by Peter Beggs, and noted its connection also to the Medical Expert Group. He added that he thought we needed to continue a strong focus on technical challenges and thought the existing structure of the AGM and of the Symposiums are a good mechanism to look at these topics. He felt COMNAP was in a good position and was doing a good job.

Kelly Falkner (USA) reminded the AGM of the very useful Symposium 2016 presentation by Eberhard Kohlberg (Germany) on changes of vitamin D during winter-overs, noting that “wellness” was part of the “Winter-Over Challenges” theme of that Symposium.

There being no questions or requests for the floor, the Chair closed Agenda Item 10, thanking everyone for their suggestions and noting they would all be considered by EXCOM.

## 11. Project Plan 2019–2024

The Executive Secretary introduced Meeting Paper 11.1 which is the 5-year plan for COMNAP (2019–2024) which she noted will now be updated to reflect the discussions at this AGM. She reminded Members that this is a “living document” and that ideas and proposals could be added to it at any time. Michelle will update the plan which EXCOM will consider at their upcoming annual meeting. The plan can always be found on the COMNAP website. Members were asked to refer to it often throughout the year.

Anoop Tiwari (India) in his capacity as Environment Expert Group Leader requested consideration of inclusion of an environmental management workshop for a future AGM, noting informal discussions he had had with some participants within the Expert Group on the margins of the CEP XXI Meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in May 2018. He reminded the AGM that new participants in the group were always welcomed, noting the continuing work on non-native species including review of the COMNAP/SCAR *Checklists for supply chain managers of National Antarctic Programmes for the reduction in risk of transfer of non-native species* and the new work on plastics. He hoped that the groups’ Terms of Reference could be reviewed in the next couple of months and updated as necessary.

Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) noted that she is the COMNAP invited representative to the European Polar Board’s half day workshop on “Minimising plastic use and waste in polar research and logistics” which would be held on 16 June 2018, Davos, Switzerland. She would provide key points back from that workshop.

There was also general support to work on cumulative impacts.

For work under science facilitation, there was support to continue to work with SOOS and with YOPP to ensure success of those projects. EXCOM will consider the topic of “wellness” and will continue to work on aspects of harassment, especially to share information on “promising policy”.

In regards to the COMNAP Accident, Incident and Near-Miss Reporting System (AINMRS), the Executive Secretary noted that in recent years the system has rarely been used. The system was developed at a time when many national Antarctic programs did not have their own reporting systems, but that now, the majority of domestic legislation requires safety reporting and supporting systems to be in place for such reporting. She opened the floor for discussion on continuing to maintain the AINMRS.

Rob Wooding (Australia) said there was a general feeling that the AIMNRS was no longer useful and that national Antarctic programs could share incidents with other national Antarctic programs by way of the Safety Expert Group. He strongly felt that the topic should not be abandoned, just the AINMRS tool for reporting.

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) supported abandoning the AINMRS and also thought that perhaps trends or statistics could be extracted from the archived incidents and used as a learning tool if there was enough data in the AINMRS to be useful.

Kelly Falkner (USA) agreed with Rob and also noted that the COMNAP SAR Workshops were another avenue to discuss safety and share lessons learned from accidents and incidents.

Magnus Auger (Sweden) also supported Rob’s view and suggested a break-out group session such as the one held on the harassment topic might be the best way to share information on accidents, incidents and near-misses.

After discussion, the Executive Secretary confirmed that there appeared to be agreement to discontinue the use of the AINMRS on-line tool, but to continue to discuss via other means.

Other items to consider for the workplan were: consideration of an education and outreach workshop; consideration of a medical session during the COMNAP AGM 2019; investigating critical technologies including travers technologies; continue to understand implications of the IMO Polar Code; traverse mapping project; peer-review committee establishment; the Peninsula Regional Group will submit a project proposal with funding implications for a “Task Force” meeting in the near future.

All these will be discussed by the EXCOM at their August 2018 meeting.

There being no further requests for the floor, the Chair closed Agenda Item 11.

*Agenda Items 12 and 13 were considered in closed, Members-only AGM sessions. All Observers were thanked for their attendance then they left the AGM plenary room.*

## **12. Financial Report 2017–18 / Budget 2018–19**

The Executive Secretary presented Meeting Paper 12.1 which was the COMNAP Draft Statement of Accounts, noting that the COMNAP financial year did not end until the end of June, therefore final accounts could not be presented at this time but would be available for the EXCOM Meeting in August 2018.

The Executive Secretary said that the draft to date indicates that the yearly result will be a small loss, well within the budgeted loss. The Executive Secretary stated that she believed:

- COMNAP remains in a strong financial position
- That there is no reason to raise annual Membership Fees for 2019
- That the COMNAP Secretariat operating costs are significantly subsidised by the University of Canterbury and so formal thanks should be given to the University
- That Member national Antarctic programs have contributed significant in-kind and/or below cost work for some major COMNAP projects, citing the Australian Antarctic Division for its work on the CATS; and the US Antarctic Program for their work on database development and AFIM reformatting; and France’s IPEV for the station catalogue.

The Executive Secretary then presented Meeting Paper 12.2 which was the proposed COMNAP budget for the financial year 2018–2019 and noted that this budget would be finalised by EXCOM at their meeting. The budget did not include an increase in Membership Fees for 2019, but the Executive Secretary indicated that there will be a relatively significant cost related to the database software and she hoped to confirm the annual licensing fee in the near future. She noted there had never been an application for the Middle Manger’s Scheme and asked for discussion as to whether to remove the budget line for that scheme.

### **Discussion**

Kelly Falkner (USA) supported an idea from Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) which she had raised in one of the break-out group sessions, that is, that it seemed easy for “bigger” national Antarctic programs to send people to “smaller” national Antarctic programs and not the other way around.

Rob Wooding (Australia) asked that some funding be held in reserve to support the CATS. He would inform the EXCOM of any request before the EXCOM meeting in August 2018.

Peter Beggs (New Zealand) supported the comments made by Kelly and Agnieszka, and also noted that each year the budget projects a fairly significant loss for the year and that such a situation was not sustainable. He asked EXCOM to further consider this.

Antonio Quesada (Spain) referred back to the Peninsula Regional Break-out Group discussions and confirmed that a small number of national Antarctic programs from that regional group wished to form a sort of “task force” which would start with teleconferences and then a workshop to develop ideas as to how to improve collaboration in science and science support in that region. He requested EXCOM to consider including a budget line of \$US10,000 to initially support this task force.

The COMNAP Chair reconfirmed that the Executive Secretary continues to have the authority to discretionary spend funds in support of identified needs, including hiring staff. The Executive Secretary noted that EXCOM will finalise the proposed budget at their EXCOM Meeting and the final budget will be placed on the COMNAP website when available.

There being no further discussion the proposed budget was accepted, noting it would be finalised by EXCOM and would be placed on the COMNAP Member’s Only webpage.

### **13. Election of Officers**

The Executive Secretary recalled discussion from Day 1 of the AGM announcing that the term of one Vice Chair, Rob Wooding, ended at this AGM.

There had been a call for nominations for the position, and only one eligible person had been nominated, by many national Antarctic programs, in writing, before the established deadline. The nominee had agreed to accept the nomination. Therefore, the nominee, Peter Beggs (New Zealand) is elected to the position as COMNAP Vice Chair for a period of three years, his term to end at the conclusion of COMNAP AGM XXXIII (2021).

Members responded and agreed with acclamation.

Peter responded with thanks confirming his acceptance of the Vice Chair position for a 3-year term and thanked COMNAP delegates for the confidence in him.

The Chair then moved formal thanks to Rob Wooding (Australia) for his total of four years of service in the role of COMNAP Vice Chair. She noted Rob would continue to work as a COMNAP MNAP and we greatly appreciated his active participation.

The Executive Secretary closed Agenda Item 13.

### **14. Future AGMs & Symposiums**

The Chair invited Christo Pimpirev (Bulgaria) to provide details in relation to the 2019 COMNAP AGM XXXI to be held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, hosted by the Bulgarian Antarctic Institute. Christo noted that the dates for the COMNAP AGM were confirmed as 29, 30 and 31 July with a fourth day (1 August) being held to allow for workshops as required. Therefore the Icebreaker Reception would take place on Sunday 28 July, 2019, only seventeen days after the close of the ATCM XLII (2019). Further details of the AGM will be made available by way of the COMNAP website. Dragomir Mateev would be the Head of the Local Organisation Committee.

COMNAP Members responded with applause and the COMNAP Chair thanked Christo and the national Antarctic program of Bulgaria for offering to host the COMNAP AGM XXXI (2019).

The Chair then gave the floor to Rob Wooding (Australia) in regards to the confirmed 2020 COMNAP AGM XXXII, and SCAR Meetings, which will be hosted by the Australian Antarctic Division in Hobart, Tasmanian, Australia. The dates for the COMNAP AGM are confirmed as 3, 4 and 5 August 2020. This ties in with the confirmed dates of the SCAR Open Science Conference (3–7 August) and the SCAR Delegates Meetings (10 & 11 August). More details will be provided at the COMNAP AGM 2019.

The Chair asked if there was continuing interest from Japan to host the 2021 COMNAP AGM and Takuji Nakamura confirmed that the Japanese National Institute for Polar Research wished to host the 2021 AGM. This offer was welcomed with applause.

The Chair asked if there were any expressions of interest to host the 2022 COMNAP AGM, noting it was an even-number year so would also be a SCAR Open Science Conference year.

Marcelo Leppe (Chile) noted INACH was interested in hosting these meetings. Anoop Tiwari (India) noted that India was submitting a bid to SCAR to host the SCAR Open Science Conference 2022 in Hyderabad and that that bid would be considered in Davos, Switzerland, in the next two weeks.

Both of the expressions of interest were noted.

The Chair asked if there were any expressions of interest to host COMNAP AGMs beyond 2022. Burcu Ozsoy (Turkey) noted that it was her national Antarctic program's intention to apply for COMNAP Membership as soon as possible, and, pending Membership, it was their hope to host the AGM in 2023, or in the future.

The Chair closed the Agenda Item.

## **15. Any other business**

The Chair asked Members if there was any other business they wished to discuss.

Simon Trotter (New Zealand) requested further consideration of support for a traverse workshop, noting the rapid development of technology in that space and also the results of the COMNAP Antarctic Roadmap Challenges (ARC) project which strongly indicated that scientists wished to go much further afield than in the past.

Nishendra Devanunthan (South Africa) recalled the art project proposal entitled "Midwinter Dinner Party" that EXCOM had considered and had approved as part of the COMNAP 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations this year. He asked for an update as to progress on that project. The Executive Secretary advised that the project had not been initiated and was not likely to be advanced in the near future.

## **16. Close of Meeting**

The Chair asked if there were any final requests for the floor. There were no requests.

The Chair closed the AGM by formally thanking Uwe Nixdorf, Eberhard Kohlberg and all the members of the AGM Local Organising Committee and the Alfred Wegener Institute

Helmholtz Institute for Polar and Marine Research for their support, excellent organisation of the meeting and their warm hospitality. There was a round of applause.

The AGM closed at 1400 hours on 13 June 2018.

## Appendices

### 11–13 June 2018 COMNAP AGM XXX (2018) Attendees List

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	Email address
<b>COMNAP Secretariat</b>				
Kelly	Falkner	COMNAP Chair / Director, Office of Polar Programs, US National Science Foundation		kfalkner@nsf.gov
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<b>COMNAP Member Organisations Delegates</b>				
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Rob	Wooding	General Manager Support & Operations, Australian Antarctic Division, COMNAP Vice Chair	Australia	rob.wooding@aad.gov.au
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Apologies were received and accepted from Ecuador

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Almir	Debra	Logistics Direction, Instituto Antartico Uruguayo	Uruguay	logistica.secretaria@iau.gub.uy
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#### COMNAP Observer Organisations Delegates

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Danièle	Rod	Executive Director, Swiss Polar Institute	Switzerland	daniele.rod@epfl.ch
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Apologies were received and accepted from Venezuela

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#### COMNAP Invited Experts

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##### *For all Open AGM Sessions*

Albert	Luberas	Executive Secretary, Antarctic Treaty Secretariat	ATS	executive.secretary@ats.aq
Antonio	Quesada	CEP Representative	CEP	cpe@mineco.es
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Damon	Stanwell-Smith	Executive Director, IAATO	IAATO	dstanwellsmith@iaato.org
Patrick	Woodhead	Operator, White Desert	IAATO	Patrick@white-desert.com
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Erik	Van Sebille	Keynote Speaker, Associate Professor, Institute For Marine and Atmospheric Research, Utrecht University		e.vansebille@uu.nl
Michel	Abi Saab	Keynote speaker, Energy Services Manager, Masdar City		mabisaab@masdar.ae

##### *For Dronning Maud Land Regional Break-out Group Session only*

Mirella	Krüger	Director, ALCI	ALCI	mirella@alci.co.za
Vasily	Kaliazin	Director, ALCI	ALCI	vasily@alci.co.za



**AGM Schedule and Programme, other Meetings & Events** (version 30 May 2018)

Hosted by the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Science



Garmisch-Partenkirchen (Ga-Pa) Congress Centre  
 Richard-Strauss-Platz 1A, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany  
 (www.gapa.de)

**Day 0: Sunday 10 June 2018**

start	end	Event	
08:00	12:30	<b>Registration Open</b> Registration desk at the Congress Center	
11:30	13:00	<b>COMNAP EXCOM Meeting</b> <i>(COMNAP EXCOM members only)</i> Venue: Reindls Hotel Meeting Room Address: Bahnhofstrasse 15	Chair: Kelly Falkner
13:45		<b>Transportation departs for Icebreaker Reception</b> <i>(For all those attending the Icebreaker Reception, please see Important Information sent by email to each registrant)</i> The transportation is a special train which will leave at 13:45 sharp from the train station "Zugspitzbahnhof Garmisch-Partenkirchen", the address is Olympiastraße 27, 82467 Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Please bear in mind that there are two distinct train stations in Garmisch, make sure you go to the correct train station "Zugspitzbahnhof" for the special train.	Point of contact: Eberhard Kohlberg
17:00	19:30	<b>AGM Icebreaker Reception</b> Venue: Zugspitze  <i>The transportation back will depart at 19:30 sharp.</i>	Host: Uwe Nixdorf

*Celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of COMNAP*





- Item 1:** Opening; apologies; introductions; administrative arrangements
- Item 2:** Adoption of COMNAP AGM XXIX Final Report
- Item 3:** Chair's Report
- Item 4:** Executive Secretary's Report
- Item 5:** Administrative & policy matters
- Item 6:** Reports from AT Executive Secretary, CEP Representative, SCAR President
- Item 7:** Improving support of science & international collaboration  
Regional Break-out group sessions
- Item 8:** Current projects
- Item 9:** Expert groups / Topical discussions
  - Safety
  - Marine Platforms/Science Facilitation (includes poster session)
  - Environment
  - Medical
- Item 10:** Strategic directions
- Item 11:** Project plan 2019–2024
- Item 12:** Finance
  - Review of preliminary statement of accounts 2017–18; Present draft budget 2018–19
- Item 13:** Election of Officers
- Item 14:** Future AGMs and Symposiums
- Item 15:** Any other business
- Item 16:** Close of meeting

**COMNAP AGM XXX (2018) Day 1**

(COMNAP AGM begins in plenary at 0830hrs)

Venue: Garmisch-Partenkirchen Congress Centre Address: Richard-Strauss-Platz 1A (www.gapa.de)

**Registered Member Delegates, Invited Observer Delegates & Invited Expert Delegates only.**

start	end	Session	Convened by
08:00-08:30 Registration Open (Venue: Congress Centre, Foyer)			
08:30	10:30	<p><b>COMNAP AGM</b> Plenary Room: Konzertstall (Concert Hall) Richard Strauss</p> <p><b>Agenda item 1:</b> Opening; apologies; introductions; administrative arrangements</p> <p><b>Agenda item 2:</b> Adoption of COMNAP XXIX Final Report</p> <p><b>Agenda item 3:</b> Chair's Report</p> <p><b>Agenda item 4:</b> Executive Secretary's Report</p> <p><b>Agenda item 5:</b> Administrative &amp; policy matters</p> <p><b>Agenda item 6:</b> Reports A: ATCM XLI (Albert Lluberas) B: CEP (Patricia Ortuzar/Antonio Quesada) C: SCAR (Steven Chown)</p> <p><b>Invited presentation 1</b> by Erik van Sebille <i>"Our plastic ocean: sources, pathways and distribution of marine plastic litter around Antarctica"</i></p>	Kelly Falkner & Michelle Finnemore
10:30	11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00	18:00	<p><b>Agenda item 7:</b> Improving support of science &amp; international collaboration</p> <p><i>This session is held in the following regional break-out groups:</i></p> <p>Room for Group A: Alpstipze  <b>A). 1100-1230 Larsemann Hills Management Group</b>  1230-1330 <i>Lunch break</i>  <b>A). 1330-1530 East Antarctica</b>  1530-1600 <i>Coffee break</i>  <b>A). 1600-1800 Dronning Maud Land</b></p> <p>Room for Group B: Zugspitze  <b>B). 1100-1230 Ross Sea Region</b>  1230-1330 <i>Lunch break</i>  <b>B). 1300-1530 Peninsula</b>  1530-1600 <i>Coffee break</i>  <b>1600-1800 Peninsula</b> (continued)</p>	<p><i>Chair: Bo Sun</i></p> <p><i>Chair: Javed Beg</i></p> <p><i>Chair: Uwe Nixdorf</i></p> <p><i>Co-Chairs: Peter Beggs &amp; Stephanie Short</i></p> <p><i>Co-Chairs: Antonio Quesada &amp; Agnieszka Kruszewska</i></p>
18:00	<i>End of AGM for the day</i>		



## AGM Day 3: Wednesday 13 June 2018

### COMNAP AGM XXX (2018) Day 3

(COMNAP AGM begins in plenary at 0830hrs)

Venue: Congress Center

**Please note that agenda items 12 and 13 are closed:  
Registered COMNAP Member Delegates only please for those agenda items.**

start	end	Session	Convened by
08:30 COMNAP plenary session begins in Plenary Room			
08:30	9:00	<b>Agenda item 9:</b> Expert Groups/Topical Discussions (continued): feedback/key points from the Day 2 topical discussions.	Kelly Falkner
09:00	10:30	Geographical Break-out Groups (as requested) <i>(If no geographical break-out sessions are requested, then this time will be used to discuss the COMNAP paper requested by ATCM XLII (2019) on air activity).</i>	
10:30	11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00	13:30	<b>Agenda item 10:</b> Strategic directions <b>Agenda item 11:</b> Project Plan 2019–2024 <b>Agenda item 12:</b> Finance <i>(Closed session)</i> <b>Agenda item 13:</b> Election of Officers <i>(Closed session)</i> <b>Agenda item 14:</b> Future AGMs and Symposiums <b>Agenda item 15:</b> Any other business <b>Agenda item 16:</b> Close of meeting	Kelly Falkner & Michelle Finnemore
13:30 (or earlier/later if required) – End of AGM			

## COMNAP Year Planner 2018/2019

### **Exchange of Information**

The Executive Secretary recognizes that requests from the COMNAP Secretariat for information from National Antarctic Programs is a time-consuming process for COMNAP Members, and therefore tries to keep requests to a minimum. We are endeavouring to reduce this impact on your time and to reduce duplication of information into multiple databases. Your information is important in order to keep COMNAP products, including the website, current and reliable for the safety and smooth operations of everyone, and to be an effective communications tool for the work of national Antarctic programs.

Each National Antarctic Program MNAP, DMNAP or national liaison officer/person is encouraged to review the COMNAP website and documents regularly and update the information as required or send a request to the Executive Secretary to inform her of the change required.

As a reminder and for planning purposes, at the very minimum, the COMNAP Secretariat requires information from NAPs as follows:

#### ***What?* COMNAP Quickbase Database (Facilities and related information)**

***When?* In preparation for each AGM and at the start of each Antarctic season/campaign** (or when a significant change takes place in regards to facilities information). This should begin in preparation for the AGM Regional Break-out Group sessions and exchange of information at those sessions.

***Who?*** The MNAP, DMNAP or National Liaison person of each National Antarctic Program.

***How?*** Currently by sending an email to the COMNAP Executive Secretary; Soon, by way of the on-line database (username and password will be required).

***Why?*** In support of information exchange and science support collaboration.

#### ***What?* AFIM (Antarctic Flight Information Manual)**

***When?* Released 1 September, 1 December & 1 March**

(or when a significant change takes place in regards to an airfield or air activities at your station). This should be a regular process whereby National Antarctic Programs and other government organisations responsible for air activities and airfields in the Antarctic, and non-governmental organisations that have AFIM entries, can update their information as and when required. AFIM is released on dates above-so updates must be completed by those dates.

***Who?*** AFIM point of contact for each NAP or NGO that operates an airfield/runway/helicopter-related facilities/places in the Antarctic.

***How?*** <http://applications.pgc.umn.edu/comnap/dashboard/login/>

On-line data entry by way of the AFIM Data dashboard (username and password required)

***Why?*** In support of safe air operations in the Antarctic; Safety of human life.

Originally as per ATCM Recommendation XV-20 (no longer current) and now under Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) Resolution 1 (2013).

**What? ATOM (Antarctic Telecommunications Operations Manual)**

**When? Regularly from database**, when there is a change or addition to station, vessel or National Antarctic Program contact details.

National Antarctic Programs should update their information as and when required.

**Who?** The MNAP, DMNAP or National Liaison Person of each National Antarctic Program.

**How?** Currently by sending an email to the COMNAP Executive Secretary; Soon, by way of the on-line database (username and password will be required).

**Why?** In support of information exchange. Originally as per ATCM Recommendation X-3 (1977) and then Recommendation XII-2 (1983) (both of which are no longer current) and now under ATCMXXXVIII Resolution 2 (2015).

**What? Search and Rescue (SAR) Communications lists and assets**

**When? In preparation for each AGM** (or when a significant change takes place in regards to key personnel or assets)

This should begin in preparation for the AGM Regional Break-out Group sessions and exchange of information at those sessions.

**Who?** The MNAP, DMNAP or designated Safety Expert Group representative of each National Antarctic Program and the point of contact from each Antarctic Gateway Rescue Co-ordination Centres (RCCs).

**How?** Completion of the Regional Working Group Information Share templates

**Why?** In support of safe operations in the Antarctic; Safety of human life; Efficient communications in times of emergency or medical incident which requires collaboration.

The COMNAP Secretariat would like information from NAPs to include in COMNAP Secretariat publication(s):

**What? COMNAP Updates**

**When? February, April, June, October and December**

**Who?** Any person from any COMNAP Member or Observer National Antarctic Program, any COMNAP Expert Group Leader, EXCOM Member, or Project Leader.

**What?** Information on planned events, on key activities and events at Antarctic Stations or National Antarctic Program headquarters, general announcements of interest to the community, updates on projects, any information in regards to Expert Group topics and discussions. Pictures are also always welcome.

**How?** Email to the Executive Secretary or send a link to a news item of interest.

**Why?** Information exchange.

**Reminder of some dates:**

June 2018	July	August	September	October	November
1 COMNAP Update		27-29 EXCOM Meeting (USA)	1 AFIM release/ review your data before	9 EXCOM teleconference	
11-13 AGM (Garmish)			1 ATOM review	15 COMNAP Update	
14 Symposium			15 Reminder to all vessels of CATS for season		
15-18 Various side meetings (Davos)					
19-22 SCAR OSC including COMNAP Mini-Symposium					

December	January 2019	February	March	April	May
11 EXCOM teleconference	1 ATOM review	15 COMNAP Update	1 AFIM release if required	15 COMNAP Update	
20 COMNAP Update			12 EXCOM teleconference		
20 AFIM Release					

## Appendix 4: Historical Record of COMNAP Meetings and Officers

Notes: Years shown are “COMNAP Years”, which run from the close of an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to the close of the next AGM. ATCMs shown are those closest to the AGM held during (at the end of) that COMNAP year – in some instances the ATCM may have been held later than the COMNAP AGM and hence may not strictly be in that COMNAP year. The gap shown is the number of days between the end of the ATCM/SATCM and the start of the COMNAP AGM, which should ideally be at least 45 days. (#) denotes Ex Officio members of EXCOM, not directly elected on EXCOM by NATIONAL ANTARCTIC PROGRAMS.

### 1988/1989 to 1992/1993

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>COMNAP AGM</b>	<b>1988/1989</b>	<b>1989/1990</b>	<b>1990/1991</b>	<b>1991/1992</b>	<b>1992/1993</b>
meeting	COMNAP I	COMNAP II	COMNAP III	COMNAP IV	COMNAP V
symposium		SCALOP IV		SCALOP V	
locality	Cambridge	Sao Paulo	Bologna	Bariloche	Christchurch
country	UK	BR	IT	AR	NZ
start date	04-Oct-1989	17-Jul-1990	17-Jun-1991	08-Jun-1992	20-Jun-1993
end date	06-Oct-1989	21-Jul-1990	21-Jun-1991	12-Jun-1992	26-Jun-1993
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>1988/1989</b>	<b>1989/1990</b>	<b>1990/1991</b>	<b>1991/1992</b>	<b>1992/1993</b>
locality				<i>Bremen</i>	
country				<i>DE</i>	
dates					
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>1988/1989</b>	<b>1989/1990</b>	<b>1990/1991</b>	<b>1991/1992</b>	<b>1992/1993</b>
ATCM/SATCM	ATCM XV		ATCM XVI	ATCM XVII	
CEP					
locality	Paris		Bonn	Venice	
country	FR		DE	IT	
start date	09-Oct-1989		07-Oct-1991	11-Nov-1992	
end date	20-Oct-1989		18-Oct-1991	20-Nov-1992	
gap to COMNAP AGM	-16 days	n/a	-123 days	-165 days	n/a
<b>COMNAP Officers</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>1988/1989</b>	<b>1989/1990</b>	<b>1990/1991</b>	<b>1991/1992</b>	<b>1992/1993</b>
<b>Chair</b>	David Drewry (UK)	David Drewry (UK)	David Drewry (UK)	Mario Zuchelli (IT)	Mario Zuchelli (IT)
<b>Past Chair or Chair Elect</b>				David Drewry (UK)	David Drewry (UK)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>				Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>					
<b>MNAP Rep</b>					
<b># SCALOP Chair</b>	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Jack Sayers (AU)
<b># Exec. Secretary</b>	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)

## 1993/1994 to 1997/1998

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>COMNAP AGM</b>	<b>1993/1994</b>	<b>1994/1995</b>	<b>1995/1996</b>	<b>1996/1997</b>	<b>1997/1998</b>
meeting	COMNAP VI	COMNAP VII	COMNAP VIII	COMNAP VIX	COMNAP X
symposium	SCALOP VI		SCALOP VII		SCALOP VIII
locality	Rome	Santiago	Cambridge	Cape Town	Concepcion
country	IT	CL	UK	ZA	CL
start date	29-Aug-1994	31-Jul-1995	05-Aug-1996	25-Aug-1997	20-Jul-1998
end date	02-Sep-1994	04-Aug-1995	09-Aug-1996	29-Aug-1997	24-Jul-1998
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>1993/1994</b>	<b>1994/1995</b>	<b>1995/1996</b>	<b>1996/1997</b>	<b>1997/1998</b>
locality		<i>Oxnard</i>	<i>Honolulu</i>	<i>Santa Fe</i>	Santa Fe
country		<i>US</i>	<i>US</i>	<i>US</i>	US
dates					15-16 Dec 1997
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>1993/1994</b>	<b>1994/1995</b>	<b>1995/1996</b>	<b>1996/1997</b>	<b>1997/1998</b>
ATCM/SATC M	ATCM XVIII	ATCM VIX	ATCM XX	ATCM XXI	ATCM XII
CEP					CEP I
locality	kyoto	seoul	Utrecht	Christchurch	Tromsø
country	JP	KR	NL	NZ	NO
start date	11-Apr-1994	08-May-1995	29-Apr-1996	19-May-1997	25-May-1998
end date	22-Apr-1994	19-May-1995	10-May-1996	30-May-1997	05-Jun-1998
gap to COMNAP AGM	129 days	73 days	87 days	87 days	45 days
<b>COMNAP Officers</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>1993/1994</b>	<b>1994/1995</b>	<b>1995/1996</b>	<b>1996/1997</b>	<b>1997/1998</b>
<b>Chair</b>	Mario Zuchelli (IT)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)
<b>Past Chair or Chair Elect</b>	David Drewry (UK)	Mario Zuchelli (IT)			Anders Karlqvist (SE)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)	Carlos Rinaldi (AR)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>		Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>					
<b># SCALOP Chair</b>	Jack Sayers (AU)	Jack Sayers (AU)	Erick Chiang (US)	Erick Chiang (US)	Erick Chiang (US)
<b># Exec. Secretary</b>	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Jack Sayers (AU) [1]

[1] Al Fowler until 30 September 1997; Jack Sayers from 01 October 1997

## 1998/1999 to 2002/2003

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>COMNAP AGM</b>	<b>1998/1999</b>	<b>1999/2000</b>	<b>2000/2001</b>	<b>2001/2002</b>	<b>2002/2003</b>
meeting	COMNAP XI	COMNAP XII	COMNAP XIII	COMNAP XIV	COMNAP XV
symposium		SCALOP IX		SCALOP X	
locality	Goa	Tokyo	Amsterdam	Shangai	Brest
country	IN	JP	NL	CN	FR
start date	20-Sep-1999	10-Jul-2000	20-Aug-2001	15-Jul-2002	08-Jul-2003
end date	24-Sep-1999	14-Jul-2000	24-Aug-2001	19-Jul-2002	11-Jul-2003
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>1998/1999</b>	<b>1999/2000</b>	<b>2000/2001</b>	<b>2001/2002</b>	<b>2002/2003</b>
locality	Hobart	Skukuza	Singapore	Mauii	Brest
country	AU	ZA	SI	US	FR
dates	07-08 Dec 1998	29-30 Nov 1999	28-29 Nov 2000	23-24 Nov 2001	27-28 Mar 2003
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>1998/1999</b>	<b>1999/2000</b>	<b>2000/2001</b>	<b>2001/2002</b>	<b>2002/2003</b>
ATCM/SATC M	ATCM XXIII	ATSCM XII	ATCM XXIV	ATCM XXV	ATCM XXVI
CEP	CEP II	CEP III	CEP IV	CEP V	CEP VI
locality	Lima	The Hague	St Petersburg	Warsaw	Madrid
country	PE	NL	RU	PL	ES
start date	24-May-1999	11-Sep-2000	09-Jul-2001	03-Sep-2002	09-Jun-2003
end date	04-Jun-1999	15-Sep-2000	20-Jul-2001	14-Sep-2002	20-Jun-2003
gap to COMNAP AGM	108 days	-67 days	31 days	-61 days	18 days
<b>COMNAP Officers</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>1998/1999</b>	<b>1999/2000</b>	<b>2000/2001</b>	<b>2001/2002</b>	<b>2002/2003</b>
<b>Chair</b>	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ) [2]	Karl Erb (US)	Karl Erb (US)
<b>Past Chair or Chair Elect</b>				Gillian Wratt (NZ)	
<b>MNAP Rep</b>	Carlos Rinaldi (AR)	Carlos Rinaldi (AR)	Karl Erb (US)	Okitsugu Watanabe (JP)	Okitsugu Watanabe (JP)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>	Dirk Van Schalkwyk (ZA)	Dirk Van Schalkwyk (ZA)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>					
<b># SCALOP Chair</b>	Patricio Eberhard (CL)	Patricio Eberhard (CL)	Patricio Eberhard (CL)	Kim Pitt (AU)	Kim Pitt (AU)
<b># Exec. Secretary</b>	Jack Sayers (AU)	Jack Sayers (AU)	Jack Sayers (AU)	Jack Sayers (AU)	Jack Sayers (AU)

[2] Term of chair extended by one year because of unforeseen resignation of two EXCOM members from COMNAP during 2000

## 2003/2004 to 2007/2008

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>COMNAP AGM</b>	<b>2003/2004</b>	<b>2004/2005</b>	<b>2005/2006</b>	<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>2007/2008</b>
meeting	COMNAP XVI	COMNAP XVII	COMNAP XVIII	COMNAP XIX	COMNAP XX
symposium	SCALOP XI		SCALOP XII		SCALOP XIII
locality	Bremen	Sofia	Hobart	Washington DC	St Petersburg
country	DE	BG	AU	US	RU
start date	25-Jul-2004	12-Jul-2005	09-Jul-2006	09-Jul-2007	30-Jun-2008
end date	30-Jul-2004	15-Jul-2005	14-Jul-2006	13-Jul-2007	04-Jul-2008
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2003/2004</b>	<b>2004/2005</b>	<b>2005/2006</b>	<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>2007/2008</b>
locality	Seattle	Punta Arenas	Seoul	Kwalata	Cambridge
country	US	CL	KR	ZA	UK
dates	25-26 Oct 2003	17-18 Oct 2004	19-20 Oct 2005	11-12 Oct 2006	03-05 Oct 2007
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>2003/2004</b>	<b>2004/2005</b>	<b>2005/2006</b>	<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>2007/2008</b>
ATCM/SATC M	ATCM XXVII	ATCM XXVIII	ATCMXXIX	ATCM XXX	ATCM XXXI
CEP	CEP VII	CEP VIII	CEP IX	CEP X	CEP XI
locality	Cape Town	Stockholm	Edinburgh	Delhi	Kiev
country	ZA	SE	UK	IN	UA
start date	24-May-2004	05-Jun-2005	12-Jun-2006	30-Apr-2007	02-Jun-2008
end date	04-Jun-2004	17-Jun-2005	23-Jun-2006	11-May-2007	13-Jun-2008
gap to COMNAP AGM	51 days	25 days	16 days	59 days	17 days
<b>COMNAP Officers</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2003/2004</b>	<b>2004/2005</b>	<b>2005/2006</b>	<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>2007/2008</b>
<b>Chair</b>	Karl Erb (US)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	José Retamales (CL)
<b>Past Chair or Chair Elect</b>		Karl Erb (US)		José Retamales (CL)	Gérard Jugie (FR)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>	Okitsugu Watanabe (JP)	Henry Valentine (ZA)	Henry Valentine (ZA)	Henry Valentine (ZA)	Rasik Ravindra (IN)
<b>MNAP Rep</b>	Gérard Jugie (FR) [3]	Yeadong Kim (KR)	Yeadong Kim (KR)	Yeadong Kim (KR)	Lou Sanson (NZ)
<b>MNAP Rep [4]</b>	Jorge Berguño (CL)	Jorge Berguño (CL)	Jorge Berguño (CL)	Christo Pimpirev (BG)	Christo Pimpirev (BG)
<b># SCALOP Chair</b>	Kim Pitt (AU)	Kim Pitt (AU) [6]	John Pye (UK)	John Pye (UK)	John Pye (UK)
<b># Exec. Secretary</b>	Antoine Guichard [5]	Antoine Guichard	Antoine Guichard	Antoine Guichard	Antoine Guichard

[3] Term as MNAP Representative extended by one year as due to assume chair in 2004/2005

[4] Third MNAP Representative position created at COMNAP XV (Brest, 2003)

[5] Jack Sayers until 30 September 2003; Antoine Guichard from 01 October 2003

[6] Term as SCALOP Chair extended by one year following unforeseen departure of new Chair within weeks of starting his term

## 2008/2009 to 2012/2013

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>AGM</b>	<b>2008/2009</b>	<b>2009/2010</b>	<b>2010/2011</b>	<b>2011/2012</b>	<b>2012/2013</b>
meeting	COMNAP XXI	COMNAP XXIII	COMNAP XXIII	COMNAP XXIV	COMNAP XXV
symposium		Symposium XIV		Symposium XV	
locality	Punta Arenas	Buenos Aires	Stockholm	Portland, Oregon	Seoul
country	Chile	Argentina	Sweden	USA	Republic of Korea
start date	03-Aug-2009	09-Aug-2010	01-Aug-2011	15-Jul-2012	8-Jul-2013
end date	07-Aug-2009	12-Aug-2010	04-Aug-2011	19-Jul-2012	10-Jul-2013
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2008/2009</b>	<b>2009/2010</b>	<b>2010/2011</b>	<b>2011/2012</b>	<b>2012/2013</b>
locality	Bansko	Christchurch	Shanghai	Barcelona	Bremerhaven
country	BG	NZ	CHINA	SPAIN	GERMANY
dates	01-03 Oct 2008	24 – 29 Sept 2009	15-17 Nov 2010	17-18 October 2011	18-19 October 2012
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
ATCM/SATC M	ATCM XXXIII	ATCM XXXIII	ATCM XXXIV	ATCM XXXV	ATCM XXXVI
CEP	CEP XII	CEP XIII	CEP XIV	CEP XV	CEP XVI
locality	Baltimore	Punta del Este	Buenos Aires	Hobart	Brussels
country	US	UY	AR	AU	BL
start date	06-Apr-2009	03-May-2010	20-June-2011	11-June-2012	20-May-2013
end date	17-Apr-2009	14-May-2010	1-July-2011	20-June-2012	29-May-2013
gap to COMNAP AGM	108 days	86 days	30 days	25 days	39 days
<b>COMNAP Officers [7]</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2008/2009</b>	<b>2009/2010</b>	<b>2010/2011</b>	<b>2011/2012</b>	<b>2012/2013</b>
<b>Chair</b>	José Retamales (CL)	José Retamales (CL)	José Retamales [8] (CL)	Heinz Miller (GERMANY)	Heinz Miller (GERMANY)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Rasik Ravindra (IN)	Rasik Ravindra (IN)	Yuansheng Li (CHINA)	Yuansheng Li (CHINA)	Yuansheng Li (CHINA)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Lou Sanson (NZ)	Lou Sanson (NZ)	Mariano Memolli (ARG)	Mariano Memolli (ARG)	Mariano Memolli (ARG)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Christo Pimpirev (BG)	Maaïke Vancauwenbergh (BL)	Maaïke Vancauwenbergh (BL)	Maaïke Vancauwenbergh (BL) [10]	José Olmedo (EQUADOR)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JP)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JP)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JP)	Juan José Dañobeitia (SPAIN)	Juan José Dañobeitia (SPAIN)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Virginia Mudie (AU)	Virginia Mudie (AU)	Virginia Mudie (AU) [9]	Brian Stone (USA)	Brian Stone (USA)
<b>Exec. Secretary</b>	Antoine Guichard	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore

[7] Structure of COMNAP was changed at COMNAP XX (St Petersburg, 04 July 2008). EXCOM now comprises one Chair and 5 Vice Chairs, plus the Executive Secretary as non-voting, Ex-Officio member.

[8] Note this appointment was for a one year transitional term as Chair.

[9] Virginia Mudie resigned her position as Vice Chair in October 2010; that Vice Chair position was vacant for the remainder of the year.

[10] Maaïke Vancauwenbergh resigned her position as Vice Chair in June 2012; that Vice Chair position remained vacant for 27 days until the 2012 AGM.

## 2013/2014 to 2017/2018

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>AGM</b>	<b>2013/2014</b>	<b>2014/2015</b>	<b>2015/2016</b>	<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>
meeting	COMNAP XXVI	COMNAP XXVII	COMNAP XXVIII	COMNAP XXIX	COMNAP XXX
symposium	Symposium XVI		Symposium XVII		Symposium XVIII
locality	Christchurch	Tromsø	Goa	Brno	Garmisch
country	NEW ZEALAND	NORWAY	INDIA	CZECH REPUBLIC	GERMANY
start date	28-Aug-2014	26-Aug-2015	16-Aug-2016	31-Jul-2017	11-Jun-2018
end date	30-Aug-2014	28-Aug-2015	18-Aug-2016	2-Aug-2017	14-Jun-2018
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2013/2014</b>	<b>2014/2015</b>	<b>2015/2016</b>	<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>
locality	Cambridge	Tachikawa	Tromso	Tachikawa	Christchurch
country	UK	Japan	Norway	Japan	New Zealand
dates	23 & 26-Sept-2013	20-21 October 2014	29 August 2015	1-3 December 2016	20-21 November 2017
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
ATCM/SATC M	ATCM XXXVII	ATCM XXXVIII	ATCM XXXIX	ATCM XL	SATCM XLI <sup>[13]</sup>
CEP	CEP XVII	CEP XVIII	CEP XIX	CEP XX	CEP XXI
locality	Brasilia	Sofia	Santiago	Beijing	Buenos Aires
country	Brazil	Bulgaria	Chile	China	Argentina
start date	28-April-2014	1-June-2015	23-May-2016	22-May-2017	13-May-2018
end date	7-May-2014	10-June-2015	1-June-2016	1-June-2017	19-May-2018
gap to COMNAP AGM	109 days	76 days	76 days	59 days	22 days
<b>COMNAP Officers</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2013/2014</b>	<b>2014/2015</b>	<b>2015/2016</b>	<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>
<b>Chair</b>	Heinz Miller (GERMANY)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JAPAN)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JAPAN)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JAPAN)	Kelly Falkner (USA)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	John Hall (UK)	John Hall (UK)	John Hall (UK)	John Guldahl (Norway)	John Guldahl (Norway)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Hyoung Chul Shin (Korea)	Hyoung Chul Shin (Korea)	Hyoung Chul Shin (Korea)	Javed Beg (India)	Javed Beg (India)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	José Olmedo (EQUADOR) [11]	Yves Frenot (France)	Yves Frenot (France)	Yves Frenot (France)	Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Juan José Dañobeitia (SPAIN)	José Retamales (Chile)	José Retamales (Chile)	José Retamales (Chile)	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Brian Stone (USA)	Rob Wooding (Australia)	Rob Wooding (Australia)	Rob Wooding (Australia)	Rob Wooding <sup>12</sup> (Australia)
<b>Exec. Secretary</b>	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore

[11] Jose Olmedo resigned his position as Vice Chair in August 2014, serving two years instead of his elected term of three years.

[12] Rob Wooding was nominated for and elected by acclamation to an additional 1-year term as Vice Chair at COMNAP AGM XXIX (2017).

[13] This was a special ATCM, shortened due to relocation from proposed country of Ecuador to Argentina.

## 2018/2019 to 2022/2023

<b>Meetings</b>					
<b>AGM</b>	<b>2018/2019</b>	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
meeting	COMNAP XXXI	COMNAP XXXII	COMNAP XXXIII	COMNAP XXXIV	COMNAP XXXV
symposium		Symposium XIX		Symposium XX	
locality	Plovdiv	Hobart			
country	BULGARIA	AUSTRALIA			
start date	29 July 2019	3 August 2020			
end date	1 August 2019	5 August 2020			
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2018/2019</b>	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
locality	Alexandria				
country	USA				
dates	27-29 August 2018				
<b>ATCM/CEP (b)</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
ATCM/SATCM	ATCM XLII				
CEP	CEP XXII				
locality	Prague				
country	Czech Republic				
start date	1 July 2019				
end date	11 July 2019				
gap to COMNAP AGM	18 days				
<b>COMNAP Officers</b>					
<b>EXCOM</b>	<b>2018/2019</b>	<b>2019/2020</b>	<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
<b>Chair</b>	Kelly Falkner (USA)	Kelly Falkner (USA)			
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	John Guldahl (Norway)				
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Javed Beg (India)				
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland)	Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland)			
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)			
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	Peter Beggs (New Zealand) [14]				
<b>Exec. Secretary</b>	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore		

[14] Peter Beggs resigned his position as Vice Chair in September 2018.