

The Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP)
Annual General Meeting (AGM) XXXII (2020)
UTC 3–5 August 2020, Virtual Online
DRAFT Final Report
(Version 25 August 2020)



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Executive Summary

The Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) held its 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) as a virtual, online meeting due to the global COVID-19 pandemic that led to the cancellation of all in-person meetings planned for Hobart, Australia. This marked the first time in COMNAP's 32-year history, that the annual Member's meeting was not held in-person.

The various sessions of the online AGM were attended by representatives from all thirty COMNAP Member organisations. Observers from the national Antarctic programmes of Malaysia, Portugal, Switzerland and Turkey also attended. Other Invited Experts participated in the online Regional Break-out Group sessions and included representatives from the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) and the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO).

During regional sessions, Members and other operators exchanged pre-season information for Antarctic research season 2020/2021 and discussed risk management, particularly in the context of operations in the global COVID-19 pandemic. The community-supported goal remains to keep Antarctica COVID-19 free. The six Regional Breakout Group sessions were Peninsula, Ross Sea, East Antarctica, Larsemann Hills Management Group, Dronning Maud Land, and the inaugural High Plateau. All national Antarctic programmes indicated they were planning for operations of a reduced or scaled-back nature and were preparing protocols to continue to support their Antarctic science while keeping expeditioners safe and well. Other sessions held on the margins included the Joint Expert Group on Human Biology & Medicine (JEGHBM) medical advice session.

The draft of the COMNAP "COVID-19 Outbreak Prevention and Management Guidelines" were presented in order to assist national Antarctic programmes in the preparation of their own guidance and policies, and to assist with the dialogue between the traditional inter-continental deployment points and the programs that will use those points for the upcoming Antarctic summer season.

The statement of accounts for 2019/2020 presented the record of the financial position of COMNAP as at 30 June 2020. The draft budget for 2020/2021 proposes income from COMNAP Membership fees and does not involve any increase in the fee for 2021.

Dr Kelly K. Falkner, Director of the Office of Polar Programs of the US National Science Foundation, was re-elected to a one-year term as COMNAP Chair (to end of AGM 2021). John Guldahl (Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI), Norway), Agnieszka Kruszewska (Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics Polish Academy of Sciences (IBB PAS), Poland) and Uwe Nixdorf (Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), Germany) were each re-elected to a one-year term as Vice Chairs (to end of AGM 2021). Manuel Burgos (Uruguay Antarctic Institute (IAU), Uruguay) and Gen Hashida (National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR), Japan) were each elected to a three-year Vice Chair term (to end of AGM 2023). Michelle Rogan-Finnemore (Executive Secretary) continues in her appointed role and completes the seven-member COMNAP Executive Committee.

The COMNAP AGM XXXIII will be held in Toyama, Japan, from 11–14 July 2021. It will be followed immediately by the COMNAP Antarctic Aviation Workshop, at the same venue, on 15 and 16 July 2021.

ACTIONS ARISING

All	
All national Antarctic programmes with air-related facilities in Antarctica to confirm their information in the electronic Antarctic Flight Information Manual (e-AFIM).	By 1 September each year
Refer to the COMNAP Antarctic Telecommunications Operators Manual (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
In the context of COVID-19 and the global pandemic, all national Antarctic programmes are encouraged to share their prevention and management protocols and guidelines through the COMNAP Secretariat.	ASAP
All national Antarctic programmes that operate vessels and aircraft to ensure they are reporting in to the COMNAP Asset Tracking System (CATS). Contact James Cusick at the Australian Antarctic Division to get set-up for the CATS.	ASAP
All national Antarctic programmes are encouraged to send their advance season information, including Search and Rescue (SAR) points of contact, to the COMNAP Secretariat as soon as possible for sharing of information-including use of the Regional Break-out information exchange template.	ASAP (each season)
In addition to upcoming season information, Members are encouraged to share their long-term planning horizons including ship and aircraft schedules.	Ongoing
All national Antarctic programmes to consider the COMNAP Antarctic Aviation Workshop to take place in July 2021 and to nominate to the Air Operations Expert Group Leader (Paul Sheppard) technical air operations/aviation experts to participate in the workshop.	By 30 November 2020
Members to review AGM XXXI (2019) Meeting Paper 12.3 and to be prepared to come back to COMNAP AGM XXXIII (2021) for a future budget/future financial projection discussion.	Intersessionally for discussion at COMNAP AGM XXXIII (2021)
EXCOM	
Consider and agree what papers COMNAP will produce for ATCM XLIII (2021) and for CEP XXIII (2021).	EXCOM Meeting
Prepare the AGM XXXIII (2021) agenda and schedule, including any workshops. Consider the inclusion of an Advancing Critical Technologies Expert Group session at the request of the Expert Group Leader.	EXCOM Meeting
Finalise COMNAP Budget 2020/21.	EXCOM Meeting
By way of the Chair, draft and send a formal letter of thanks to the University of Canterbury for the renewal of the MOU to host of the COMNAP Secretariat.	By 1 October 2020
Executive Secretary	
Place the COMNAP AGM XXXI (2019) 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 and any other changes required. Update leadership roles and EXCOM Oversight roles for all Expert Groups in discussion with those groups.	ASAP
Update the COMNAP 3-year Workplan to reflect AGM discussions, place on COMNAP website.	As required
Work with all national Antarctic programmes in order to review, update and publish an up-to-date e-AFIM for the upcoming Antarctic season.	By 15 September 2020

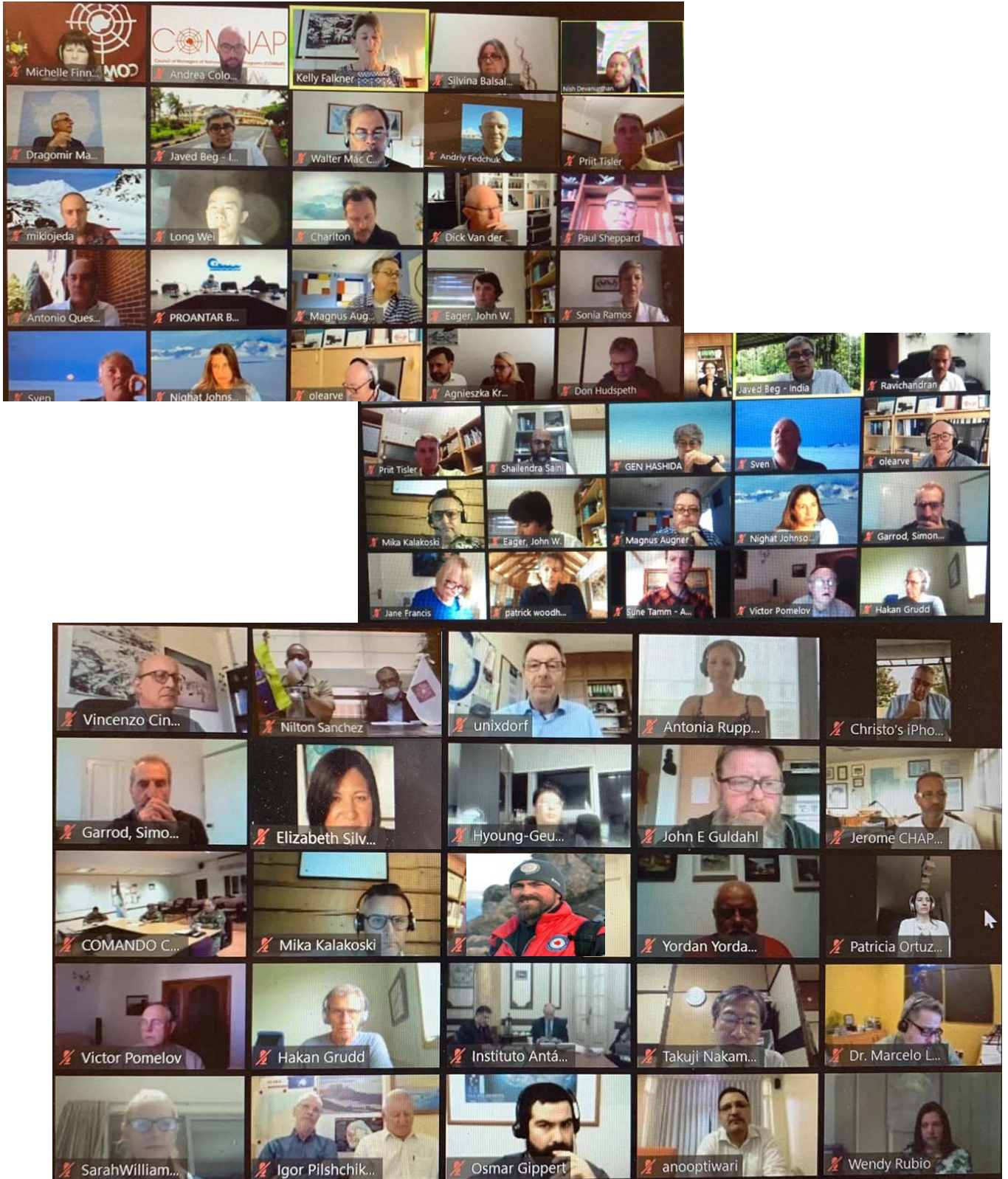
COMNAP AGM XXXII 2020 DRAFT Final Report Draft 25 August 2020

Submit Meeting Papers 5.4 and 5.5 as COMNAP papers to the Antarctic Treaty intercessional forum due to the postponement of the ATCM XLIII (2020).	ASAP
Lead the participation in the ATCM and CEP Intersessional Contact Groups (ICGs).	As required
Lead the drafting of COMNAP Working Papers and Information Papers to the ATCM and CEP.	As required
Seek further information from the National Centre for Polar and Oceans Research, India, from the Australian Antarctic Division, Australia, and from the Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland, in regard to their expressions of interest to hold COMNAP AGM XXXIV (2022) in their respective countries.	By 1 October 2020
Work with colleagues from the National Institute of Polar Research in the planning for COMNAP AGM XXXIII (2021) and the Antarctic Aviation Workshop, Toyama, Japan.	As required
Request, through the SCAR Secretariat, the synopsis of the planned new SCAR Science Research Programmes (SRPs) and circulate to COMNAP MNAPs.	By 30 August 2020
Others	
All Expert Group Leaders to review their Groups' Terms of Reference in consultation with EXCOM.	Ongoing
James Cusick to continue development of the COMNAP CATS for the upcoming season and to work with those that request assistance to get their asset information into the system.	As required
Charlton Clark as convener of COMNAP Symposium 2020 to work with the Symposium Project Manager to draft and produce the Symposium Proceedings.	By 1 December 2020
Andrea Colombo to work with Charlton Clark as convener of COMNAP Symposium 2020 and all Symposium participants to draft and produce the Symposium Proceedings.	By 1 December 2020
Paul Sheppard as Air Operations Expert Group Leader to draft a special notice for the first release of 2020/21 of the e-AFIM in regard to the limited availability of aircraft this season that might be called upon for emergency/medevac.	By 1 September 2020
Andrea Colombo to ensure the e-AFIM special notice is included in the first release of e-AFIM for 2020/21 and to regularly review for each release this season.	By 1 September 2020; Through 2020/21 season
Co-facilitators Agnieszka Kruszewska and Antonio Quesada to submit a report on the Peninsula Efficiency Taskforce project to COMNAP EXCOM.	By 1 November 2020
Co-facilitators Simon Trotter and Paul Sheppard to send information to all Ross Sea Regional Break-out Group participants with further information on a SAR tabletop exercise for the region.	By 20 August 2020
Facilitator Charlton Clark to send information to all East Antarctica Break-out Group participants with further information on a SAR tabletop exercise for the region.	By 20 August 2020

Acronyms

COMNAP	The Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs
MNAP	Manager of National Antarctic Program
NAP	National Antarctic Program
AFIM	Antarctic Flight Information Manual
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	International Polar 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

A selection of photographs from the COMNAP AGM XXXII (2020) virtual online sessions from UTC 3–5 August 2020.



Annual General Meeting (AGM) - COMNAP XXXII (2020)

Final Report (Draft)

AGM Plenary (Business) session
UTC 5 August 2020 12:00–13:00

1. Opening of online plenary

1.1 Opening

COMNAP Chair, Dr Kelly Falkner, Director US Antarctic Program (USA), opened the plenary session of the AGM and welcomed delegates to the first online COMNAP AGM in our 32-year history. The announcement on 11 March 2020 by the World Health Organisation (WHO) of a global pandemic of the disease COVID-19, led the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) to the cancellation of the planned, in-person meetings scheduled for the week of 2 August 2020 in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia.

The Chair expressed a warm welcome to all those that had registered and were participating in this historic virtual meeting. She expressed her hope that everyone was keeping safe and well, especially at this time, after what has been a particularly challenging year for everyone. She then made a special welcome to the new Managers of National Antarctic Programmes (MNAPs) and Deputy MNAPs (DMNAPs) and thanked everyone for their participation. The Chair acknowledged those working in Antarctica and wished them a successful and safe completion to their Antarctic working season.

On behalf of all of COMNAP, the Chair expressed our deepest sympathies and noted that our condolences continued for the families and colleagues of the Fuerza Aérea de Chile (FACH) Chilean Air Force personnel and all those who lost their lives on the way to Antarctica in December 2019.

She noted with sadness the passing of Mr Vasily Omelyanovich a specialist with the Ukrainian Antarctic program in May 2020 and expressed deepest condolences to his family and colleagues.

She commented on the passing of the first COMNAP Executive Secretary, Alfred Fowler, and the role he played to ensure that COMNAP was formally recognised in 1991 as a core contributor to the Antarctic Treaty System.

In respect for all our Antarctic colleagues who have died, a minute silence was observed.

1.2 Registrations

It is noted, for the record, that 151 people in total had registered to participate in at least one of the online AGM sessions. For the online plenary session, 115 delegates had registered, including at least one person from each of the 30 COMNAP Member national Antarctic programmes. During the online plenary, 75 unique sign-ins joined the meeting, with participants from all 30 Member national Antarctic programmes being represented. The AGM therefore met the requirements of a quorum under the COMNAP Rules of Procedure (section 5.3).

1.3 Introductions

A “welcome” video from Dr Kim Ellis, Director of the AAD, was shared on-screen. When the video ended the Chair formally thanked the AAD for all the work that they had invested in preparation for the cancelled Hobart meetings.

The Chair referred the AGM to Meeting Paper 1.3 the list of AGM registrants (Appendix 1).

The International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO), the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, and the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP), were all extended an invitation to send representative experts to this meeting.

1.4 Administrative arrangements

Referring to Meeting Paper 1.2, the agenda and list of Meeting Papers for COMNAP AGM XXXII, the Chair 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 (Appendix 2).

Given the online nature of the AGM, Agenda Items 3–6 and 8–11 were taken as read. Members were referred to all submitted Meeting Papers under those agenda items and were encouraged to read them and submit any queries to the Executive Secretary for follow-up. Agenda Item 7 was held as a series of online Regional Break-out Group sessions. The information from each of those regional sessions are recorded as part of this AGM Final Report with thanks to the rapporteurs for each of those sessions.

There being no requests for the floor the Chair closed Agenda Item 1.

2. Adoption of COMNAP AGM XXXI (2019) Final Report

The draft Final Report of COMNAP XXXI (29–31 July 2019, Plovdiv, Bulgaria), had been circulated as Meeting Paper 2.1. The draft Final Report was distributed in August 2019 and made available on the COMNAP website. Changes or corrections requested by Members since that time were not substantive and had been incorporated.

The Executive Secretary proposed that the AGM move to accept the report as presented in Meeting Paper 2.1 as a full and final record of COMNAP XXXI. 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 Chair closed Agenda Item 2.

3. COMNAP Chair’s Report

This item was taken as read. The following Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item:

MP3.1 EXCOM Meeting 2019 Final Report DRAFT

4. COMNAP Executive Secretary's Report

This item was taken as read. The following Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item:

MP4.1 Executive Secretary Report

MP4.2 Report on COMNAP On-line Discussions 2020

5. Administrative & Policy Matters

This item was taken as read. The following Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item:

MP5.1 COMNAP Desktop Study: Preparing for the 2020/21 Antarctic season in the context of global CoVID-19 (19 March 2020)

MP5.2 COMNAP Desktop Study Antarctic Season 2020 (26 June 2020)

MP5.3 COMNAP COVID-19 Outbreak Prevention and Management Guidelines (Draft version 20 July 2020)

MP5.4 COMNAP Information Paper to ATCM: Annual Report 2019 2020

MP5.5 COMNAP Working Paper to ATCM: Resolution 1 2013 Preliminary Advice

It was noted that Meeting Papers 5.4 and 5.5 would be submitted to the Antarctic Treaty intercessional forum set up due to the postponement of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) XLIII (2020).

6. Reports from Observers and Invited Experts

This item was taken as read. No Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item. Presentation (PPT1) from COMNAP Observer programme Istanbul Technical University Polar Research Center (ITU PolReC), Turkey, was tabled under this agenda item.

It would be usual under this agenda item to receive reports from the Antarctic Treaty Executive Secretary and the CEP Chair. However, the ATCM XLIII (2020) and the CEP Meeting XXIII (2020) planned for Helsinki, Finland, May 2020, were not held as planned, therefore no reports were submitted.

The ATCM XLIII (2021) and CEP XXII (2021) are planned for Paris, France, with dates to be determined.

7. Improving Support of Science / International Collaboration

The Chair noted that this agenda item was held in six online Regional Break-out Group sessions at the dates and times noted and reported here in chronological order. Each Regional Group recorded highlights from the discussions and refers Members to the exchange of information that can be found on the Members Only area of the COMNAP website.

Peninsula (see Meeting Papers 7.1a and 7.1b)

UTC Monday 3 August 2020, 14:00–16:00

Co-facilitators: Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) and Antonio Quesada (Spain)

Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) opened the session and summarized the outcomes of the meeting of the Peninsula Efficiency Taskforce, Madrid, Spain, October 2019.

Miki Ojeda (Spain) noted with sympathy that the tragic accident of the Chilean C-130 aircraft in December 2019 had practical impacts to collaboration for the remainder of the Antarctic season, limiting possibilities. Therefore, the season campaign was not fully accomplished as planned. Nevertheless, there were some exchanges possible, as example he referred to the exchanges between the Republic of Korea and Spain. He noted that the system requires some fine-tuning before full implementation.

Agnieszka continued and explained that the two Antarctic seasons 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 are likely the most challenging seen, and that any pilot program would encounter challenges if launched during this period. A report on the weaknesses and strengths of the pilot system will be presented to COMNAP in advance of the 2020/21 season.

There was then information presented about COVID-19 protocols and restrictions from the Argentina and Chile MNAPs in the context of COVID-19 and the current gateway situation.

Patricia Ortuzar (Argentina) explained the current situation in Ushuaia, noting that Argentinian borders are closed and that the government was reinforcing the health system in the province. The situation at the gateway will depend upon the general situation in the country. In any case, Search and Rescue (SAR) will be coordinated as always and the combined (Argentina and Chile) Antarctic Patrol will be active with help available in a medevac situation within 24 to 72 hours (weather permitting) following the strictest pandemic protocols. The situation would be reassessed continuously and the information made available to all COMNAP Members on a regular basis.

Marcelo Leppe (Chile) explained the current situation in Punta Arenas, indicating that Chilean borders are closed, but the situation appears to be coming under control. The situation at the gateway will depend upon the general situation in Chile and would be regularly reassessed and information communicated on a regular basis. Through the Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH), COMNAP and Member national Antarctic programmes have been provided with the Chilean authorities' protocols which request the submission of information from every country wishing to use Punta Arenas as a gateway, by way of their embassy, at least 30 days prior to their planned arrival in Chile.

Chile is providing for a sanitary corridor from Santiago Airport to Punta Arenas to follow quarantine there. INACH and Chilean authorities are preparing a list of certified quarantine hotels for national Antarctic programmes to use. Marcelo provided a list of persons to contact as early in the process as possible: Rodrigo Waghorn (rwaghorn@minrel.gob.cl); Osmar Gippert (ogippert@inach.cl); and Marcelo Leppe (mleppe@inach.cl) and noted that the Chilean protocol is available from the COMNAP Member's Only website.

The facilitator then went in alphabetical order for an outline of operations from participants for the 2020/2021 Antarctic season. Detailed information was provided by each national Antarctic program in the advanced information exchange that can be found on the COMNAP Member's Only website.

Generally, the majority of the national Antarctic programmes working in the Peninsula region reported that they are reducing their activity to the minimum for the 2020/2021 season, with several cancelling their programmed scientific events, or thinking about doing so. Many will devote their efforts to maintenance of assets and maintaining long-term data and observational series.

Some programs reported that they would try to support as much science as possible, but many expressed their dependency on the situation at the gateways and the logistics support given by other national Antarctic programmes and operations/logistics contractors, noting that international collaboration and joint activities will be extremely difficult for the 2020/2021 season.

National Antarctic programmes with winter-over stations must dedicate their efforts in resupply and changing over wintering staff.

Lisa Kelley (IAATO) explained that their members were still planning to operate in the Antarctic for the 2020/2021 season. Each company makes its own decision as to its level of operations.

Discussion then turned to Meeting Paper 5.3 the draft “COMNAP COVID-19 Prevention and Outbreak Management Guidelines”, with the Executive Secretary introducing the document and making reference to Meeting Papers 5.1 and 9.1. Tim Heitland (Germany) in his role as head of the COMNAP COVID-19 *ad hoc* Subcommittee thanked the contributors to this document and urged national Antarctic programmes to review the guidelines and prepare their own protocols and plans based on the guidelines.

The co-facilitators closed the session adding that the time was now to start thinking on future collaborations for Antarctic season 2021/2022, in which the global pandemic could still be present and perhaps further aggravated by a global financial crisis. All were therefore encouraged to keep an eye on the possibilities for next season in order to increase the level of shared capabilities and thinking on innovative procedures and processes.

Ross Sea Region (see Meeting Papers 7.2a and 7.2b)

UTC Monday 3 August 2020, 20:00–21:30

Co-facilitators: Simon Trotter (New Zealand) and Paul Sheppard (United States of America)

Simon Trotter (New Zealand) opened the meeting and presented the New Zealand perspective in regards to the current COVID-19 protocols and the New Zealand governments approach and measures to maintaining a COVID-19 free status. He noted that the New Zealand border was closed and that clear guidelines to national Antarctic programmes were provided for entering New Zealand for transit to/from Antarctica if an exemption was granted. Formal agreements between each national Antarctic program and the New Zealand government are required prior to travel and entering into New Zealand. National Antarctic programmes are encouraged to continue to work directly through their diplomatic channels with the New Zealand government Ministries as part of the process. A fourteen-day, government-managed isolation and quarantine is required for all national Antarctic programme participants upon entering New Zealand.

The facilitators then asked each national Antarctic programme to outline their operations for the 2020/2021 Antarctic season. Detailed information was provided by each national Antarctic program in the advanced information exchange that can be found on the COMNAP Member’s Only website.

Simon highlighted the following for Antarctica New Zealand:

- Reduced programme activities.
- Activities that are focused on the safety of people, critical infrastructure support, maintenance and long-term science data.
- Antarctica New Zealand and the United States Antarctic Program (USAP) are collaborating on logistics, operations and on-ice protocols for the current COVID-19 situation and throughout the 2020/2021 season.

Paul Sheppard (USA) highlighted the following:

- Focus is on the preservation of science, resupply to South Pole station, Palmer and McMurdo stations, the safety and health of people.
- No South Pole Traverses (SPoT) this season for fuel resupply.

- No LC-130 aircraft on continent this season. From mid-December through February, aircraft will be based in Christchurch for medevac support.
- WINFLY (August 24–28, 2020) will see 130 passengers travelling south from Christchurch to McMurdo Station.
- Mainbody will be approximately 500 passengers total.

John Eager & Simon Garrod (United Kingdom) highlighted the following:

- Focus for the season is to maintain critical infrastructure, long-term science monitoring and the safety of British Antarctic Survey (BAS) personnel.
- Scenarios possible for the 2020/2021 season will be determined on air asset availability.
- There is uncertainty in the current planning for transiting aircraft through Rothera.
- BAS is treating all transiting aircraft as a “risk” and will ensure quarantine process are adhered to ahead of deployment.
- BAS, USAP and Ken Borek Air are working together on deployment plans.

Seonung Sunny Choi (Republic of Korea) highlighted the following:

- Limited operations this season based from RV *Araon* vessel, a two-month voyage to King Sejong and Jang Bogo stations.
- Engineering staff travelling to Jang Bogo station from New Zealand as part of air transportation support.
- Resupply by ship to the Korean Polar Research Institute (KOPRI) stations with no transit through New Zealand.
- Containerised testing unit being developed and will be on-board RV *Araon* this season, further information in PPT2 KOPRI COVID-19 Test Container Unit.

Vincenzo Cincotti & Gianluca Bianchi Fasani (Italy) highlighted the following:

- Programma Nazionale di Ricerche in Antartide (PNRA) Antarctic Technical Unit (ENEA-UTA) will be following the New Zealand government managed isolation process to travel through Christchurch.
- There will be limited operational activities and only 60 personnel travelling this season.
- Delayed scientific activity until spring 2021.
- Delayed runway works that will continue in the 2021/2022 season.
- Basler aircraft will operate from the hard rock runway this season.
- The *Laura Bassi* will operate a limited science voyage for ten to fifteen days, on-board science refit is delayed.
- The *Laura Bassi* will be providing fuel and resupply support to Mario Zucchelli station.
- Close out of Italian season will be by the *Laura Bassi*.
- Support focus will be to Concordia station.
- COVID-19 PCR testing will be conducted on station at Mario Zucchelli and Concordia.

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) highlighted the following:

- No usual summer season activity at Dumont d'Urville station, winter mode only.
- Reduced programme of activity this season for the French programme.

Sergey Tarasenko (Russian Federation) highlighted the following:

- Limited vessel operations schedule for the Ross Sea region.
- Planning to arrive Russkaya station late February 2021 and spend ten to fourteen days on station for resupply.

Tijun Zhang (China) highlighted the following:

- There will be a small contingent of personnel at Inexpressible Island for maintenance on the temporary buildings.
- All expeditioners will live on-board the vessel.
- *Xuelong* will be in the Ross Sea region for science and resupply.
- *Xuelong* will call into Christchurch for vessel resupply on onward passage.
- The Polar Research Institute of China (PRIC) will have COVID-19 treatment and management facilities on-board the vessel.

Christoph Kasch (Germany) noted that the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR) had no planned activity for the Ross Sea region this season. Gondwana station would not be open.

Lisa Kelley (IAATO) noted that there was still a possibility that a New Zealand tour operator might be undertaking a passenger voyage in the Ross Sea for the 2020/2021 season, however, it was uncertain and further work with Maritime New Zealand and government ministries was required. IAATO will inform COMNAP of further developments and plans.

The co-facilitators noted that there would be limited aircraft on continent this season and strongly encouraged all national Antarctic programmes to collaborate and share information on the availability of Antarctic assets, especially those that might be called upon for emergency/medevac. National Antarctic programmes to ensure their emergency contact list is up-to-date. Paul Sheppard (USA) in his role as Air Operations Expert Group Leader offered to draft a special notice for inclusion in the electronic Antarctic Flight Information Manual (e-AFIM) in regards to the special circumstances of this upcoming season and the limited availability of aircraft and assets for emergency purposes.

A Ross Sea Region SAR tabletop exercise is planned for late August/early September. All Ross Sea region partners are invited to participate in this exercise and further information will be sent through the co-facilitators as soon as possible.

East Antarctica (see Meeting Papers 7.3a and 7.3b)

UTC Tuesday 4 August 2020, 0300–04:30

Facilitator: Charlton Clark (Australia)

The facilitator welcomed participants and requested an outline of operations from participants for the 2020/2021 Antarctic season. Detailed information was provided by each national Antarctic program in the advanced information exchange that can be found on the COMNAP Member's Only website.

Charlton Clark (Australia) highlighted the following:

- The 2020/2021 season program (as per information share) will be a reduced program with approximately half the number of expeditioners travelling to Antarctica as would be usual. There is a focus on keeping COVID-19 out of Antarctica, sustainment of stations, the changeover of personnel and safety.
- Australia's interim charter vessel, MPV *Everest*, will operate a single visit to each Australian station. The vessel has reduced ice-breaking capability from the *Aurora Australis*.
- The vessel may travel in a reverse the order from Davis – Mawson visits on voyage 2.
- COVID-19 protocol prior to departure will see mandatory testing and two-week quarantine.

Igor Pilshchikov (Republic of Belarus) highlighted the following:

- Plans for the season depend on the situation at the gateway and flight availability through the Dronning Maud Land Air Network (DROMLAN).
- The current plan is for seasonal work to start in November 2020 and end in April 2021.
- There is planned engineering work on the further construction of the Belarusian Antarctic station and research in the disciplines: aerosol and gas composition of atmosphere; ozone monitoring; meteorological measurements; geophysical monitoring; biological research and environmental monitoring the main parameters of the Antarctic environment (snow, water, sediments, and soils).
- A Belarusian scientist is scheduled to participate in the work of the Ukrainian Antarctic expedition at Vernadsky station under a joint program of biological research.

Tijun Zhang (China) highlighted the following:

- Reduced activity for the upcoming season.
- Medical screening will be available.

Jérôme Chappellez (France) highlighted the following:

- Objectives to avoid COVID-19 will be implemented.
- Institut Polaire Français Paul Emile Victor (IPEV) will conduct traverse support to Dome C.
- Transit through Hobart arrangements underway with Tasmanian government and AAD.
- Hobart quarantine requirements for voyage RO personnel.
- One helicopter all season except for two on voyage 2.
- Increased medical supplies.

Gianluca Bianchi Fasani (Italy) highlighted the following:

- Minimising logistic and science activity.
- Sixty personnel for Mario Zucchelli station, Concordia station and the traverse (usually 180 personnel).
- Require USAP flight support.
- Basler support and two helicopters.
- AAD A319 flight support (two flights).
- *Laura Bassi* will make a single journey from New Zealand to Mario Zucchelli station and back in January 2021.

Javed Beg (India) highlighted the following:

- Limited program this season with no science.
- May use DROMLAN if available, much depends on the gateway.
- Use of one helicopter.

Gen Hashida (Japan) highlighted the following:

- Japanese Antarctic Research expedition (JARE) will have a reduced season, with only 50 expeditioners.
- Main objectives are resupply and changeover of personnel.
- JARE expeditioners will do a two-week quarantine and COVID-19 test before deployment.
- *Shirase* crew will follow Navy regulations and stay on board for two-weeks and will use single cabin occupancy when possible. *Shirase* carries two helicopters.
- There are no planned DROMLAN traverses.
- JARE is currently planning under two scenarios: Scenario 1 - “Basic” with a single ninety-five day vessel voyage to/from Antarctica and no “external” port calls; Scenario 2 - Australia port call in Fremantle on return from first voyage, 2nd voyage oceanographic

research returning to Sydney if COVID-19 restrictions allow with personnel changeovers from Australia by air.

Vladimir Papitashvili (USA) highlighted the following:

- COVID-19 testing and two week quarantine were required for all deploying USAP personnel.
- C-17 aircraft only and no LC-130s on continent.
- Basler for intracontinental movement.
- Support to on-going science only at South Pole and McMurdo stations, reduced level of activity.

Patrick Woodhead (IAATO) highlighted the following:

- White Desert will assess the extent of their summer operations by 1 September 2020.
- They are unable to require tourists to quarantine and may need to cancel their tourist season because of this. However, they are still considering whether to offer their day trips/turn-around packages believing the risk of introducing COVID-19 would be relatively low since tourists would only be on the continent a few hours.
- Possible reduced logistics preparations for 2021/2022 also.
- Six to seven flights by Gulfstream and two Baslers in Antarctica are planned.
- Some medevac capability over the season to/from Cape Town is likely.

Charlton Clark (Australia) reiterated that AAD would have no intracontinental aircraft capability during the 2020/2021 season but that there would be routine intercontinental capability from the A319 and RAAF C-17. The A319 would provide medevac capability if needed.

Participants agreed that given the reduced level of available assets likely to be in the Antarctic area this season it seemed a good idea to undertake a paper-based tabletop exercise to ensure a robust understanding in case of SAR including proper lines of communication with the gateways given the global COVID-19 situation and cases of Antarctic medevac. AAD offered to facilitate this exercise in early to mid-September.

Other regional groups were doing the same due to operational changes from the norm in their regions. Gaëlle Sellin (France) advised that Mario Zucchelli station would close on 21 January 2021 and therefore France may need external support for SAR after this date. Gen Hashida (Japan) stated that during the DROMLAN meeting, it was advised that Antarctic Logistics Centre International (ALCI) would operate a shorter season. With seven to ten flights from Cape Town to Dronning Maud Land and two Baslers, and may be a possible access point for SAR or medevac.

Discussion then turned to Meeting Paper 5.3 the draft COMNAP “COVID-19 Prevention and Outbreak Management Guidelines” with the Executive Secretary introducing the document and also making reference to Meeting Papers 5.1 and 9.1.

Larsemann Hills Management Group (see Meeting Paper 7.4a)

UTC Tuesday 4 August 2020, 04:30–06:00

Facilitator: Javed Beg (India)

Following the agenda of the meeting, Member programs were requested to present an overview on the scientific and logistic activities undertaken in the season 2019/2020 and their proposed plans for the coming season 2020/2021.

Charlton Clark (Australia) report:

- During the 2019/2020 season their usual scientific projects were carried out.

- Penguin monitoring at Amanda Bay was continued through aerial surveys and some installation of cameras.
- There was a need for sharing of information on capabilities of the member countries with regards to their preparedness for a COVID-19 situation, especially for medevac.
- Acknowledged the hospitality of the Chinese at Zhongshan station, the Russians at Progress station and the Indians at Bharati station during the curtesy visits.
- For the 2020/2021 season, the scientific component is being reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tessa Bird (Australia) added gratitude in regards to the operation of the Larsemann Hills Antarctic Specially Managed Area (ASMA) plan and the endorsement by the member nations for the updated map circulated by AAD.

Tijun Zhang (China) report:

- Usual scientific and logistics operations were undertaken in season 2019/2020.
- Two vessels supplied to Zhongshan and other Chinese stations with about 1500 tonnes of cargo and six vehicles. About 336 tonnes of waste was removed to China.
- Inland traverse to Taishan station took place between December 2019 and February 2020.
- Sixty flights of fixed-wing aircraft were undertaken.
- For the 2020/2021 season, the summer scientific component is being reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Javed Beg (India) report:

- Usual scientific projects were carried out during the 2019/2020 season.
- Multiple reconnoitre field surveys in and around Amery Iceshelf covering an approximate area of 450 km x 150 km were conducted. Basic infrastructure including shelter, helipad and mid-way fuel dump. Initial observations for lichen survey, bird breeding site, Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) measurements, glaciological and geological studies were carried out.
- International Conference on Antarctic Research (ICAR-2020) with participants from India, China, Russia and Australia was organised at Bharati station on 17 January 2020.
- Containerised laboratory modules were installed near Bharati station for atmospheric observations. A catenary bridge named “Eastern Bridge” of about 120 feet long has been constructed through the intervening snow-covered valley.
- Expressed gratitude for hosting Indian delegations at Zhongshan station, Progress station and Davis station during courtesy visits.
- For the 2020/2021 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the summer scientific component is being reduced and Indian operations shall be restricted to resupply of Bharati station and changeover of winter crew.

Victor Pomelov (Russian Federation) report:

- Usual scientific and logistics operations were undertaken in the 2019/2020 season.
- Unloading operations were carried out at Thala Fjord twice; first in December 2019 by *Akademik Trysnikov* and later in February 2020 by *Akademik Federov* with 520 tonnes and 1100 tonnes of cargo offloaded, respectively.
- Inland traverses to Vostok station and Dome B were undertaken.
- Progress station supported transport of people and materials for the construction of Vostok station.
- The operation of the Chinese fixed-wing aircraft was supported from Progress runway.
- The summer scientific component for the 2020/2021 season is being reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Continuation of construction activity of Vostok station planned for season 2020/2021 is uncertain because of logistical challenges due to the pandemic.

After presentation by the national Antarctic programmes the floor was opened for general discussion.

Victor Pomelov (Russian Federation) updated the group on the status of the Broknes-Plateau road and expressed uncertainty of continuation of the project for the upcoming season, which was to be undertaken jointly by China and Russia.

It was agreed that the flying record and reporting be continued for air traffic management and cooperation purposes, including Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA). The leaders of each station shall convey their planned daily routine of air traffic, including RPAs and metrological weather balloons, to Progress station for coordination.

It was agreed that ASMA and Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPA) protocols will be followed, as done in past, and that the AAD would continue to maintain the records and share the information periodically.

It was agreed that programs would share information on any new placement of temporary shelters or fuel dumps amongst all the member countries/programs and that these new placement locations would be included on the ASMA maps. It was also agreed that oil spill containment capacity would be shared with all the group members and shall be coordinated by India's National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR).

High Plateau (see Meeting Paper 7.5a)

UTC Tuesday 4 August 2020, 06:00–07:30

Facilitator: Jérôme Chappellez (France)

The facilitator opened the session, noting this is a new regional group, launched at COMNAP AGM 2019, following a side meeting on activities around Concordia station. The format of this group is to focus on current and future inland activities and opportunities in order to ensure collaboration in these remote conditions, which have specific constraints as compared with coastal stations.

In reference to a definition of “high plateau”, there was a suggestion to consider an altitude limit, where high plateau would concern activities above the 2500 metre contour line. Participants agreed on this definition with several participants proposing to enlarge the discussion to include operations on the high plateau of West Antarctica. This was agreed.

There was some discussion as to the correct name for the regional group and further discussion would be needed. Suggestions included High Plateau, Antarctic Plateaus, and Antarctic Interior.

The facilitator went in alphabetical order for an update from participants as to their national plans for upcoming years especially in regards to science activity, traverses and set-up/maintenance of remote facilities and stations in the high plateau region. The participants from Belgium, Switzerland and the United Kingdom each noted that were participating in this regional group discussion as observers, with not much programme activity in the high plateau.

Xuyu Cheng & Tijun Zhang (China) reported that for the 2020/2021 season PRIC would carry out a traverse from the coast to Kunlun station, arriving there on 10 January 2021. There would be limited science activities with regard to snow and ice at Dome A, as well as astronomy. No new

information about the future “ABC traverse project” between Dome A, Dome B and Dome C was available at this time.

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) reminded the group of the large scientific traverse organised in 2019/2020 and international collaboration with France, Italy and with additional support from Australia, from the coast to the Megadune areas between Concordia and South Pole stations. More than 1300 kms in unknown territories was covered. This was a big success, recovering almost 1000 metres of snow, firn and ice cores. There are increasing requests to perform science along the logistic traverse to Concordia station. France and Italy have a plan to “rethink” Concordia station to serve future needs.

Vincenzo Cincotti (Italy) added to the comments made by Jérôme and mentioned the European deep drilling operation “Beyond EPICA” (European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica) taking place at Little Dome C (approximately 35 kms away from Concordia station). “Beyond EPICA” began in 2019/2020 with camp building and the start to drilling is delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gen Hashida (Japan) reminded the group that the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR) will decrease of number of expeditioners deploying to Antarctica this year and they will use only the icebreaker *Shirase* for all deployments. The original plan was to start drilling the “Oldest Ice” near Dome Fuji during 2022/2023 season but this is now delayed by one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dome Fuji station will remain a seasonal station according to current plans.

Victor Pomelov (Russian Federation) told the group there would be two land traverses to Vostok station this season in support of the building of the new station. The current plan is to complete the operation in three years, however, plans for the next season are not yet fully determined. The Russian Antarctic Expedition (RAE) visited Dome B last season as part of the “Oldest Ice” project, but for the next seasons, focus is on the Vostok station rebuild operations.

Jessie Crain (USA) confirmed the continuation of the astronomy science projects at South Pole station, including a new telescope. She noted that the deep drilling project planned for Hercules Dome may start in 2022 or 2023. The USA will continue with the support for the Automatic Geophysical Observatories (AGO) distributed on the East Antarctic plateau and expressed interest to work in Wilkes Basin in order to characterise its geology. She proposed that the site could be a hub for future international collaboration.

Sune Tamm, David Rootes & Patrick Woodhead (IAATO) all felt that their operations related to tourism would be nil or close to nil. They all still intended to work on continent and provide operations and logistics to support maintenance of their facilities. Sune anticipated travel with a wheeled vehicle from Union Glacier to South Pole, then to the Ross Ice Shelf during the season.

Vincenzo Cincotti (Italy) noted that special care and advance planning was warranted in regards to transporting people into the high plateau/inland Antarctic regions this season due to the risks that COVID-19 presented and the difficulty with medevac from the high plateau through other regions of Antarctica. Jessie Crain (USA) agreed and noted that USAP planned to keep their expeditioners in isolation at McMurdo station for seven days before any transfer to South Pole station. They are also considering the purchase of a Medipod in the case where a medevac of a person presenting with a possible case of a contagious disease is required. She offered to share the specification sheet for the Medipod they are considering. Victor Pomelov (Russian Federation) added that the RAE planned to install COVID-19 PCR testing facilities at Progress station.

There are likely to be opportunities to share capabilities and knowledge on activities of mutual benefit such as SAR, fuel depots, skiways, traverse and airdrop to name a few. These will be more extensively discussed when formal high plateau projects require optimised coordination between national Antarctic programmes.

Programmes exchanged their airdrop experiences. Jessie Crain (USA) reported on USAP experience using LC-130 aircraft, noting it is not an easy operation and in some cases landing a Twin Otter may be a more efficient option. She also noted that provided a long enough skiway with agreed surface quality was available, an LC-130 could land at sites such as at Concordia station.

Victor Pomelov (Russia) noted that Russia had extensive experience with airdrop, including in the Arctic (drifting stations on sea ice) and at Vostok station, adding it is an expensive solution but could be used for extreme emergency.

David Rootes (IAATO) added that non-governmental operators ALCI and Antarctic Logistics & Expeditions (ALE) have made many fuel airdrops on the plateau to build fuel caches.

Dronning Maud Land (see Meeting Papers 7.6a and 7.6b)

UTC Wednesday 5 August 2020, 07:00–09:00

Facilitator: Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)

Following the agenda of the meeting, Member programmes were requested to present an overview on the scientific and logistic activities undertaken in the season 2019/2020 and present their proposed plans for the coming season 2020/2021.

Christine Wesche & Dirk Mengedoht (Germany) did not review the 2019/2020 season but noted that for the upcoming season there would be minimal activity with implementation of a COVID-19 strategy to exchange out wintering personnel and maintain station operations.

Javed Beg (India) summarised that last season they moved 75 expeditioners via the DROMLAN consortium, used feeder flights, moved 7 tonnes of cargo, had no medevacs but did have problems with the Boeing and concluded that their ship operations were normal and that they had provided support for the Belgium programme. For the upcoming season he noted that, it would be a shortened season and that much depended on the status of the Cape Town gateway.

Mika Kalakoski (Finland) reported that their 2019/2020 season had been normal with the use of the DROMLAN consortium for travel. He noted that the Finnish 4-year science strategy was complete and they were preparing the next 4-year strategy for their science, which would likely include station modernization and reduction of carbon emission considerations. No final decision had been made on the upcoming season. There was a strong possibility that there would be no activity and that Aboa station would remain closed for 2020/2021.

Gen Hashida (Japan) summarised that last season they moved 1000 tonnes of cargo to resupply the Syowa station, used three helicopters and had twelve scientists working at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica station. In addition, they worked collaboratively with NCPOR on exchange of scientists. He thanked the RAE for their support of a medevac of an over-wintering team member. For the upcoming season, he noted planning for a significantly reduced season under two proposed scenarios: the first using only the *Shirase* with no port calls to exchange wintering personnel; the second depends on the Australian border being open. A decision will be made in late September/early October. NIPR had no plans to use DROMLAN or Cape Town this season.

John Guldahl & Sven Lidström (Norway) noted that their 2019/2020 season had been normal except that it was the first voyage of their new vessel *Kronprins Haakon* to Antarctic waters, the *Mary Arctica* was also used. In anticipation of the Troll station modernization work, a delegation visited the station for initial consultation. For the upcoming season, the preferred plan is direct access, via long haul aircraft or vessel, travel from Norway to Antarctica (without port calls and no interactions while refuelling). Troll station runway will be available for use. Final decisions in regards to the preferred programme plan will be made in September.

John Eager & Simon Garrod (United Kingdom) noted that the 2019/2020 season was reduced but successful at Halley station, adding that the micro-turbines had worked better than expected. For 2020/2021, two possible scenarios were being considered: 1. Use *James Clark Ross* for supply of stations and no air operations; or 2. Use intercontinental flights from a sub-Antarctic island to/from Antarctica. This second scenario depends on aircraft availability. Simon added that anyone transitioning aircraft through Rothera would not be allowed to interact with the limited number of BAS staff at Rothera and that support would be significantly reduced. There would be no BAS vessels operating in the Dronning Maud Land region.

Magnus Auger (Sweden) commented on their successful collaborative operations with Finland and Germany and highlighted the first visit of the current Swedish Polar Research Institute (SPRI) Director to Wasa station. He noted there would be no Antarctic activity in 2020/2021 for SPRI and Wasa station would be closed.

Nighat Johnson-Amin (Belgium) noted that the 2019/2020 season was a busy one with two successful landings of the Ilyushin aircraft at Perseus runway. She noted thanks to the South African National Antarctic Program (SANAP) for the assistance provided by the *SA Agulhas II* on cargo operations. For the 2020/2021 season several different scenarios were being considered including reducing the number of expeditioners to half of the usual number using DROMLAN through Cape Town.

Victor Pomelov (Russian Federation) stated that their primary logistics operations were completed with the vessel *Akademik Fedorov* and noted they moved 360 tonnes cargo, 380 tonnes fuel and 347 tonnes jet fuel, and carried out their normal scientific program and began renovation of their buildings. For the 2020/2021 season they would again use the vessel but with minimum number of expeditioners. PCR testing equipment was being purchased for use in Antarctica.

Nishendra Devanunthan (South Africa) confirmed that 2019/2020 had been a very busy season with multiple international collaborations and continuation on a refurbishment project that would last four seasons. The upcoming season plan is minimalist with a focus on the changeover of the overwintering team and maintenance. SANAP has set-up a COVID-19 Taskforce comprised of medical advisors and port officials. SANAP has a request from a French institution for a scientific charter (still to be confirmed) for 20 days sampling on the Maud Rise and the possibility of assisting Alfred Wegner Institute and a non-governmental operator for carrying cargo. No field science is planned.

Sunne Tamm (IAATO) noted that 2019/2020 was a normal season with two personnel in Antarctica and that for the upcoming season they had no planned tourist activity. Patrick Woodhead (IAATO) noted that for them the 2019/2020 season had been busy with thirty flights, completion of 5000 kms by traverse, and two Baslers putting in 600 flying hours. He confirmed there had been issues with using the wrong frequency for communications and also noted there was a communications breakdown in regards to advance notification from an ALCI aircraft that landed at Wolf Fang runway. He offered to provide a full report from that incident.

The facilitator noted that further discussion of the incident would be taken up in the next DROMLAN meeting if necessary.

For the upcoming season, Patrick confirmed that a Gulfstream aircraft would be based in Cape Town and that it could be called upon in case of emergency. His company was still considering whether to take tourists south this season or not. He confirmed plans for seven intercontinental flights, mainly in support of national Antarctic programme activity and noted that Wolf Fang runway would be opened from 10 December 2020 through 20 February 2021. He added that the day trip tourists likely posed little to no risk of introducing COVID-19 to Antarctica, but confirmed that they would not be subject to quarantine on their way south. The day trips were, however, still under review and may also be cancelled for this season.

Representatives from China, USA and from Switzerland noted they were participating in the session as observers and had no information to add.

Discussion then turned to Meeting Paper 5.3 the draft COMNAP “COVID-19 Prevention and Outbreak Management Guidelines” with the Executive Secretary introducing the document and also making reference to Meeting Papers 5.1 and 9.1. It was noted that DROMLAN is preparing a COVID-19 protocol for use through the Cape Town gateway and that protocol would be shared with COMNAP when completed.

Participants agreed that given the reduced level of available assets likely to be in the Antarctic area this season it seemed a good idea to undertake a paper-based tabletop exercise to ensure a robust understanding in case of SAR including proper lines of communication with the gateway authorities. This exercise would be facilitated through the DROMLAN co-chairs and all Dronning Maud Land operators would be invited to participate.

Discussion turned to tourist activities in the region, noting that a risk assessment identified that tourist visitations present a high risk to safety and well-being for all in Antarctica in the context of COVID-19.

Jane Francis (United Kingdom) reminded the group of the problems associated with expeditioners travelling north out of Antarctica and the risk to those deploying home after a winter-over in Antarctica. Tim Heitland (Germany) agreed this population was at risk of being infected and noted that protocols have to be in place to keep them virus free as well.

The group session ended with all noting that ALCI should ensure representation at these meetings given their role in operations and logistics in the Dronning Maud Land region.

At the close of the six regional break-out group sessions, this Agenda Item 7 was closed.

8. Current Projects

This item was taken as read. The following Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item:
MP8.1 COMNAP Modernization Symposium 2020 List of Presentations and Posters
MP8.2 COMNAP Information Technologies Capabilities

9. Expert Groups / Topical Discussions

This item was taken as read. The following Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item:
MP9.1 JEGHBM COVID-19 Medical Advice July2020 Final Draft v5

10. Strategic Directions

This item was taken as read. The following Meeting Papers were tabled under this agenda item:
MP10.1 COMNAP Sustainability Statement 2019

11. Project Plan 2021–2026

This item was taken as read. There were no Meeting Papers tabled under this agenda item. The COMNAP 3-year Project Plan document is always available to Members on the Member's Only area of the COMNAP website.

12. Finance

The Executive Secretary referred to Meeting Papers 12.1 the COMNAP Financial Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30 June 2020, as reviewed by the University of Canterbury's Financial Controller who acts as the independent reviewer of the COMNAP accounts. The Controller's letter states that the financial statement is a true and accurate record of the finances for the COMNAP financial year July 2019 through 30 June 2020. The Executive Secretary noted that the financial statement was presented to the COMNAP EXCOM who have accepted it as the full and final statement of accounts for COMNAP for financial year 2019/2020.

The Executive Secretary confirmed that the end of year results show a very small loss, well within the budgeted loss. The Executive Secretary stated that she believed COMNAP remains in a strong financial position.

The Executive Secretary then referred to Meeting Paper 12.2 the proposed COMNAP budget for the financial year 2020–2021. She confirmed that she had circulated the proposed budget to all MNAPs in advance of the meeting. The MNAPs agreed and the AGM approves the provisional budget on the understanding that EXCOM will finalise. The proposed budget did not include an increase in Membership Fees for 2021.

The final budget for financial year 2020–2021 will be placed on the Member's Only website after approval by EXCOM.

There being no requests for the floor the Executive Secretary closed this agenda item.

13. Election of Officers

The Executive Secretary introduced Meeting Papers 13.1rev1, 13.2 and 13.3. She reminded the AGM that a COMNAP Notice to MNAPs was sent to each MNAP (full list in Meeting Paper 13.2) on 23 July 2020 to explain the situation as outlined in MP13.1rev1 (shared on-screen). Which was that all six of the elected EXCOM officer positions will end or be vacant due to resignation mid-term at the close of this AGM. The situation is unusual because we purposefully stagger our elected EXCOM member terms so as not to have complete turnover of the entire EXCOM at any one point in time. The situation is particularly critical in its timing given the current uncertain global situation and uneasiness we all face and the need for continuing strong leadership in COMNAP at this point in time.

The MP13.1rev1 goes on to present scenarios for a way forward allowed within the COMNAP Rules of Procedure. The Notice to MNAPs requested each MNAP to reply to the Executive Secretary on or before UTC 29 July 2020, 12:00hrs, as to their preferred scenario in order to inform direction of AGM discussion. Thirteen of the 16 replies received via email preferred scenario 1 and one reply preferred scenario 3ii. Therefore the overwhelming majority of the replies chose the scenarios in which the current Chair is re-elected for a one-year term.

The Executive Secretary therefore asked the AGM if she could lead the discussions based on those two scenarios only. The AGM agreed.

She then continued that, since both scenario 1 and scenario 3ii resulted in the current Chair being re-elected to the Chair for a one-year term, the Executive Secretary asked if the AGM would move to nominate the current Chair Dr Kelly K Falkner to re-election for a one-year term. Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) supported the move and nominated Dr Kelly Falkner for the Chair. Other MNAPs agreed via the chat box. The Executive Secretary then moved to elect Dr Kelly K Falkner as COMNAP Chair for a one-year term by acclamation to end at the end of COMNAP AGM 2021.

The AGM agreed.

Kelly thanked COMNAP delegates for their continuing support and accepted the one-year term.

The Executive Secretary then turned the discussion to the Vice Chair positions and opened the floor in order to understand if the AGM wished to proceed under scenario 1, keeping all current Vice Chairs, or scenario 3ii, keeping two of the three current Vice Chairs and opening nominations for three Vice Chair positions.

The AGM, including all respondents via the chat box, preferred scenario 1 and moved that all sitting Vice Chairs be nominated for re-election. The Executive Secretary asked John Guldahl (Norway) if he agreed to this nomination; John agreed. The Executive Secretary asked Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) if she agreed to this nomination; Agnieszka agreed. The Executive Secretary asked Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) if he agreed to this nomination; Uwe agreed.

The Executive Secretary then moved to re-elect Vice Chairs John Guldahl (Norway), Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) and Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) each to a term of one-year by acclamation to end at the end of COMNAP AGM 2021.

The AGM agreed.

The Executive Secretary then turned to the nomination and election procedure in regards to the two vacant Vice Chair positions. Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) reminded the AGM of the need for diverse regional representation. Jérôme Chappellaz (France) reminded the AGM to consider gender balance.

Nishendra Devanunthan (South Africa) asked for clarification as to whether only MNAPs could be nominated for the two Vice Chair positions. The Executive Secretary clarified that our Rules of Procedure stated, "A maximum of two (2) deputy MNAPs can be Vice-Chairs at any one time". Therefore, in this particular circumstance, having one DMNAP as a Vice Chair already (John Guldahl DMNAP Norway), we were opening nominations up to all MNAPs and all DMNAPs, and one, but only one, of the vacant Vice Chair positions could go to a DMNAP.

The Executive Secretary asked if the AGM would allow the nomination and election procedure to continue under this agenda item by way of email exchange. The AGM agreed.

The Chair asked MNAPs and DMNAPs to confirm their contact details in order for discussion and exchange of information and ideas during the nomination and election process. Discussions before an election are to be encouraged in order to achieve a constructive consensus and an appropriate representation and balance.

The Executive Secretary opened the nomination and election process via email as per the Rules of Procedure from UTC Thursday 6 August 2020) 01:00hrs through UTC Monday 10 August 12:00hrs.

All nominations received during that period were contacted and asked whether they accepted the nomination. One MNAP and one DMNAP declined their nomination. There remained three candidates (one MNAP and two DMNAPs) for two Vice Chair positions.

According to our Rules of Procedure which state that “A maximum of two (2) deputy MNAPs can be Vice-Chairs at any one time”, the Executive Secretary therefore moved that Admiral Manuel Burgos (MNAP Uruguay) President of the Instituto Antártico Uruguayo, is elected by acclamation to the role of Vice Chair for a term of three years, his term to end at the end of COMNAP AGM 2023. The AGM agreed. Manuel replied that he was happy to accept the role and committed to do his best.

There being two DMNAPs nominated for one Vice Chair position, the Executive Secretary called for a vote. The voting procedure was explained via email to MNAPs and the voting period open on UTC Wednesday 12 August 21:00hrs to close on UTC Thursday 13 August 21:00hrs. All votes to be submitted through the MNAP to the Executive Secretary and copied to Andrea Colombo (COMNAP Secretariat) and Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) in a role of EXCOM oversight to confirm the results of the voting process.

Once the voting period closed, the votes were counted and confirmed.

It was confirmed that Gen Hashida (Japan) received the highest number of “1” votes and therefore, Gen Hashida (Japan) is elected to the position of COMNAP Vice Chair for a term of three years, his term to end at the end of COMNAP AGM 2023. The AGM agreed. Gen replied that it was his honour to work on EXCOM and would do his best.

The Chair then moved formal thanks to Admiral Sergio Gago Guida (Brazil) for his service in the role of COMNAP Vice Chair. A Certificate of Appreciation was shared on screen and the Executive Secretariat presented Sergio with a letter from the Chair. Sergio responded with gratitude and appreciation to all COMANP colleagues.

Agenda item 13 closed after the email nomination and election procedure was completed.

14. Future AGMs & Symposiums

The Chair invited Takuji Nakamura (Japan) to provide details in relation to the 2021 COMNAP AGM XXXIII to be held in Toyama, Japan, hosted by the National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR). Takuji spoke to Meeting Paper 14.1 that was shared on-screen. He noted that the dates for the COMNAP AGM were confirmed as 11–14 July 2021. NIPR had also agreed to organise the COMNAP Antarctic Aviation Workshop (postponed from August 2020) at the AGM venue on 15–16 July 2021. Preparations are underway and further details of the AGM and the workshop will be made available by way of the COMNAP website.

COMNAP Members responded with applause and the COMNAP Chair thanked Takuji and the national Antarctic program of Japan for organising COMNAP AGM XXXIII (2021) and the Antarctic Aviation Workshop and other associated meetings and looked forward to being in Japan.

The Chair confirmed that India had won its bid to SCAR to host the SCAR Open Science Conference 2022 in Hyderabad, India, from 19–26 August 2022, and that the bid included the offer from India to host the 2022 COMNAP AGM concurrent with the SCAR Open Science Conference or immediately before. She invited M Ravichandran (India) to provide further details for consideration.

The Chair noted that the proposed dates of the meetings in late August presented a problem to many national Antarctic programmes and stated with gratitude that India had only recently hosted (2016) a COMNAP AGM and Symposium.

She opened the floor for discussion.

Agnieszka Kruszezka (Poland) noted that the National Antarctic Program of Poland had never hosted an AGM and that they stood ready to host COMNAP AGM 2022 if the dates proposed by India proved unsuitable to Members. She offered to provide COMNAP with further information should Members wish to consider the offer.

Charlton Clark (Australia) noted that the AAD had been planning to host COMNAP AGM 2020 up until a few months ago and that they were very disappointed when the meeting had to be cancelled. Charlton confirmed that much of the work done for 2020 could readily be put in place to host COMNAP AGM 2022. He offered to provide COMNAP with further information should Members wish to consider the offer.

The Executive Secretary expresses gratitude to all three proposers, noting the significant amount of work that a program puts into the organization of a COMNAP AGM. The AGM agreed to seek further information on all three expressions of interest to host COMNAP AGM 2022 and to make a decision based on the information provided by Australia, India and Poland.

The Chair stated that COMNAP AGM 2023 is confirmed for Belarus and asked Aleksei Haidashou and Igor Pilshchikov (Republic of Belarus) to update the meeting on city and dates if possible. Igor confirmed that the meeting would be held in Minsk and that dates were still under discussion in consideration of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) for 2023.

The Chair asked if there were any expressions of interest to host COMNAP AGM 2024 noting that that was also a SCAR Open Science Conference year. Marcelo Leppe (Chile) informed the AGM that two South American countries were working together on a joint bid to host the COMNAP and SCAR meetings in 2024 and that further details would be sent to COMNAP in the near future.

Antonio Quesada (Spain) confirmed a continuing interest to host the COMNAP AGM 2025 in the Canary Islands. This continuing expression of interest was noted.

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) noted the long time since France hosted a COMNAP AGM and expressed interest in hosting one at a future date. This expression of interest was noted. He added that we could pay attention to the carbon footprint of the meetings by choosing places minimizing the use of regional flights to get there.

Dick van der Kroef (Netherlands) asked Members to consider the possibility of holding our annual meetings virtually perhaps once every three or every four years.

The Chair closed Agenda Item 14.

15. Any other business

The Chair asked Members if there was any other business.

Vincenzo Cincotti (Italy) asked for the floor to note his imminent retirement after seven years in COMNAP and with 45 years of service to Italy and science. He warmly thanked colleagues for the collaboration and friendship during his time in COMNAP. He confirmed his replacement as MNAP for Italy would be Elena Campana.

The Chair thanked Vincenzo for his dedication to COMNAP, for his friendly and easy-going manner, and for his leadership of the Italian Antarctic Program. Members applauded his work and wished him happiness and good health in his retirement.

Jérôme Chappellaz (France) noted the discussions that took place during the inaugural High Plateau group session. Members agreed there was value in continuing this regional forum and wished to invite other national Antarctic programmes with experience and activities on the high plateau to join. Jérôme will lead an email exchange to work on terms of reference for the group, including consideration of the name for the group.

The Chair closed Agenda Item 15.

16. Close of Meeting

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

The Chair noted that the AGM would be held open until the completion of Agenda Item 13 Election of Officers.

The AGM closed as follows: The on-line plenary (business) session closed all items with the exception of Agenda Item 13 Election of Officers, on UTC 5 August 2020 at 13:30. The Chair closed the nomination and election procedure (held open under Agenda Item 13) via email on UTC Friday, 14 August 2020 12:30hrs.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Council of Manager of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) Annual General Meeting (AGM) XXXII (2020) Registrants List

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	Email address
COMNAP Secretariat				
Kelly	Falkner	COMNAP Chair / Director, Office of Polar Programs/National Science Foundation (OPP/NSF)		kfalkner@nsf.gov
Michelle	Rogan-Finnemore	COMNAP Executive Secretary		michelle.finnemore@comnap.aq
Andrea	Colombo	COMNAP Research and Project Development Manager		andrea.colombo@canterbury.ac.nz
COMNAP Member Organisations Delegates				
Silvina	Balsalobre	Plans, Logistics and Operations, Direccion Nacional del Antartico	Argentina	bbs@mrecic.gov.ar
Juan	Barreto	Counselor, Antarctic Foreign Policy National Directorate	Argentina	bat@mrecic.gov.ar
Edgar	Calandin	Commander, Comando Conjunto Antártico	Argentina	efcalandin@yahoo.com.ar
Pablo	Fontana	Scientific Coordinator (Social Sciences), Instituto Antartico Argentino	Argentina	ftp@mrecic.gov.ar
Juan Manuel	Lirio	Scientific Coordinator (Earth Sciences), Instituto Antartico Argentino	Argentina	jnl@mrecic.gov.ar
Walter	Mac Cormack	Director, Instituto Antartico Argentino	Argentina	wpc@mrecic.gov.ar
Patricia	Ortuzar	National Antarctic Director, Direccion Nacional del Antartico	Argentina	pvo@mrecic.gov.ar
Andrea	Pesaresi	Adviser, Antarctic Foreign Policy National Directorate	Argentina	zyp@mrecic.gov.ar
Juan	Piuma	Antarctic air operations, Comando Conjunto Antartico	Argentina	juanpiuma@yahoo.com
Fabian	Ramallo	Antarctic Naval Operations, Comando Conjunto Antartico	Argentina	f_ramallo@hotmail.com
Lucas	Ruberto	Lead research, Instituto Antartico Argentino	Argentina	luruberto@gmail.com
Tessa	Bird	Senior Environmental Policy Advisor, Australian Antarctic Division	Australia	Tessa.Bird@awe.gov.au
Charlton	Clark	General Manager Operations and Safety, Australian Antarctic Division	Australia	charlton.clark@awe.gov.au
Don	Hudspeth	Operations Planning Manager, Australian Antarctic Division	Australia	don.hudspeth@awe.gov.au
Nighat	Johnson-Amin	Operations, Coordination, Logistics & Environmental Management, International Polar Foundation/Belgian Antarctic Research Expeditions (IPF/BELARE)	Belgium	gg@polarfoundation.org
Maaïke	Vancauwenberghe	Research Department Director, Belgian Federal Science Policy	Belgium	maaike.vancauwenberghe@belspo.be
Hayneer	Souza	International Relations Division, Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR)	Brazil	hayneer@marinha.mil.br
Marcos	Delduque	Operations Division, Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR)	Brazil	delduque@marinha.mil.br
Marcelo	Gomes	Under Secretary, Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR)	Brazil	marcelo.gomes@marinha.mil.br
Roberto	Gomes	Pilot, Brazilian Air Force (FAB)	Brazil	robertorlg@fab.mil.br
Sergio	Guida	Commander of the 6th Naval District, Brazilian Navy	Brazil	guida@marinha.mil.br
Rodrigo	Kristoschek	Logistics Division, Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR)	Brazil	kristoschek@marinha.mil.br
Antonio Cesar	Rocha Martins	Manager, Brazilian Antarctic Program (PROANTAR)	Brazil	rocha.martins@marinha.mil.br
Dragomir	Mateev	Logistics, Bulgarian Antarctic Institute	Bulgaria	dmateev@polar.uni-sofia.bg
Christo	Pimpirev	Director, Bulgarian Antarctic Institute	Bulgaria	polar@gea.uni-sofia.bg
Yordan	Yordanov	Logistics, Bulgarian Antarctic Institute	Bulgaria	agen_i@abv.bg
Rafael	Castillo	Antarctic Advisor, Undersecretariat of Defense	Chile	rcastillo@ssdefensa.gov.cl
Lars	Christiansen	Chief, Antarctic Affairs Division, Armada de Chile	Chile	lchristiansen@gmail.com
Felipe	De La Lastra	Head of Innovation and Infrastructure, Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH)	Chile	fdelalastra@inach.cl
Miguel	Figuerola	Antarctic Division, Chilean Antarctic Program, Chilean Air Force	Chile	mfiguerola@fach.mil.cl
Osmar	Gippert	Head of Expedition, Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH)	Chile	ogippert@inach.cl
Hugo	Julio	Head of the Chilean Army Antarctic Affairs Center, Chilean Army	Chile	humberto.julio@ejercito.cl
Marcelo	Leppe	Director, Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH)	Chile	mleppe@inach.cl
Fernando	Machuca	Head of Logistics and Environment Department, Chilean Antarctic Program, Chilean Air Force	Chile	fmachuca@fach.mil.cl
Santiago	Madrid	Advisor to the Antarctic Division, Chilean Antarctic Program, Chilean Air Force	Chile	smadrid@fach.mil.cl
Fernando	Munoz	Head Antarctic Logistics, EMCO	Chile	fmunoz@emco.mil.cl
Wendy	Rubio	Head of Operations, Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH)	Chile	wrubio@inach.cl
Miguel	Santibanez	Advisor in Antarctic Army Planning, Chilean Army	Chile	miguel.santibanez@ejercito.cl
Manuel	Silva	Head, Antarctic Affairs Division, EMCO	Chile	msilvate@gmail.com
Oscar	Tacussis	Chief of Strategic Army Planning, Chilean Army	Chile	oscar.tacussis@ejercito.cl
Edgardo	Vega	Deputy Director, Instituto Antartico Chileno (INACH)	Chile	evega@inach.cl
Rodrigo	Waghorn	Deputy Director, Antarctic Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile	Chile	rwaghorn@minrel.gob.cl
Chunlei	Li	Deputy Division Head, Operation and Finance, Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration (CAA)	China	lichunlei@caa.mnr.gov.cn
Wei	Long	Head, International Cooperation Division, Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration (CAA)	China	longwei@caa.mnr.gov.cn
Bo	Sun	Deputy Director, Polar Research Institute of China (PRIC)	China	sunbo@pric.org.cn
Cheng	Xuyu	Engineer, Polar Research Institute of China (PRIC)	China	chengxuyu@pric.org.cn
Tijun	Zhang	Head of Station Management, Polar Research Institute of China (PRIC)	China	zhangtijun@pric.org.cn
Pavel	Kapler	Czech Antarctic Programme Manager, PIF MUNI	Czech Republic	kapler@sci.muni.cz

Hernan	Moreano	Advisor, Instituto Antartico Ecuatoriano	Ecuador	hmoreano@gye.satnet.net
Monica	Riofrío Briceño	Scientific Analyst, Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute	Ecuador	monica.riofrio@inocar.mil.ec
Nilton Jair	Sánchez Espinoza	Head of Antarctic Project, Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute	Ecuador	nilton.sanchez@inocar.mil.ec
Juan Carlos	Tapia	General Coordinator of Antarctic Affairs, Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute	Ecuador	juan.tapia@inocar.mil.ec
Mika	Kalakoski	Manager/Antarctic operations, FINNARP/Finnish Meteorological Institute	Finland	mika.kalakoski@fmi.fi
Priit	Tisler	Research and Technical Support, FINNARP/Finnish Meteorological Institute	Finland	priit.tisler@fmi.fi
Patrice	Bretel	Director Strategy Innovation, French Polar Institute (IPEV)	France	patrice.bretel@ipev.fr
Jérôme	Chappellaz	Executive Director, French Polar Institute (IPEV)	France	jerome.chappellaz@ipev.fr
Gaelle	Sellin	Head of Operation, French Polar Institute (IPEV)	France	gaelle.sellin@ipev.fr
Tim	Heitland	Medical and logistical Coordinator, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)	Germany	tim.heitland@awi.de
Christoph	Kasch	BGR	Germany	christoph.kasch@bgr.de
Dirk	Mengedoht	Logistical Coordinator, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)	Germany	dirk.mengedoht@awi.de
Uwe	Nixdorf	Deputy Director and Head of Operations and Research Platforms, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)	Germany	uwe.nixdorf@awi.de
Antonia	Ruppel	BGR	Germany	antonia.ruppel@bgr.de
Christine	Wesche	Antarctic Logistic Coordination, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)	Germany	christine.wesche@awi.de
Javed	Beg	Group Director (Antarctic Operations & Infrastructure), National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)	India	mjbeg@ncpor.res.in
Muthalagu	Ravichandran	Director, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)	India	mravi@ncpor.res.in
Yogesh	Ray	Scientist D & Manager Maitri Station, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)	India	yogesh@ncpor.res.in
Shailendra	Saini	Operations Manager (Antarctic Logistics), National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)	India	shailendra@ncpor.res.in
Anand	Singh	Scientist & Manager, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)	India	aks@ncaor.gov.in
Anoop Kumar	Tiwari	Scientist, National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)	India	anooptiwari@ncpor.res.in
Gianluca	Bianchi Fasani	Logistics Service Head, ENEA - Antarctic Technical Unit	Italy	gianluca.bianchifasani@enea.it
Elena	Campana	Head, ENEA - Antarctic Technical Unit starting September 1st 2020	Italy	elena.campana@enea.it
Vincenzo	Cincotti	Head, ENEA - Antarctic Technical Unit	Italy	vincenzo.cincotti@enea.it
Roberta	Mecozzi	Concordia Operational Committee, Head of the environmental service, ENEA	Italy	roberta.mecozzi@enea.it
Gen	Hashida	Deputy Director (for Research), Center for Antarctic Programs, National Institute of Polar Research	Japan	gen@nipr.ac.jp
Kazuo	Higuchi	Manager of Infrastructure and Logistics Section, Center for Antarctic Programs, National Institute of Polar Research	Japan	higuchi.kazuo@nipr.ac.jp
Takuji	Nakamura	Director-General, National Institute of Polar Research	Japan	nakamura.takuji@nipr.ac.jp
Yoshifumi	Nogi	Vice Director-General, National Institute of Polar Research	Japan	nogi@nipr.ac.jp
Shuki	Ushio	Head of Operation Support Office, Center for Antarctic Programs, National Institute of Polar Research	Japan	ushio@nipr.ac.jp
Dick	van der Kroef	Director Polar Programme, Dutch Research Council	Netherlands	d.vanderkroef@nwo.nl
Simon	Shelton	Senior Project Manager, Antarctica New Zealand	New Zealand	s.shelton@antarcticnz.govt.nz
Peter	Taylor	Environmental Advisor, Antarctica New Zealand	New Zealand	p.taylor@antarcticnz.govt.nz
Simon	Trotter	General Manager Antarctic Operations, Antarctica New Zealand	New Zealand	s.trotter@antarcticnz.govt.nz
Sarah	Williamson	Chief Executive, Antarctica New Zealand	New Zealand	s.williamson@antarcticnz.govt.nz
John Erik	Guldahl	Director Operations and Logistics, Norwegian Polar Institute	Norway	guldahl@npolar.no
Sven	Lidstrom	Operations Coordinator, Norwegian Polar Institute	Norway	sven.lidstrom@npolar.no
Ole Arve	Misund	Director, Norwegian Polar Institute	Norway	ole.arve.misund@npolar.no
Cintha	Bello	Environmental Specialist, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Peru	cbello@rree.gob.pe
Pablo	Londone	Scientific Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Peru	rlondoneb@rree.gob.pe
Elizabeth	Silvestre	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Peru	esilvestree@rree.gob.pe
Agnieszka	Kruszewska	Director of Administrative Affairs, Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics PAS	Poland	agnieszkak@ibb.waw.pl
Dariusz	Puczko	Polish Antarctic Logistic Coordinator, Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics PAS	Poland	dpuczko@ibb.waw.pl
Igor	Pilshchikov	Deputy Chief, State Institution the Republican Centre for polar research	Republic of Belarus	ipil@mail.ru
Seonung	Choi	Logistics Staff, Department of Station Operations, Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI)	Republic of Korea	suchoi@kopri.re.kr
Younghoon	Kwon	Logistics Staff, Department of Station Operations, Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI)	Republic of Korea	yhwon@kopri.re.kr
Hyoung-Geun	Lee	Logistics and Operation Manager, Head of Department of Station Operations, Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI)	Republic of Korea	hglee@kopri.re.kr
Min-Cheol	Shin	Division Director of Polar Logistics, Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI)	Republic of Korea	mcshin@kopri.re.kr
Alexander	Klepikov	Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute (AARI) Deputy Director, Head of the Russian Antarctic Expedition (RAE)	Russian Federation	klep@aari.ru
Konstantin	Levando	Chief specialist in medical support, Russian Antarctic Expedition (RAE)	Russian Federation	mr.levdok@mail.ru
Victor	Pomelov	Environmental Manager, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute (AARI)	Russian Federation	pom@aari.ru
Sergey	Tarassenko	Environmental Officer, Russian Antarctic Expedition (RAE)	Russian Federation	tarassenko@aari.ru

Nishendra	Devanunthan	Director, Department of Environmental Affairs SANAP	South Africa	ndevanunthan@environment.gov.za
Miguel Antonio Sonia	Ojeda Quesada Ramos-García	UTM-CSIC Executive Secretary, Spanish Polar Committee Technical Secretariat, Spanish Polar Committee	Spain Spain Spain	maojeda@utm.csic.es cpe@ciencia.gob.es sr.cpe@ciencia.gob.es
Magnus Katarina Håkan	Augner Gårdfeldt Grudd	Head of Department, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat Director-General, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat Research Support Coordinator, Swedish Polar Research Secretariat	Sweden Sweden Sweden	magnus.augner@polar.se katarina.gardfeldt@polar.se hakan.grudd@polar.se
Evgen Andrii	Dykyi Fedchuk	Director, National Antarctic Scientific Center DMNAP, National Antarctic Scientific Center	Ukraine Ukraine	evgendykyi@gmail.com andriyf@gmail.com
John Jane Simon Dave	Eager Francis Garrod Wattam	Head of Polar Operations, British Antarctic Survey (BAS) Director, British Antarctic Survey (BAS) Director of Operations, British Antarctic Survey (BAS) Operation Programme Manager, British Antarctic Survey (BAS)	United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom	joge@bas.ac.uk j.francis@bas.ac.uk smga@bas.ac.uk dwat@bas.ac.uk
Jessie Paul Jon Karla Alexandra Michael Margaret Timothy Vladimir Polly Paul Stephanie	Crain Cutler Fentress Heideberg Isern Jackson Knuth McGovern Papitashvili Penhale Sheppard Short	Science Support Manager, National Science Foundation (NSF) Program Director, National Science Foundation (NSF) Safety and Occupational Health Officer, National Science Foundation/Office of Polar Programs (NSF/OPP) Program Director, National Science Foundation (NSF) Section Head, National Science Foundation (NSF) Program Director, National Science Foundation (NSF) Operations Manager, National Science Foundation/United States Antarctic Program (NSF/USAP) Marine Manager, National Science Foundation (NSF) Program Director, National Science Foundation (NSF) Senior Advisor, Environment, National Science Foundation/Office of Polar Programs (NSF/OPP) Chief Program Manager, United States Antarctic Program/National Science Foundation (USAP/NSF) Antarctic Infrastructure and Logistics, National Science Foundation (NSF)	United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America United States of America	Jlcrain@nsf.gov pcutler@nsf.gov jfentres@nsf.gov kheidlb@nsf.gov aisern@nsf.gov mejacks@nsf.gov mknuth@nsf.gov tmcgover@nsf.gov vpapita@nsf.gov ppenhale@nsf.gov psheppard@nsf.gov sashort@nsf.gov
Manuel Bruno Pamela Almir Luis Marcelo Susana Ángela Carlos	Burgos Cabrera da Costa Debra Fernández Pazos Pecoy Quartarolo Serrentino	President, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute Legal Advisor to the Technology Management Assistant Relation Office, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute Logistic Assistant, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute Strategic Planning Director, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute Logistics Director, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute Technology Director Director of the General Secretariat, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute Director of Scientific Coordination, Uruguayan Antarctic Institute	Uruguay Uruguay Uruguay Uruguay Uruguay Uruguay Uruguay Uruguay	manuelburgosl@yahoo.com bruno.cabrera@miem.gub.uy rrii.secretaria@iau.gub.uy logistica.secretaria@iau.gub.uy planest.secretaria@iau.gub.uy marce.pazos@gmail.com susana.pecoy@miem.gub.uy angelaquartarolo@gmail.com cientifica.director@iau.gub.uy
COMNAP Observer Organisations Delegates				
David	Scott	President and CEO, Polar Knowledge Canada	Canada	davidj.scott@polar.gc.ca
Nasaruddin	Mohd Nasaruddin Abd Rahman	Chief Executive Officer, Yayasan Penyelidikan Antartika Sultan Mizan	Malaysia	nasa@ypasm.my
María Teresa	Cabrita	Executive Director, PROPOLAR	Portugal	tcabrita@campus.ul.pt
Basil Danièle	Fahrlaender Rod	Scientific Collaborator, Swiss Polar Institute Executive Director, Swiss Polar Institute	Switzerland Switzerland	basil.fahrlaender@epfl.ch daniele.rod@epfl.ch
Ozgun Burcu	Oktar Ozsoy	Deputy Director, TUBITAK Polar Research Institute Director, TUBITAK Polar Research Institute	Turkey Turkey	ozgun.oktar@tubitak.gov.tr burcu.ozsoy@tubitak.gov.tr
<i>Apologies were received and accepted from Venezuela</i>			Venezuela	
COMNAP Invited Experts				
Albert Birgit Lisa Nick David Sune Patrick	Lluberat Njåstad Kelley Lewis Rootes Tamm Woodhead	Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty Chair, Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) Deputy Executive Director, International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) Operator - ALE, International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) Operator - ALE, International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) Operator - Arctic Trucks, International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) Operator - White Desert, International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO)	ATS CEP IAATO IAATO IAATO IAATO IAATO	albert.lluberat@ats.aq njaastad@npolar.no lkelly@iaato.org nick.lewis@antarctic-logistics.com david.rootes@antarctic-logistics.com sunetamm@arctictrucks.is patrick@white-desert.com

COMNAP Annual General Meeting (AGM) XXXII (2020) Proposed Agenda



Item 1*: Opening of on-line plenary

Item 2*: Adoption of COMNAP AGM XXXI Final Report

Item 3: Chair's Report

Item 4: Executive Secretary's Report

Item 5: Administrative & policy matters

Item 6: Reports from observers and invited experts

Item 7*: Improving support of science & international collaboration

Regional group on-line sessions and information exchange

Item 8: Current projects

Item 9: Expert Groups

Item 10: Strategic directions

Item 11: Project plan 2021–2026

Item 12*: Finance

Review of preliminary statement of accounts 2019–20; Present draft budget 2020–21

Item 13*: Election of officers

Item 14*: Future AGMs and Symposiums

Item 15: Any other business

Item 16*: Close of on-line plenary

1 Items with a * will be discussed as part of on-line meetings. All other Agenda Items will be taken as read and will be handled by way of exchange of Meeting Papers only. The COMNAP AGM XXXII logo was created by the Australian Antarctic Division. Used here with their permission.

Schedule for on-line sessions

On-line registration required on or before the registration deadline in order to participate in the sessions.

UTC Monday 3 August 2020. Agenda Item 7 Regional Break-out Groups	
14:00–16:00 hrs Peninsula Facilitators: Agnieszka Kruzewska & Antonio Quesada Link:	20:00–21:30 hrs Ross Sea Region Facilitators: Paul Sheppard & Simon Trotter Link:

UTC Tuesday 4 August 2020. Agenda Item 7 (continues)		
03:00–04:30 hrs East Antarctica Facilitator: Charlton Clark Link:	04:30–06:00 hrs Larsemann Hills Management Group Facilitator: Javed Beg Link:	06:00–07:30 hrs High Plateau Facilitator: Jérôme Chappellez Link:

UTC Wednesday 5 August 2020. Agenda Item 7 (continues) & Agenda Items 1, 2, 12, 13, 14 & 16	
07:00–09:00 hrs Dronning Maud Land Facilitator: Uwe Nixdorf Link:	12:00–13:00 hrs Members Only COMNAP AGM Plenary (Business) session Chair: Kelly K Falkner Link:

Appendix 3: Record of COMNAP Meetings and Officers, 1988 to the present

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

Meetings					
COMNAP AGM	1988/1989	1989/1990	1990/1991	1991/1992	1992/1993
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
EXCOM	1988/1989	1989/1990	1990/1991	1991/1992	1992/1993
locality				<i>Bremen</i>	
country				<i>DE</i>	
dates					
ATCM/CEP (b)	1988/1989	1989/1990	1990/1991	1991/1992	1992/1993
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
COMNAP Officers					
EXCOM	1988/1989	1989/1990	1990/1991	1991/1992	1992/1993
Chair	David Drewry (UK)	David Drewry (UK)	David Drewry (UK)	Mario Zuchelli (IT)	Mario Zuchelli (IT)
Past Chair or Chair Elect				David Drewry (UK)	David Drewry (UK)
MNAP Rep				Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)
MNAP Rep					
MNAP Rep					
# SCALOP Chair	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Heinz Kohnen (DE)	Jack Sayers (AU)
# Exec. Secretary	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)	Al Fowler (US)

1993/1994 to 1997/1998

Meetings					
COMNAP AGM	1993/1994	1994/1995	1995/1996	1996/1997	1997/1998
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
EXCOM	1993/1994	1994/1995	1995/1996	1996/1997	1997/1998
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
ATCM/CEP (b)	1993/1994	1994/1995	1995/1996	1996/1997	1997/1998
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
COMNAP Officers					
EXCOM	1993/1994	1994/1995	1995/1996	1996/1997	1997/1998
Chair	Mario Zuchelli (IT)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)
Past Chair or Chair Elect	David Drewry (UK)	Mario Zuchelli (IT)			Anders Karlqvist (SE)
MNAP Rep	Anders Karlqvist (SE)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)	Carlos Rinaldi (AR)
MNAP Rep		Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Oscar Pinochet De la Barra (CL)
MNAP Rep					
# SCALOP Chair	Jack Sayers (AU)	Jack Sayers (AU)	Erick Chiang (US)	Erick Chiang (US)	Erick Chiang (US)
# Exec. Secretary	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

Meetings					
COMNAP AGM	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003
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
EXCOM	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003
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
ATCM/CEP (b)	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003
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
COMNAP Officers					
EXCOM	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003
Chair	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ)	Gillian Wratt (NZ) [2]	Karl Erb (US)	Karl Erb (US)
Past Chair or Chair Elect				Gillian Wratt (NZ)	
MNAP Rep	Carlos Rinaldi (AR)	Carlos Rinaldi (AR)	Karl Erb (US)	Okitsugu Watanabe (JP)	Okitsugu Watanabe (JP)
MNAP Rep	Dirk Van Schalkwyk (ZA)	Dirk Van Schalkwyk (ZA)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)
MNAP Rep					
# SCALOP Chair	Patricio Eberhard (CL)	Patricio Eberhard (CL)	Patricio Eberhard (CL)	Kim Pitt (AU)	Kim Pitt (AU)
# Exec. Secretary	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

Meetings					
COMNAP AGM	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
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
EXCOM	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
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
ATCM/CEP (b)	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
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
COMNAP Officers					
EXCOM	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
Chair	Karl Erb (US)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	Gérard Jugie (FR)	José Retamales (CL)
Past Chair or Chair Elect		Karl Erb (US)		José Retamales (CL)	Gérard Jugie (FR)
MNAP Rep	Okitsugu Watanabe (JP)	Henry Valentine (ZA)	Henry Valentine (ZA)	Henry Valentine (ZA)	Rasik Ravindra (IN)
MNAP Rep	Gérard Jugie (FR) [3]	Yeadong Kim (KR)	Yeadong Kim (KR)	Yeadong Kim (KR)	Lou Sanson (NZ)
MNAP Rep [4]	Jorge Berguño (CL)	Jorge Berguño (CL)	Jorge Berguño (CL)	Christo Pimpirev (BG)	Christo Pimpirev (BG)
# SCALOP Chair	Kim Pitt (AU)	Kim Pitt (AU) [6]	John Pye (UK)	John Pye (UK)	John Pye (UK)
# Exec. Secretary	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

Meetings					
AGM	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
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
EXCOM	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
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
ATCM/CEP (b)	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
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
COMNAP Officers [7]					
EXCOM	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Chair	José Retamales (CL)	José Retamales (CL)	José Retamales [8] (CL)	Heinz Miller (GERMANY)	Heinz Miller (GERMANY)
Vice-Chair	Rasik Ravindra (IN)	Rasik Ravindra (IN)	Yuansheng Li (CHINA)	Yuansheng Li (CHINA)	Yuansheng Li (CHINA)
Vice-Chair	Lou Sanson (NZ)	Lou Sanson (NZ)	Mariano Memolli (ARG)	Mariano Memolli (ARG)	Mariano Memolli (ARG)
Vice-Chair	Christo Pimpirev (BG)	Maaïke Vancauwenbergh (BL)	Maaïke Vancauwenbergh (BL)	Maaïke Vancauwenbergh (BL) [10]	José Olmedo (EQUADOR)
Vice-Chair	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JP)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JP)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JP)	Juan José Dañobeitia (SPAIN)	Juan José Dañobeitia (SPAIN)
Vice-Chair	Virginia Mudie (AU)	Virginia Mudie (AU)	Virginia Mudie (AU) [9]	Brian Stone (USA)	Brian Stone (USA)
Exec. Secretary	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

Meetings					
AGM	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
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
EXCOM	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
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
ATCM/CEP (b)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ATCM/SATC M	ATCM XXXVII	ATCM XXXVIII	ATCM XXXIX	ATCM XL	SATCM XLI ^[13]
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
COMNAP Officers					
EXCOM	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Chair	Heinz Miller (GERMANY)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JAPAN)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JAPAN)	Kazuyuki Shiraishi (JAPAN)	Kelly Falkner (USA)
Vice-Chair	John Hall (UK)	John Hall (UK)	John Hall (UK)	John Guldahl (Norway)	John Guldahl (Norway)
Vice-Chair	Hyoung Chul Shin (Korea)	Hyoung Chul Shin (Korea)	Hyoung Chul Shin (Korea)	Javed Beg (India)	Javed Beg (India)
Vice-Chair	José Olmedo (EQUADOR) [11]	Yves Frenot (France)	Yves Frenot (France)	Yves Frenot (France)	Agnieszka Kruszezwska (Poland)
Vice-Chair	Juan José Dañobeitia (SPAIN)	José Retamales (Chile)	José Retamales (Chile)	José Retamales (Chile)	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)
Vice-Chair	Brian Stone (USA)	Rob Wooding (Australia)	Rob Wooding (Australia)	Rob Wooding (Australia)	Rob Wooding ^[12] (Australia)
Exec. Secretary	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

Meetings					
AGM	2018/2019	2019/2020 ^[18]	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
meeting	COMNAP XXXI	COMNAP XXXII	COMNAP XXXIII	COMNAP XXXIV	COMNAP XXXV
symposium		Symposium XIX	Antarctic Aviation Workshop	Symposium XX	
locality	Plovdiv	Virtual	Toyama		Minsk
country	BULGARIA	Online	JAPAN		BELARUS
start date	29 July 2019	3 August 2020	11 July 2021		
end date	1 August 2019	6 August 2020	16 July 2021		
EXCOM	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
locality	Alexandria	Virtual			
country	USA	Online			
dates	27-29 August 2018	4-6 November 2019			
ATCM/CEP (b)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
ATCM/SATCM	ATCM XLII	ATCM XLIII	ATCM XLIII	ATCM XLIV	ATCM XLV
CEP	CEP XXII	CEP XXIII	CEP XXIII	CEP XXIV	CEPXXV
locality	Prague	Moved	Paris		
country	Czech Republic	Moved	France	Germany	
start date	1 July 2019	Postponed	June		
end date	11 July 2019	Postponed	June		
gap to COMNAP AGM	18 days				
COMNAP Officers					
EXCOM	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
Chair	Kelly Falkner (USA)	Kelly Falkner (USA)	Kelly Falkner (USA) ^[19]		
Vice-Chair	John Guldahl (Norway)	John Guldahl (Norway) ^[15]	John Guldahl (Norway) ^[19]		
Vice-Chair	Javed Beg (India)	Ho Il Yoon (Korea) ^[16]	Gen Hashida (Japan)	Gen Hashida (Japan)	Gen Hashida (Japan)
Vice-Chair	Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland)	Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland)	Agnieszka Kruszewska (Poland) ^[19]		
Vice-Chair	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany)	Uwe Nixdorf (Germany) ^[19]		
Vice-Chair	Peter Beggs (New Zealand) ^[14]	Sergio Guida (Brazil) ^[17]	Manuel Burgos (Uruguay)	Manuel Burgos (Uruguay)	Manuel Burgos (Uruguay)
Exec. Secretary	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore	Michelle Rogan-Finnemore

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

[15] Appointed for a one-year term in consideration of continuing aviation focus.

[16] Ho Il Yoon resigned his position as Vice Chair in April 2020.

[17] Sergio Guida completed a one-year term of office.

[18] Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, declared on 12 March 2020, all 2020 in-person meetings planned for Hobart, Australia were cancelled, and the COMNAP AGM XXXII (2020) was held on-line/virtually. The ATCM XLIII and CEPXXIII planned for Helsinki, Finland were postponed to 2021 and moved to France.

[19] Appointed for a one-year term in consideration of the coincidence of the complete turnover of EXCOM elected officers and the COVID-19 pandemic.