

Science Committee (SciCom) - Resolutions

2008/2/SCICOM01 The **Science Committee** [SciCom] (Serge Labonté, Canada) will meet at ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, from 6–8 January 2009 and in May 2009 (date to be announced), and in connection with the ASC 2009 to:

- a) Establish strategy and the structure for implementation of the ICES Science Plan;

By overseeing the scientific interests of the Council and its scientific work

- b) identify the key areas for the ICES contribution to advances in marine science;
- c) review progress of activities of Expert Groups with a view to identify key scientific issues;
- d) ensure that key scientific issues are addressed by the Expert Groups and that there are appropriate interactions between scientific disciplines;
- e) receive information and advise on the effectiveness of the information, dissemination and communication (specifically publications) functions of ICES;

By strengthening relations between Science and Advice

- f) develop approaches for interaction between science and advice in order to collectively deliver the advisory and science programmes;
- g) communicate research results for inclusion in the advisory work at the strategic as well as the operational level and ensure communication of advisory needs for research to be conducted;

By facilitating international work

- h) develop plans for cooperation on issues as identified under b), c) and i) and identify durable working relationships with relevant organizations;

By initiating and supporting scientific conferences

- i) review and update the arrangements for future Annual Science Conferences;
- j) review status of suggestions for ICES Symposia and prepare resolutions.

SciCom will make its report available for consideration at the October 2009 97th Statutory Meeting.

2008/2/SCICOM02 The **Transition Group on ICES Publications** [TGIP] (Chair: Pierre Pepin*) will meet on two days in 2009 during the Annual Science Conference to monitor and advise on:

- a) all ICES publications activities 2008–2009, including communications and website matters brought to the attention of the Chair through the year;
- b) progress with its Work Plan, and integrated web guidance, to achieve publication, information and media objectives in the ICES Strategic Plan;
- c) information to be supplied by the Secretariat on the cost of ICES publication-related work during 2008–2009.

TGIP will report to the SciCom at the Annual Science Conference.

Supporting Information

Priority:	This work is of high priority for the development and implementation of ICES Strategic Plan
Scientific justification and relation to action plan:	<p>TGIP oversees actions towards Goals 6,7 8 and 10 of the Strategic Plan</p> <p>a) requests are routinely directed to Chair regarding decisions / comments about ICES publication activities. These will be summarised and reviewed by TGIP [Action Plan item 6.3, 10.1]</p> <p>b) monitoring of activities and dealing with issues of publication policy as they arise. All Internet based activities will be considered in the same way as other ICES publication activities to enhance integration. [Action Plan items 6.3, 7.4, 8.4, 10.4, 10.3]</p> <p>c) to produce advice on publications policy for all ICES publication-related activities. [Action Plan items 7.4, 10.1, 10.4, 10.6]</p> <p>d) in order that recommendations for prioritisation of items for publications can be made in full knowledge of cost implications of different publication options. [Action Plan item 10.5]</p> <p>e) to provide advice on the perceived view of the community of ICES publications and access their benefit. [Action Plan item 10.5]</p>
Resource requirements:	Requires significant input from the Secretariat. Secretariat are requested to provide all relevant reports for ToR a), and cost information for ToR c).
Participants:	<p>The Editor-in-Chief of IJMS, and the ICES Executive Editor and Communication Officer should attend at ICES expense.</p> <p>OUP will be invited to be represented.</p>
Secretariat facilities:	None
Financial:	For Chair to attend mid-term SciCom meeting.
Linkages to advisory committees:	Close. Through membership of SciCom.
Linkages to other committees or groups:	Close. Through membership of SciCom.
Linkages to other organizations:	ICES Journal Publisher.

2008/2/SCICOM03 The Working Group on Data and Information Management [WGDIM] (Chairs: H. Sagen, Norway and R. Ayers, UK) will meet at ICES Headquarters Copenhagen, Denmark from 26–28 May 2009 to:

- d) **Assess progress with, and update, users engagement plan** - the plan developed in 2008 sets out a number of activities and pilot projects - these will be evaluated and the plan updated to ensure full user engagement and appropriate development of products;
- e) **Availability and accessibility** - identify major gaps in data availability or data accessibility, including legacy data, in the ICES data management system or data needed but not currently held at ICES;
- f) **Quality and transparency** - identify and resolve issues related to transparency, traceability and quality (use of data quality indicators) of data in relation to their use at ICES to formulate advice;
- g) **Interoperability** - identify and promote relevant standards for metadata, data structures, dictionaries and data dissemination in the ICES data management system; develop recommendations for interoperability between the ICES data management system and relevant international data management bodies and programmes (e.g. PICES, IOC/IODE, GOOS,

SeaDataNet, International Polar Year) to ensure rational and optimal endeavour.

- h) **Data progress** - review the input from other Expert Groups on the request of WGDIM;
- i) work towards making the **ICES 'Year of the Stomach' datasets** for North Sea and Baltic more readily available to the ICES community. This will require the creation of a standardized and quality-controlled version of the data including an updated look-up key for prey codes.

WGDIM will report by 3 August 2009 for the attention of SciCom and ACOM.

Supporting Information:

Participants:	The Group provides ICES with solicited and unsolicited advice on all aspects of data management including technical, data policy and data strategy and user oriented guidance. This Group flies the flag for ICES in setting standards for global databases. It also provides an important interface for oceanographic, environmental, and fisheries data management in ICES, and promotes good data management practice.
Secretariat facilities:	<p>a) Action Plan 5.13.4, 6.1, 6.4; b) Action Plan 6.1, 6.4; c) Action Plan 4.12, 6.1, 6.4; d) Action Plan 1.10, 5.13.4, 6.1, 6.4.</p> <p>a) It is essential to ensure needs of users are met: there are a wide range of users for ICES data and products from HELCOM/OSPAR to WGs/SGs and individual scientists. WGDIM should have a key role to act as a mediator between Users/WGs and the Data Centre to prioritise activities, to ensure appropriate experts are available and to give reasons for priorities. Proper engagement with users will allow data submission problems to be resolved and integrated data products and thus advice can be provided in an appropriate form.</p> <p>b) There are major gaps in the ecosystem assessments apparently caused by lack of data. However, more data are likely available for use than currently perceived either inside the ICES system or externally. Thus, groups developing the advice may not be aware of the existence of relevant data sets either because of a lack of communication or the fact that data are not being delivered on a timely basis. In addition, those environmental assessments that are now being produced by some ICES working groups are not being effectively utilized by other groups making assessments where environmental data should be considered (NORSEPP, WGRED) Conclusions: i) Communication between ICES expert groups needs to be improved. ii) Data contributors need to be encouraged to submit data when they are useful, not when they are completely quality controlled.</p> <p>c) Much of the data that are being used to make the environmental assessments do not reside within the ICES and little effort is being expended to track the data used to make the assessments. If the external data are being used to formulate advice, it is often difficult to later re-establish the data sets and thus the basis for the advice. Thus the group should provide advice as to how improve this reporting.</p> <p>d) To maximize interoperability data quality must be known. It is important to evaluate the appropriateness of use of data for specific applications on the basis on data quality. Coordinate work with relevant working groups or projects like SeaDataNet, ECOOP, etc. on standards for metadata, data/data structures and vocabularies. As there is limited resource available it is essential to avoid duplication of work on data management. It is thus important to engage in collaboration with international bodies and programmes especially when the 4th International Polar Year is in progress and is seeking help and guidance on data management.</p> <p>e) This is in response to a request made by SciCom.</p> <p>f) This is in response to a request made by WGSAM, Resource Management Committee.</p>
Financial:	None
Participants:	The Group is expected to be attended by some 30–35 members and guests with half of the members from each of the two categories , data managers and data users
Secretariat facilities:	Meeting facilities.
Financial:	The Data Centre Manager should attend these meetings together with other employees at the data centre.

Linkages to advisory committees:	Report is seen by ConC and all science and advisory committees
Linkages to other committees or groups:	Oceanography and Advisory Committees.
Linkages to other organizations:	There are linkages with relevant international bodies and programmes like PICES, IOC/IODE, GOOS, SeaDatamet, IPY, etc., with emphasis on IOC and its Working Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE).

2008/2/SCICOM04 The Steering Group on Climate Change [SGCC] (Chair: Luis Valdes, Spain) will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 3 June 2009 to:

- a) review and develop the documents prepared by the SGCC for the ICES position paper in climate change;
- b) review and assess on the outcomes of ToRs endorsed to other expert groups in order to contribute to the ICES position paper in climate change.
- c) review the compilation to be produced by the ICES Secretariat of all of all the ToRs discussed by the different ICES expert groups related with climate change since the year 2000;
- d) review and report on the outcome of the intersessional activities below:
 - i) review the CRR “Resolving climatic impacts on fish stocks”, edited by A.D. Rijnsdorp, C. Möllmann, M. A. Peck, G.H. Engelhard, J. K. Pinnegar.
 - ii) contribute to the ICES participation in the Symposium: Climate Change: global risk, challenges and decisions (Copenhagen, 10-12 March 2009). ICES participants will produce an observer’s report, which will be considered by the SGCC.
 - iii) prepare a draft with the Introduction for the ICES paper in climate change.

SGCC will report by 15 July 2008 to the attention of SciCom and the Bureau.

Supporting Information

Priority	<p>This group is a basic element for the visibility of ICES activities in climate change, it combines the expertise of existing expert groups with ad hoc theme sessions in order to structure our current capacity in a cross-cutting project/programme.</p> <p>the group members bring a wide range of experienced expertise and enthusiasm to bear on this topic that is a central question in ICES concerns. Thus the work of this group must be considered of very high priority and central to new ICES Science structure.</p>
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Scientific justification and relation to action plan	<p>The ICES position paper on climate change is planned by the end of 2010. The list of contents have been prepared by the SGCC and now the drafting of chapters has started. The group have to review and correct the contributions in time. It is also necessary to be aware of recent discoveries and documents published by others in order to access to the best sources of information and avoid undesirable duplications in the contents with other bodies.</p> <p>Many Tors related with climate change effects in the oceans were endorsed to several expert groups, and these will prepare reports and text relevant for the ICES position paper. These contributions need to be reviewed and improved when necessary by the SGCC.</p> <p>There are many expert groups reports and literature within ICES with relevant information on climate change. The SGCC will inventory the Tors and identify the reports and pieces of text relevant for the group and to make the ICES work in this topic more visible.</p> <p>ICES data bank must be used as main source of data for the ICES position paper, this will put in value the ICES data collections and their instruments to exploit the information.</p> <p>This CRR is a valuable contribution to ICES in the topic of climate change, that must be reviewed prior to publication.</p> <p>ICES was invited to participate in this symposium and we have to prepare a contribution, which will be presented in the symposium by the person designed by ICES.</p> <p>This introduction will be the first chapter of the ICES position paper and it needs to be ready and agreed within ICES asap, so a draft will be done before the SGCC meeting, and the group will have the opportunity to correct it during the meeting.</p>
Resource requirements	The group will meet at ICES HQ and it will need the usual resources and facilities as in other meetings
Participants	The group has an enthusiastic core membership made by chairs of other expert groups from several Committees. The Group is normally attended by some 15-20 members and guests.
Secretariat facilities	Assistance of the Head of Science Programme, Head of Data Center, and departmental secretary.
Financial	The SGCC is funded by the ICES SIF, and this meeting is at ICES expenses
Linkages to advisory committees	The Group reports to ConC and Bureau, but their advances are also relevant for ACOM.
Linkages to other committees or groups	The SGCC results are relevant for many working and study groups interested in climate change.
Linkages to other organizations	Links with other organizations are intended and some contact is maintained. For example Theme sessions proposed by this group are in collaboration with our PICES and GLOBEC colleagues.