

Letter of invitation for JC membership

To:

International Scientific Unions

ICSU National Members

Interdisciplinary Bodies and Joint Initiatives

National IPY Committees and Contact Points

cc:

Dr. M. Jarraud, Secretary-General, WMO

From:

Thomas Rosswall, Executive Director

Date:

16 August 2004

Re:

International Polar Year Joint Committee

I wish to refer you to the decision by the ICSU Executive Board and Resolution 11 of the WMO Executive Council on the International Polar Year 2007-2008 (IPY) (both are attached for easy reference) by which two organizations agreed to establish an

IPY Joint Committee (JC) for planning and coordination of the IPY. This Committee should be established by 1 October 2004, at which time the current ICSU Planning Committee for IPY finishes its term and delivers the IPY Science Plan to ICSU and WMO.

The provisional Terms of Reference for the IPY Joint Committee have been developed by the ICSU and WMO Secretariats in consultation with members of the ICSU Planning Committee for IPY.

As regards the composition of the IPY Joint Committee, it is proposed that the IPY JC should consist of two Co-Chairs and no more than 10 additional members appointed by ICSU and WMO. In addition, SCAR, IASC and IOC will be invited to nominate ex officio representatives. The Executive Heads of ICSU and WMO will each appoint an ex officio member of the Committee. Appointment of JC members will be made with preferably equal number of experts on Arctic and Antarctic issues and with due respect to geographical and gender balance. Regarding the scientific disciplines to be covered by the JC members, it was agreed that they should include at least Social Sciences (at least two experts, including Economy), Meteorology, Climatology, Oceanography, Remote-sensing, Glaciology, Biology, and Geosciences.

I am pleased to invite you to nominate candidates for the IPY JC taking the criteria listed above into account. I would be especially interested in your possible nominations for Co-Chairs.

Your nominations should be sent at your earliest convenience and must be received no later than 6 September 2004 including the CV of the proposed candidate using the ICSU CV template. (.rtf)

I look forward to your early response and cooperation on further preparation and implementation of the International Polar Year 2007-2008.