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To: Nominated Members of SCOR, Affiliated Organizations, Interested International Organizations, Sponsors, Chairs of SCOR Subsidiary Bodies

From: Ed Urban, Executive Director

Call for Working Group Proposals for 2009 SCOR Executive Committee Meeting

The 39th SCOR Executive Committee Meeting will take place in Beijing, China on **20-22 October 2009**. Details about the meeting can be found at <http://www.scor-int.org/2009EC/2009EC.htm>.

The SCOR Secretariat will accept proposals for new working groups from now until **31 May 2009**. Model proposals and other information about working groups can be found at <http://www.scor-int.org/wkgrpinfo.htm>.

SCOR examines the disciplinary balance of its working groups annually. The 2008 evaluation of found that the set of SCOR working groups is relatively balanced. However, it was suggested that new proposals could encourage approaches that include climate change, ecosystem impact, and human impact, in preparation for the next IPCC assessment. Specific topics mentioned included sea level changes and impacts, ocean dynamics and heat transfers, ocean dynamics and the carbon cycle, and human health and disaster impacts. In addition, integrated modeling of ecosystems-ocean dynamics and biogeochemistry was mentioned. Each proposal will be evaluated by national SCOR committees in terms of scientific merit and quality, timeliness, and achievability of the proposed terms of reference.

SCOR tentatively plans to start two new working groups in 2010, pending availability of adequate funding. SCOR was able to approve three working groups in 2008 because each included partial funding from another project, organization, or institution. National SCOR committees are an important aspect of SCOR's operation and can play a key role in reviewing working group proposals and in seeking new funds to pay for working group activities. Proponents should consider submitting their proposals through their national SCOR committees, although we will also accept proposals from individuals and other organizations.

Proponents who wish to attend the 2009 SCOR meeting are welcome to do so, but should be aware that they will be asked to leave the room when their proposal is discussed. SCOR started this practice in 2005 to avoid any appearance of favoritism toward proposals that are represented at the meeting by a proponent.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the process for working group proposals.