

IPICS Constitution

International Partnerships in Ice Core Sciences (IPICS) consists of ice core scientists, engineers, and drillers from the leading laboratories and national operators carrying out ice core science, acting to further the aims as described in the mission statement.

IPICS will be organised by a Steering Committee (SC) of representatives from the member nations.

Any nation with an active ice core programme may apply for membership. Membership will come into effect when approved by a vote among existing SC members.

Each member nation of IPICS is entitled to one national member on the IPICS SC. The identity of that member should be confirmed (normally by a statement from the existing SC member) every 4 years.

Additional SC members may be adopted as experts on particular projects or issues; such additional members will be appointed by a vote of the existing SC members. They will be appointed on a personal, rather than national, basis. Their membership should be re-considered and re-approved by the existing SC at least once every 4 years, either at a formal SC meeting, or by an e-mail consultation.

The SC will elect two Co-Chairs from within the SC membership to take office at the start of each 4 year cycle. The two Co-Chairs must come from different nations. An SC member will be appointed to run the election, gathering nominations and expressions of interest. If there are more than two nominations, the appointed person will organise a vote. The candidate with the most votes will be elected; after other candidates from the same nation have been excluded, the candidate with the second highest number of votes will also be elected.

Votes on substantive issues (including new members, approval of project white papers and science plans, addition of experts to the SC) may be made at SC meetings, or by e-mail vote, in each case by a simple majority of those voting. In the case of an e-mail vote, the topic for a vote, and a deadline for votes to be cast will be announced by either of the Co-Chairs, with a minimum period of two weeks for votes to be cast.

The SC may appoint sub-groups to pursue particular issues.

The SC will hold formal SC or open meetings from time to time as agreed by the SC.

The membership of the SC starts from that in place at the SC meeting of April 2008, who declared that two years of a 4-year cycle was complete. The second 4-year cycle therefore starts in April 2010.