

Zurich, 25 October 2000

**Statement on the Mode of Operation
between
Funding Agencies for Global Change Research Collaborating in IGFA
and
ICSU and International Global Change Research Programs
regarding
Support for Integration and Coordination of International
Cooperation in Global Change Research**

Appreciating the importance of global change research for better understanding and prediction of earth system processes and their interaction with humankind;

Recognizing the value of global change research as input to international conventions and for international policy-making;

Acknowledging the importance of integration and coordination of global change research at the international level and the role of the international programs in achieving this objective;

Considering the need to assure adequate stable funding for centralized operations and activities of these programs on an appropriately shared basis,

Emphasizing the importance of a two-track process through which scientific planning for global change research and development of supporting infrastructure takes place in parallel with evaluation of funding needs for such research and infrastructure;

The funding agencies for global change research collaborating in the International Group of Funding Agencies for Global Change Research (IGFA), hereinafter referred to as "the Agencies", the International Council for Science (ICSU), and the organized international global change research programs (WCRP, IGBP, IHDP, and DIVERSITAS), hereinafter referred to as "the Programs", parties to this Statement state as follows:

Article I

1. The Parties shall work together and make their best efforts to assure that appropriate, adequate, and stable funding is available for integration and coordination for the Programs to strengthen and extend scientific coordination and to help realize the full value of the research programs; and
2. Such integration and coordination may include, but are not limited to: establishment or major augmentation of new scientific steering committees, secretariats, and international project offices (IPO's); activities to add value to existing integrative and coordinating activities, such as major scientific symposia and conferences; syntheses of the Programs and projects within these Programs; involvement of developing country scientists; and establishment of new regional networks;

Article II

ICSU and the Programs shall:

1. Inform the Agencies, both individually and through IGFA, well in advance of activities, especially new initiatives, that are likely to require new or additional funding with respect to integration and coordination;
2. Encourage their representatives and participating scientists to explore all possible opportunities to obtain such funding at the national level; and
3. Prepare and submit requests and/or proposals for integration and coordination activities to the Agencies and IGFA in a timely fashion and assure that such requests/proposals meet appropriate review requirements.

Article III

The Agencies shall:

1. Ensure that relevant procedures are available for ICSU, the Programs, and participating scientists to submit requests/proposals for international integration and coordination activities;
2. Keep ICSU, the Programs, and participating scientists informed regarding these procedures and any modifications thereof;
3. Identify appropriate points of contact for such requests/proposals; and
4. Exchange information and views and coordinate their policies and procedures regarding the activities defined in Article I.1 through IGFA.

Article IV

The Agencies and Programs reconfirm that the procedure for establishment of new IPOs as previously adopted by IGFA in 1996 in Oslo (Appendix A) and amended to include WCRP, IGBP, IHDP, and DIVERSITAS shall be applied to the IPOs of the Programs.

Article V

1. Cooperation between the Parties under this Statement shall be subject to the availability of appropriated funds and in accordance with the laws and regulations in the country of each Agency.
2. Any Party may withdraw from this Statement at any time by giving written notice to the others of its intention to withdraw, such notice to be given no less than 90 days in advance of withdrawal;
3. This Statement may be amended upon the initiative of any Party and by agreement of the Parties.
4. An agency or program may join at any time if they agree with all provisions in the document and upon agreement by the Parties.

Signed in this day of ,
(place) (day) (month) (year)

..... ,
(name) (organization)

Appendix A
IGFA Procedure for Seeking Support for International Project Offices (IPO's)
(Adopted by IGFA in Oslo, 1996)

1. International scientific project offices are traditionally supported through arrangements between international scientific committees and national funding entities. These arrangements should reflect clearly both the expectations and commitments of the parties concerned. These guidelines are intended to assist in achieving this objective.

2. International project offices generally require funding for:

- scientific and support staff;
- office space and equipment;
- staff travel;
- communications; and
- documentation/publication services.

Additional funding may be needed for support of scientific meetings. An overview of the functions and resource requirements for IGBP core project offices is available from the IGBP Secretariat.

3. Draft terms of reference for a project office should be developed by the international scientific committee for the project.

These terms of reference should specify:

- the tasks and responsibilities to be assigned to the office;
- the logistic requirements (in the broad categories listed above); and
- the proposed level of funding.

4. The international scientific committee should identify and approach a potential lead national funding agency. The committee and the agency should decide on an appropriate host organization for the office and define the office's operational and legal status, e.g., whether the office is to operate independently of; autonomously within; or as a component of its host organization.

5. Agencies which agree to fund or share in funding for a project office should provide such funding on a long-term basis, for at least a three-to five-year period. An agency which has a substantive interest in hosting an IPO but is able to provide only part of the overall funding needed should take the lead in developing the total resources needed through IGFA. Extensions of such arrangements should be considered and agreed well in advance of the end of each operating period.

6. Project offices (should) (often) include a core staff of two scientific professionals, a director and deputy/associate and a staff assistant/secretary. The director generally would focus on scientific activities and the deputy/associate would divide his/her time between science and management, e.g., programming, data management and budgeting. Additional scientific or support staff may be needed for specific purposes.

7. The lead national funding agency should arrange for the office to draw on the host organization's regular administrative services to support management of the office's funds and to deal with issues of staff salaries, fringe benefits etc. In addition, the host organization should assist the IPO in obtaining any governmental approvals and endorsements needed, e.g., visas, work permits, entry of office equipment, publications, etc.

8. Funding levels needed for IPO's are expected to vary, depending on the level of responsibilities and tasks assigned; the location of the office and local salary and overhead costs; currency exchange rates; and the availability of needed services within the host organization.

Appendix B
Signatories (agencies and programs)

agency/program	country	signed by	date
ICSU		Larry Kohler	18.12.2000
IGBP		Berrien Moore III.	29.11.2000
IHDP		Arild Underdal	27.11.2000
WCRP		Peter Lemke	20.12.2000
Federal Office for Scientific, Technical & Cultural Affairs	Belgium	Eric Beka	21.12.2000
European Commission	EU	Christian Patermann	7.2.2001
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft	Germany	Reinhard Grunwald	23.01.2001
BMBF	Germany	Hansvolker Ziegler	13.11.2000
The Icelandic Research Council (RANNIS)	Iceland	Vilhjalmur Ludviksson	11.5.2001
Research Council of Norway	Norway	Christian Hambro	11.5.2001
Swiss National Science Foundation	Switzerland	H. P. Hertig	13.12.2000
NWO	The Netherlands	John Marks	29.11.2000
Ministry of Ukraine for Education and Science	Ukraine	R. Komirenko	8.12.2000
Natural Environment Research Council	United Kingdom	John Lawton	19.12.2000
National Science Foundation	USA	Margaret Leinen	7.5.2001