ATS webpages providing information on the Subsidiary Groups of the CEP

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**Working Paper submitted by India, Norway and the United Kingdom**

***Summary***

On behalf of the CEP Bureau, India, Norway and the United Kingdom recommend that the CEP:

* support the development of a dedicated webpage on the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat website for each Subsidiary Group of the CEP;
* approve the attached initial versions of these dedicated webpages for posting; and
* encourage the respective Subsidiary Groups to consider the content of the webpage further during the 2022-23 intersessional period and report back to CEP XXV.

***Background***

Under the guidance of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat (ATS) has worked to develop and maintain the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat website (available at: <https://www.ats.aq/index_e.html>). Amongst other topics, the website contains webpages that provide information on the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and its Annexes, the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) as well as documents and guidelines of use to CEP Members and in the implementation of the Protocol.

Since the first meeting of the CEP in 1998, two Subsidiary Groups have been established to support the work of the Committee. The Subsidiary Group on Management Plans (SGMP) was established following an agreement at ATCM XXXI (as detailed in Appendix 3 to the CEP XI Report) to support and provide advice to Members concerning the review and revision of protected area Management Plans. The Subsidiary Group on Climate Change Response was established through Decision 1 (2017) to support the implementation of the Climate Change Response Work Programme (see CEP XX Report, para. 79). Each year, the intersessional work of the Subsidiary Groups, which is now undertaken via the CEP Forum, is outlined in their annual reports, which are submitted as Working Papers to the Committee.

At present, there are no webpages on the ATS website dedicated to the two Subsidiary Groups of the CEP. The provision of webpages for each Subsidiary Group could make it easier for CEP Members to access information relevant to the work of the Subsidiary Group and for new CEP Members to gain an understanding of how they might engage and participate in the work of the Group. Specifically, such a webpage could:

1. provide background information on the rationale for establishment of the Subsidiary Group
2. set out the Terms of Reference for the Subsidiary Group; and
3. provide links to ATS documentation relevant to the work of the Subsidiary Group

Draft text for the proposed webpages for the SGMP and SGCCR is provided at Attachment A and B to this Working Paper.

***Recommendation***

On behalf of the CEP Bureau, India, Norway and the United Kingdom recommend that the CEP:

* support the development of a dedicated webpage on the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat website for each Subsidiary Group of the CEP;
* approve the attached initial version of these dedicated webpages for posting; and
* encourage the respective Subsidiary Groups to consider the content of the webpage further during the 2022-23 intersessional period and report back to CEP XXV.