Meeting Report

Attendees: Tom Beer, David Black (ex officio), Enrico Brugnoli, Nina Buchmann, Valéria Csepe, Mark Ferguson, Chad Gaffield, Maria Guzman, Heide Hackmann (ex officio), Fumiko Kasuga, Jinghai Li, Stewart Lockie, Daya Reddy (ex officio), Muhammad Saidam, Dinakar Salunke, Oyewale Tomori, and Martin Visbeck.

Secretariat: Maureen Brennan, Charles Ebikeme, Lucilla Spini, Anne-Sophie Stevance, and Denise Young.

Apologies: Assem Barakat.

Monday, 7th March

1. Opening of the Meeting and Welcoming Remarks - Li Jinghai and Heide Hackmann
The meeting was opened by the CSPR Chair, Li Jinghai. The ICSU Executive Director, Heide Hackmann welcomed the CSPR members at ICSU and wished them a productive meeting.

2. Adoption of the Agenda - Li Jinghai
The CSPR adopted the proposed agenda structured around updates and regular business items on day 1 and brainstorming sessions on day 2 as part of the process to elaborate ICSU’s next strategic plan. Three invited presentations were included in the agenda: one from the private sector (TOTAL SA), one from the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), and one from UN/ECOSOC’s Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD). CSPR Member Fumiko Kasuga highlighted to the CSPR that she will be happy to inform the committee of her upcoming participation – upon invitation from UNU as past-Vice President of SCJ - in the conference “UNSCR 1540 Civil Society Forum - A Dialogue with Academia and Civil Society” on 11 and 12 April 2016 at UN HQ. It was agreed to have the item addressed in Agenda Item 22 AOB.

3. Decisions of the 30th CSPR Meeting, and 115th Executive Board Meeting - Li Jinghai
The report of the 30th CSPR meeting was approved and made publicly available on the ICSU website prior to the meeting. The decisions of the 115th Executive Board meeting were also provided to CSPR for information.

The ICSU Executive Director provided a short update and announced the recruitment of Charles Erkelens as Operations Director, due to start on 10 March. He will replace Tish Bahmani Fard,
Assistant Executive Director, who will retire at the end of April after many years of work at the ICSU Secretariat in Paris. The Operations Director’s portfolio includes negotiations with programmes’ and regional offices’ hosts.

4. ISSC-ICSU Working Group – updated and implications for CSPR - Li Jinghai and Heide Hackmann

The ICSU Executive Director provided an update on the ICSU-ISSC working group jointly established by the two organisations following the External Review of ICSU (2014). The Working Group is tasked with looking at options for closer institutional alignment, and possible amalgamation of the two Councils. The working group is exploring a range of scenarios from maintaining the status quo with two separate organisations to a full merger into a new single organisation, with a range of middle-ground options. Four scenarios are considered in more details, and for each, the implications for the strategy (mission and vision), planning, operations and governance (including membership base, funding sources, committees, staffing, etc.) of both organisations are explored.

As part of its work, the group is developing a narrative laying out the context and arguments for closer collaboration from both a scientific and institutional perspective. It was highlighted that there is no foregone conclusion and that the working group is explicitly asked to explore all options. Recommendations should be made to both executive bodies at the end of April by the working group which has a strict advisory role. The ICSU Executive Board and the ISSC Executive Committee will then each consider the recommendations and decide on the next steps. Ultimately, any changes will have to be approved by the General Assembly of both organisations. One challenge that CSPR was asked to consider in its deliberations is that the ISSC General Assembly will take place at the end of 2016 while ICSU’s will take place at the end of 2017.

In the ensuing discussion, CSPR Members raised questions around ICSU’s positioning in the broader scientific landscape including collaboration with TWAS, IAP, etc., the opportunities for addressing some of the gaps in the membership, the risks of merging two organisations on membership and impacts, as opposed to two organisations working more effectively together.

5. Launch of the Grants Programme - Charles Ebikeme

The ICSU Secretariat worked with CSPR Members on the re-designing of the ICSU Grants Programmes to be launched in 2016. The grants will be fewer but more substantial. The programme is conceived as a mechanism for promoting collaboration between Unions (the application needs to involve at least 2 Unions) as well as with national members and regional offices. It seeks to fund innovative projects – and not routine activities. The programme will be run every other year as it generates significant administrative work for the Secretariat. ICSU Members were notified of the re-designing process and the revamped programme will be presented at the next Unions Meeting on 12-13 April 2016.

CSPR Members stressed the need for clarifying ICSU’s niche, and complementarity with other similar funding schemes, and for considering the opportunity to use the Grants Programme to leverage additional funding (from national funders) as the funding provided remains small. This would mean either getting national funders to collaborate and have an agency taking the lead, or ICSU taking a more active role in driving the process around topics of particular interest for ICSU. There was consensus around the need for the programme to have a strong international dimension i.e. funding activities that one single country could not fund and providing a vehicle for ICSU members to lead high-impact projects around the following topics: education, public outreach, and engagement (the latter requiring that the projects be assessed by the target stakeholder groups). The call should include a clear statement on the long-term vision for the programme and the selection criteria need to match the description in the call.
6. Update on SIDA Proposal - Heide Hackmann

After numerous iterations with SIDA, the project proposal has now been approved by SIDA. Upon the request of SIDA, the proposal is restricted to Africa due to a 40% cut in the funding available, for a total of 5 million Euros over 5 years, up to 2020. The proposal involves ICSU and its regional office (ICSU/ROA), and relevant partners (i.e., the Network of African Science Academies [NASAC] and ISSC). The planned activities include: transdisciplinary training workshops, research grants for early-career scientists focusing on low and middle-income countries, and support for grantees to participate in international events and initiatives. The SIDA-funded programme will be used to support ICSU co-sponsored programmes engagement of early-career scientists. An advisory group comprising programmes representatives will be set up. ICSU Paris will coordinate the overall activities and report to SIDA. In this context, the excellent coordination work on the SIDA proposal by Katsia Paulavets, ICSU Science Officer, was acknowledged.

7. Update on Science International 2015 - Heide Hackmann

Science International is a series of annual meetings of four international science organisations, namely, the International Council for Science, the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), and the International Social Science Council (ISSC). Discussions have started with the Global Young Academy (GYA). It responds to the need for closer collaboration and coordination between these organisations highlighted in the External Review, and aims for these organisations to speak with a single voice on major policy for science issues, and deliver specific outputs that can be disseminated and used by the membership. The theme of the first Science International 2015, which took place from 7-9 December 2015 in Pretoria, South Africa, was 'Big Data/Open Data'. The 2015 edition of Science International developed an international Accord on the values of open data in the emerging scientific culture of big data. The Accord recognises the need for an international framework of principles on “Open Data in a Big Data World” and proposes a comprehensive set of principles. A campaign has been launched towards promoting the endorsement of the Accord by relevant organizations and bodies (including universities, AAAS, etc.).

Inter alia, these principles provide a guiding framework for an African data science capacity mobilization initiative spearheaded by CODATA-ICSU and supported by other Science International partners. The initiative puts forward a comprehensive capacity mobilization plan, to be co-designed and delivered with key partners in Africa. It translates into the establishment of an African Open Data Platform, which will coordinate a series of actions at different levels of national science systems in the region. The European Union and a partner in Argentina have also expressed interest.

CSPR raised questions around the mechanism to identify issues of global interest for subsequent meetings. Regular consultations with Members are considered but would require close coordination with the other partners. CSPR Members were invited to submit ideas for the themes of Science International to the ICSU Secretariat.

8. Update on International Processes

8.1. Agenda 2030, incl. ICSU/ISSC Reports, GSRD, CSTD and Technology Facilitation Mechanism - Lucilla Spini, Anne-Sophie Stevance and Heide Hackmann

ICSU has continued its engagement with UN bodies and other relevant organizations/networks concerning the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals. An update was provided on the following issues: (i) Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR); (ii) ICSU/ISSC Reports; (iii) IAS/IAC Project on Agenda 2030; (iv) the ECOSOC Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD); and on (v) United Nations 10-Member Group to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM).
(I) Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)
The ICSU EB has tasked the Chair of the CSPR to liaise with the UNDESA Under-Secretary-General (USG) on possible roles for ICSU within future editions of the Global Sustainable Development Report in order to formalize the cooperation between ICSU and UNDESA. A meeting with the UNDESA/USG is being explored for April 2016 in the margins of the High Level Debate on the SDGs organized by the President of the General Assembly. In this context, the ICSU Secretariat has continued to foster the dialogue between UNDESA and the CSPR and the broader ICSU community (incl. ICSU Interdisciplinary Bodies and Members) towards the contribution of crowdsourced briefs (see e.g., briefs from ICSU/CODATA, UHW Programme, and CAST at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/science/crowdsourcedbriefs), and participation by a few CSPR and CFRS Members in the upcoming Expert Group Meeting on Emerging Issues to be held in April 2016 at UN HQ. The CSPR noted progress on formalizing the cooperation between ICSU and UNDESA and encouraged involvement in GSDR process in 2016 and in subsequent editions.

(II) ICSU/ISSC Reports
Work has started on a follow-up report to the ICSU-ISSC report Review of targets for the Sustainable Developments Goals: the science perspective that will focus on providing an analytical framework and examples of synergies and trade-offs across the SDG framework. The report will provide a tool to characterize the range of negative to positive interactions between targets across the SDG framework and illustrate the importance of an integrated approach to implementing the SDGs that takes into account the many interdependencies. Examples will be selected to cover most if not all the SDG areas, across geographical scales (from local to global) and temporal scales (short term / long term). The report will be delivered in two stages with the analytical framework and one worked example in May 2016 and the full report towards the end of the year. The report is aimed as a tool for policy-makers at all levels in identifying and managing synergies and trade-offs and promoting an integrated approach to the implementation of the SDGs.

(III) IAC/IAS Proposal on Agenda 2030
The Secretariat of the InterAcademy Council (IAC) has approached the ICSU Secretariat concerning partnership within a project on Agenda 2030. The project is funded by the Carnegie Corporation and it has a 3-year duration. The CSPR has been informed of the project proposal and asked for feedback towards ICSU’s role in this initiative.

(IV) ECOSOC Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
The ICSU Head of Science Programmes (also in consultation with relevant programmes, e.g., CODATA, WDS and UHW) has engaged with the CSTD Secretariat at UNCTAD towards exploring cooperation/linkages on issues related to “smart cities” and “digital development”. The CSPR was informed of specific references (related to UHW and the Science International’s Accord) in the documents to be tabled at the next session of the CSTD to be held in May 2016 (seehttp://unctad.org/en/pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=1048). A brief update on opportunities for cooperation was also provided by Dong Wu (CSTD Secretariat) as invited presentation on the second day of the CSPR Meeting.

(V) United Nations 10-Member Group to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM)
The ICSU Executive Director Heide Hackmann has been appointed by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to serve on a 10-member advisory group from civil society, the private sector and the scientific community to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, a key part of the post-2015 architecture for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Mechanism will comprise three elements: a UN inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the SDGs, a collaborative multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the SDGs that meets
once a year, and an online platform. The advisory group, working with the UN interagency task team, will prepare the meetings of the multi-stakeholder forum, support the development and operationalization of the online platform and provide briefings and other inputs to the high-level political forum on sustainable development. Members of the group will serve for two years, and the group will meet at least once a year. Heide Hackmann was elected co-chair of the group at their first in-person meeting on 3-4 March 2016 at UN HQ, together with William Colglazier. The full list of members of the group, and its TORs, are at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/technology/facilitationmechanism/10memberofgroup. Another member of the group is Nebojsa Nakicenovic, Deputy Executive Director of IIASA, former member of ICSU CSPR, and long-standing contributor to ICSU’s activities.

8.2 Sendai Framework - Anne-Sophie Stevance
The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted in March 2015 strongly acknowledges the importance of science in the DRR field, and offers many avenues for the scientific community to help implement the framework in the coming years. It calls for science to be more effectively used in decision-making, stronger international cooperation, and a shift from managing disasters to managing risks with a need to better understand underlying root causes of disasters. As a follow-up to the Sendai conference, UNISDR convened a Science and Technology Conference on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 on 20-22 January 2016 in Geneva. ICSU was one of the co-organizers of the conference attended by over 750 participants. The conference aimed to discuss and adopt a roadmap specifying the contributions of Science and Technology to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and launch a global partnership bringing together a wide range of institutions and networks working on DRR science. The outcome document of the conference emphasized:

- the need to regularly assess the state of scientific knowledge and technical expertise and identify knowledge gaps;
- build capacity to ensure that all sectors and countries have access to scientific information and can use it effectively in decision-making;
- identify and respond to knowledge needs from policy-makers and decision-makers, including at national and community levels.

8.3 IPBES - Anne-Sophie Stevance
The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was established in 2012, after a seven-year process following the release of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA). It has currently a membership of 115 countries, and a large number of participating observer organizations, including ICSU, and since last year, Future Earth which has also developed a strategic partnership with IPBES contributing new knowledge into IPBES activities and responding to IPBES needs.

ICSU has been leading the input of the scientific community into IPBES since its creation through its programmes, DIVERSITAS and more recently the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) and the Programme on Ecosystems Change and Society (PECS), now merged into Future Earth – without direct involvement from the ICSU secretariat. ICSU’s role (delegated to DIVERSITAS) has included providing views (plenary statements, written contributions) on all aspects of IPBES including rules of procedure, the conceptual framework, the programme of work, and the involvement of non-governmental stakeholders. ICSU, together with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), worked on a stakeholder engagement strategy, and co-chaired, with IUCN, the multi-stakeholder forum of IPBES until 2015.

The fourth session of the Plenary of IPBES, where ICSU was represented by Anne-Sophie Stevance, Science Officer, took place in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) on 22-28 February 2016. The first thematic assessment of IPBES on pollinators, pollination, food production, and the first methodological
assessment on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services was adopted. The Plenary agreed to undertake a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, to be completed by 2019, and is scoping out a thematic assessment on the sustainable use of biodiversity. A review of IPBES was also considered by the plenary (with the suggestion of inviting ICSU to coordinate the review in consultation with ISSC) but the plenary decided to postpone it also due to lack of funding. The question of ICSU’s future involvement in IPBES was discussed by the CSPR which recommended that ICSU should therefore keep its observer status and nominate experts on strategic aspects of the work of IPBES to allow ICSU Members, Unions, and interdisciplinary bodies to have access to the process, also in close consultation with Future Earth, in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

8.4 COP-21 - Denise Young
ICSU provided an important coordination role for the scientific community participating in the UNFCCC COP-21 last December in Paris through a shared exhibition space with Future Earth, ISSC and the Stockholm Resilience Centre, participation in side events (including those organized on the outcomes of the “Our Common Future under Climate Change” Science Conference), daily email highlights to a large group of scientists on major progress in the negotiations and main scientific events taking place, and the organisation of a press conference in the final day of the conference for high-level scientists to reflect on the draft agreement. This is an example of a service-provider and convening-function that ICSU has successfully played throughout 2015 in major UN conferences.

8.5 Habitat III - Charles Ebikeme
ICSU, in collaboration with the ICSU-IAMP-UNU Urban Health and Wellbeing Programme and Future Earth, is building up a presence in the Habitat III process that will agree a New Urban Agenda in Quito (Ecuador) in October 2016. ICSU seeks to place science at the heart of these discussions as ICSU has done with other UN and post-2015 processes. ICSU coordinated, together with Future Earth, comments on the policy unit papers earlier this year, which will be considered as official input into the process. In the run-up to the Habitat III conference in October, ICSU will seek to influence the New Urban Agenda through providing scientific input at strategic points. ICSU has been invited to join the General Assembly of Partners (which is the stakeholder entity the Habitat III process is using for comments and recommendations). ICSU is seeking to have Future Earth as well as the Urban Health programme also join as official voting members. Engagement with the General Assembly of Partners, particularly, allows ICSU to gain more influence and scientific leadership in the recommendations that will eventually go to the Bureau that is drafting the zero-draft of the new urban agenda.

8.6 World Science Forum - Lucilla Spini and Muhammad Saidam
An update of ICSU activities at the 2015 World Science Forum (WSF) held in Budapest, Hungary, in November 2015 was provided. CSPR Member Muhammad Saidam recalled that the 2017 WSF will be held in Jordan and the Royal Society in Jordan is taking the lead in the organisation, in partnership with ICSU, UNESCO, AAAS, and the Hungarian Academy. He informed that the theme for the WSF 2017 was identified as “Science for Peace” and that the CSPR is encouraged to lead on the organisation of some sessions. In this context, sessions on the International Network of Government Science Advice and on science diplomacy were suggested.

In the overall discussion on Agenda Items 8.1-8.6, the CSPR took note of progress: and highlighted that ICSU plays several roles in science for policy processes. Firstly, ICSU serves its Members and programmes by convening experts, channelling inputs, and creating access for scientists to these policy fora (e.g., inputs to the Global Sustainable Development Report). Secondly, ICSU delivers outreach and awareness raising at key international meetings. Thirdly, it plays a role in structural development (e.g. setting up IPBES, and in engaging in shaping the Technology Facilitation Mechanism) – but not in implementation. And lastly, ICSU engages in deliberate advice on certain issues (such as the
Sustainable Development Goals). CSPR Member Tom Beer commended ICSU for its science-for-policy work as this is an important “added value” for Unions Members which do not have access to these processes directly. Furthermore, CSPR Member Martin Visbeck, highlighted that ICSU should encourage the importance of extending the duration of the UN Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) whose mandate is coming to an end shortly.

**Actions/Decisions:**
The CSPR noted progress and welcomed ICSU engagement with international processes.

9. **Key Scientific Researches in TOTAL Scientific Division – invited presentation by Philippe Ricoux, TOTAL SA, Group Fellow**
The presentation was invited to enable CSPR Members to gather an insight of private sector’s work and approach on scientific research and development, as follow up to the earlier discussion on ICSU’s engagement with private sector and in the context of strategic planning. The presentation delivered is in Annex 1.

10. **Update on ICSU Programmes**

10.1 **GOOS - Albert Fischer, GOOS Secretariat**
As follow-up to CSPR discussion on the review processes related to the observing systems, the GOOS Secretariat provided an update on current and future activities including around the development of a framework for ocean observation. The presentation is in Annex 2: among the activities presented there was the upcoming GOOS OceanObs Conference to be held in 2019. It was noted that the decision to undertake the review and its timeline should be determined in consultation with IOC and WMO; however, the CSPR suggested that the preparation for the review should take place in 2016, started in 2017 to be concluded in 2018 (see below). This timing will also allow to feed the outcomes of the review in the GOOS OceanObs Conference.

Furthermore, the ensuing discussion highlighted the importance for GOOS, as well as for other entities/bodies such as UNESCO/IOC, SCOR and WCRP, to be involved in the Future Earth Knowledge Action Network (KAN) on Oceans currently being planned. CSPR Member Fumiko Kasuga – given her role as Director of the Future Earth Japan Hub – highlighted her availability to facilitate this important process.

CSPR Members were also informed that thanks to the CSPR Chair, the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS) will be providing a staff “on loan” to the GOOS Secretariat (UNESCO/IOC in Paris, France) to act as ICSU/GOOS Liaison Officer. The CSPR acknowledged this important contribution.

**Actions/Decisions:**
The CSPR noted progress on GOOS and asked the ICSU Secretariat to contact GOOS co-sponsors to consult on the review-process to be held in 2017-2018 (also in view of the upcoming GOOS OceanObs conference to be held in 2019).

The CSPR recommended further linkages between Future Earth and GOOS (and other relevant bodies such as SCOR, WCRP, and partners such as UNESCO/IOC) within the context of the Future Earth’s KAN on Oceans.

The CSPR acknowledged the CSPR Chair in enabling a CAS staff to be “loaned” as ICSU/GOOS Liaison Officer at the GOOS Secretariat (UNESCO/IOC).
10.2 Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) - Lucilla Spini

As follow-up to the review of the GCOS, a new MoU was drafted and submitted to all co-sponsors for signature. In reviewing the MoU, the CSPR noted important changes in the GCOS structure as highlighted in the Annexes of the MoU (e.g., engagement committee), also in line with the recommendations provided by the review. It was reported that the EB endorsed the signature in principle. In reviewing the text, the CSPR welcomed the MoU and in particular the reference to cooperation/linkages to Future Earth, but requested clarifications on why no reference was made to cooperation/linkages with WCRP. The ICSU Secretariat was tasked towards clarifying this matter.

The CSPR was informed of the GCOS Conference held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, on 2-4 March 2016 (http://www.gcos-science.org/) – where ICSU was represented by Guéïadio Cissé (CFRS Member, and expert in climate change and health, Swiss TPH) – and of the on-going process to develop an implementation plan for GCOS.

**Actions/Decisions:**
The CSPR noted progress by GCOS in implementing the recommendations of the review, also via the signature of a new MoU, and highlighted the importance for the ICSU Secretariat to clarify with GCSO Secretariat on the lack of reference to GCOS/WCRP cooperation.

10.3 IRDR - Anne-Sophie Stevance

The CSPR was informed that the Interim Executive Director, William Paton, took his post on 1 December 2015 for six months; and that a vacancy announcement has been issued for the Executive Director position with a deadline for application of 18 March 2016.

Furthermore an update was provided on programme activities, as follow-up process to the Sendai Conference that adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. IRDR is seeking to strengthen and extend its base of national committees and International Centres of Excellence to grow scientific advisory capacities on DRR. IRDR has now linked up a network of National Committees and Centers of Excellence in some 15 countries, with links to a total of 30 countries. PeriPeri U. has 13 partner universities in as many countries, and a number of other such research networks or centers exist.

To implement the Sendai Framework’s very strong call for the greater use of science in managing risk, the worldwide network of ISDR National Platforms (i.e. national bodies in charge of implementing the global Framework) need to begin to structure closer collaboration with networks of researchers and research institutions. To avoid any risk of duplication, such research networks should become a part of their respective National Platform or equivalent policy platforms responsible for disaster risk reduction and management – acting as the in-house scientific advisor. Thus, the CSPR was informed of the proposal for IRDR, in close consultation with ICSU Members and ICSU Regional Offices, to develop linkages between existing IRDR National Committees and policy-makers, and grow these science advisory capacities where they do not exist. The development of such structures and capacities will be an important legacy of the programme. The International Centre of Excellence located in Taipei could play an important role in support this activity within the framework of an existing grant provided to ICSU for IRDR activities under the guidance of IRDR-IPO to meet the strategic priorities of IRDR. IRDR is also well-positioned to contribute to the Sendai Framework in terms of e.g., multi-hazard solution oriented research, guidelines on measuring and recording losses from disaster (data working group), and method to examine the underlying root causes of disasters (FORIN).

**Actions/Decisions:**
The CSPR noted progress on IRDR and welcomed the proposal on furthering its role in development science advisory capacity at the national level.
An update was provided on the UHW Programme’s recent activities including a video, a Facebook page, and a “Healthy Urban Food System Initiative”. The latter is an initiative which aims at increasing knowledge and raising awareness of interconnected urban food quality and health aspects. It thereby wants to increase knowledge, awareness and encourage active societal engagement for health and wellbeing in the city. The Programme has also provided key inputs into the Habitat III process and is developing a policy brief on urban health. The Programme has also been involved in early discussions on Future Earth’s Health Knowledge Action Network.

A call for nominations was issued in 2015 (with extended deadline: 31 December 2015) for nominations for new members for the SC to serve from 1 June, following the next SC Meeting which will be held at ICSU HQ on 30-31 May 2016. Problems with the skews in geographical balance of the nominations received (e.g., lack of nominations of African experts) were reported by the ICSU Secretariat, also introducing the importance of updating the Terms of Reference vis-à-vis the nominations-procedures.

In reviewing the nominations, the CSPR highlighted that the documentation provided was lacking relevant information on the nomination procedures (e.g., some proposed candidates seemed not to have been nominated via the above-mentioned call). The CSPR called for more information related to the proposal provided by the SC Chair and the IPO of the Programme. Thus, it was agreed that the ICSU Secretariat would contact the IPO to gather more information on the nominations towards drafting a new document for submission to the CSPR electronically and to be submitted to the EB at its next meeting in mid-April 2016. The issue of having clear procedures on the nominations process for all Interdisciplinary Bodies (IBs) was stressed by the CSPR, also calling for procedures which clearly identify the organisations that are able to nominate experts, and include a process to fill gaps when call for nominations does not yield an adequate pool of candidates with respect to age/gender/expertise diversity.

In reviewing the proposal submitted by the UHW SC on the revision of its TORs to enable both sponsors (InterAcademy Medical Panel [IAMP] and United Nations University [UNU]) also to nominate experts, to appoint a vice-chair and to modify the terms of appointment of SC Members to allow for continuity/staggering in membership of the SC, the CSPR discussed that the changes were also not clear and agreed to request the ICSU Secretariat to liaise with the UHW IPO on drafting a proposed revised version of the SC TORs for review by CSPR electronically.

In the ensuing discussion it was also highlighted that the current TORs should also be published on the new UHW Website.

**Actions/Decisions:**

The ICSU Secretariat was tasked to prepare a streamlined procedure for the review of nominations of SC members for its ICSU IBs, for recommendation by CSPR towards approval by the EB.

The ICSU Secretariat was tasked to liaise with the IPO to gather additional information on the nominees; and provide a copy of the revised documentation to the CSPR so that this can be presented to the EB at its next meeting in April 2016.

The ICSU Secretariat was tasked to liaise with the IPO and submit to CSPR electronically a revised SC TORs.

The ICSU Secretariat was tasked to ask the IPO to publish the SC TORs on their new website.
10.5 Future Earth, including KANs - Heide Hackmann and Charles Ebikeme

Future Earth has officially launched Knowledge Action Networks (KANs) which are collaborative platforms that facilitate highly integrative sustainability research. Their aim is to generate the multifaceted knowledge needed to inform solutions for complex societal issues.

ICSU takes part in the Governing Council of Future Earth as do the other co-sponsors. A governance document was agreed by the Governing Council members and a MoU signed with the hosts of the five global hubs. An update was also provided on the location of the Future Earth regional offices.

10.6 World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)

Lucilla Spini

The WCRP Director requested ICSU to modify the TORs of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) to reduce the number of SC members from 18 to 12-15 members. The rationale provided is the costs implications, the group dynamics, and carbon emissions associated to travel to meetings. CSPR Member Martin Visbeck, who declared a conflict of interest as a member of the WCRP JSC, noted that the WCRP JSC was not informed of this proposal; and thus the proposal should be discussed further. Given that upcoming review of the WCRP is to be held in 2017, the CSPR recommended this issue be addressed as part of the review of WCRP to be conducted in 2017.

**Actions/Decisions:**
CSPR recommends to the EB to postpone a decision on this matter, but to have the request addressed within the context of the WCRP review to take place in 2017.

10.7 World Data System - Lucilla Spini

The CSPR was informed of the final composition of the WDS SC, upon filling the vacant post for LAC region, thanks also to ICSU ROLAC Office and Unions Members.

**Actions/Decisions:**
CSPR took note of the final composition of the WDS SC.

11. Update on ICSU Reviews

11.1 Overview of agreed timeline - Lucilla Spini

The CSPR was reminded of the schedule for the review process, as agreed at the 30th Meeting of the CSPR. It was agreed to recommend to the EB to schedule the review of GOOS in 2017-2018, pending confirmation by GOOS Co-Sponsors (WMO and UNESCO/IOC). The revised time-line taking into account this new recommendation is as follows:

- **2016:**
  - Continuing SCAR-SCOR
  - Continuing IRDR
  - GTOS [pending consultation with Co-Sponsors]

- **2017:**
  - GOOS [pending consultations with Co-Sponsors]/WCRP / INASP / WDS

- **2018:**
  - Continuing GOOS
  - Urban Health and Wellbeing / Future Earth / COSPAR / SCOSTEP / IUCAF

11.2 SCAR/SCOR Joint Review - Lucilla Spini

An update was provided on progress regarding the review of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and the Scientific Committee on Ocean Research (SCOR) chaired by Peter Liss. A first meeting of the review panel held at ICSU HQ in September 2015, and a second meeting was held
in the margins of the Arctic and Antarctic - Think Tank Meeting (Potsdam, Germany, 24-25 February 2016), also allowing for an in-person meeting between the Review Panel and the SCAR EC. It was noted that the review panel will produce two separate reports - one for SCOR and one for SCAR - by end of April 2016.

11.3 IRDR Review - Anne-Sophie Stevance
The review of IRDR was initiated with the appointment of a seven-member review panel in January 2016. A first teleconference was held in February to introduce IRDR and discuss the review schedule. The panel will have its first in-person meeting in April and is scheduled to produce a draft report in July. A set of review questions is being prepared by the Chair and consultation with the three co-sponsors, namely ICSU, ISSC and UNISDR, will be organized to collect inputs on the review matrix i.e., the key questions that the review needs to address early on. The review panel will then carry out document study, data analysis, and interviews with key stakeholders.

**Actions/Decisions:**
CSPR recommends to the EB the revised time-line for the review processes.

CSPR took note of the progress on the SCAR/SCOR joint review and IRDR review.

12. Update on CFRS - Leiv K. Sydnes, CFRS Chair – by skype
An update on CFRS activities was provided by highlighting that the CFRS is organising a workshop on 27 April 2016 at the Mexican Academy of Sciences on Gender Issues in Field Research (Mobility and Internationalization of Science). The purpose is to prepare an Advisory Note about the topic to be circulated through ICSU country Members and its publication in the ICSU website in order to sensitize the scientific community about gender equity as part of the internationalization of Science. The workshop will be followed by a two-days meeting of ICSU/CFRS.

The CSPR was also informed that CFRS has also supported a statement around the situation in Turkey bringing forward ICSU’s principle of universality in the conduct of science. Other organisations such as AAAS supported the statement which should also be publicised on the ICSU website. The ICSU website should also include more resources on codes of conduct and relevant documentation regarding research integrity (e.g. IAP recent publication on *Doing Global Science*). Other individual cases in which CFRS is involved include a PhD student imprisoned in Iran. CFRS is engaging in the World Conference on Research Integrity that will take place on 28-31 May 2017 in Amsterdam.

Finally, the issue of the hosting of the CFRS Secretariat was raised; while no definite solution has been found yet, the CFRS Chair highlighted that the Academy of Sciences of Norway expressed an interest and the ICSU Secretariat has also been in contact with interested parties. The fall back option will be for ICSU Secretariat in Paris to take on the Secretariat of CFRS.

13. Update on Regional Offices (ROA, ROAP, ROLAC) - Heide Hackmann and Charles Ebikeme
An update on the ICSU Regional Offices was provided regarding the newly established ROA Regional Committee, the review of the ROAP Office, and the hosting-transition of the ROLAC Office which is moving to El Salvador around July 2016.

14. Transitioning from ICSU Strategic Plan II (2012–2017) to Strategic Plan III - Jinghai Li, Heide Hackmann, Lucilla Spini, and All Members
ICSU is in strategic planning phase, with the current strategic plan expiring in 2017. The Head of Science Programmes introduced the topic by highlighting the importance of considering the ICSU system as a complex adaptive system, taking into account many ongoing and possible changes in the “broader science ecosystem” (e.g., ICSU response to the External Review, ICSU/IAP strengthened
dialogue via “Science International” series, and the ICSU/ISSC working group) and thinking about a new approach to strategic planning (e.g., strategic vision, and “strategy collage”).

In the ensuing discussion, CSPR Members stressed that a strategy should not be confused with an implementation plan. ICSU needs to define a long-term vision responding to the question: ‘What do we want ICSU to be known for?’ This will then allow prioritisation and adjustment along the way. The details of activities and implementation come after and given the context and on-going discussions regarding the links with ISSC, it is important to have a flexible approach.

The CSPR was also reminded that an external consultancy, Firetail (based in London, UK), is supporting the ICSU Secretariat in the initial consultation. A survey has been issued to the ICSU Secretariat Staff, the EB and CSPR to collect initial views on ICSU’s role, future directions, ‘customers’ and flagship activities. In addition, Firetail is conducting a series of interviews with key stakeholders to gather their views and inputs. It was stressed that all these processes are anonymous/confidential. Consultation of Members is planned later in the year.

It was noted that the CSPR Members were asked to complete the survey prior to the meeting, in order to allow for further discussion of the questions as a committee through break-out sessions discussion. In this context, the ICSU Secretariat introduced the break-out group sessions and the questions to be addressed by each group on the next day, namely:

- What are ICSU’s assets? What is it best known for?
- Who is ICSU for?
- Among ICSU’s activities? What should it maintain? What should be enhanced? What should we stop doing?
- How can individual scientists identify with ICSU?
- As part of this strategic planning exercise, who should ICSU talk to? (organisations and key individuals to be interviewed?)
- What are the critical steps to develop a long-term vision and mid-term strategy for ICSU? What needs to happen between now and November (1st draft of strategy)?

Tuesday, 8th March

15. 16. 19. Brainstorming sessions on 3rd ICSU Strategic Plan (SP-III)

The brainstorming sessions took place in break-out groups and in plenary. Here is a summary of the issues discussed (further details can be found in Annex 3):

- The overall vision is for ICSU to be the international scientific body that identifies issues of global concern and catalyses collaboration around them between scientists around the world and from various disciplines, and acts as a trusted advisor to policy-makers and societal actors. The existing mission statement of ICSU ‘to strengthen science for the benefit of society’ is still valid and supports this vision.

- ICSU plays important roles in connecting different domains of science, connecting different parts of the world, and connecting science and society. The new Grants Programme now is a good way to develop new initiatives and is an example of dynamic nature of incubation of scientific projects that ICSU does.
• One of ICSU’s assets are connecting different parts of the world. Developing regions look to ICSU for “credibility” and visibility and to connect to the international landscape. ICSU is an important convening power as well as a unique “listening” organisation to all scientists in all regions (as exemplified for instance within CFRS).

• ICSU’s past successes have revolved around the capacity to identify important societal issues that required collaboration at the international level (e.g., climate change), between a range of disciplines, and organise the scientific community to take it up and bring it on the policy agenda. This needs to be continued and extended in the future to tackle new and emerging issues that are under-studied, that are global in nature or require the attention of many countries, going beyond environmental issues. ICSU’s niche is therefore to attract scientific excellence, be future-oriented, develop a horizon-scanning function, draw on its membership base, develop collaboration (bringing in scientists, funders, partners), and bridge the science and policy on these issues. Once communities are well-organised, ICSU needs to move on to the next issue and not get involved in their management. ICSU also needs to be the reference organisation for issues to do with the way science is done; these cross-cutting elements include integrity of science, science advice, interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity, etc.

• The core values that should guide ICSU’s strategy were discussed/brainstormed. The full list of values identified by the CSPR is reported in Annex 3. These were defined within five main values, namely: inclusivity, partnership, relevance, future-orientation/foresight, transformative.

The ICSU Executive Director presented a timeline for the elaboration of the strategy document as follows:

• October 2017: ICSU General Assembly
• May-June 2017: Final document submitted to Members
• March-April 2017: EB finalises document on basis of CSPR recommendations
• December 2016-January 2017: Draft document circulated to Members for feedback
• March – December 2016: Drafting of document with CSPR (working group?) including
  o By end April: ICSU-ISSC recommendation re future ICSU-ISSC
  o Outcomes of interviews and survey.

Concerns were raised by some CSPR Members about the short timeframe to produce the first draft of the strategy by November 2016, given also uncertainties around the work undertaken by the ICSU/ISSC working group.

**Actions/Decisions:**
The ICSU Secretariat to elaborate on the overall vision outlined above, the values and the existing mission statement and articulate a few strategic aims drawing from the results of the survey and the External Review.

The Secretariat will set up a working group with a sub-set of CSPR members to help with the initial strategy draft and advise on the process.

17. **The ECOSOC Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)** - Dong Wu, Chief, Science and Technology Section, Division on Technology and Logistics, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD (via Skype)

A presentation was delivered on the work of the CSTD, also highlighting further linkages with ICSU. The presentation is in Annex 4.
18. The ECOSOC CSTD and ICSU - Li Jinghai, Lucilla Spini
The CSPR welcomed the presentation on the CSTD also referring to the importance of engaging CODATA and WDS into CSTD work on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), and on the thematic priority related to the foresight for digital development. The ICSU Secretariat highlighted that the linkages were already established at the Secretariat/IPO level as demonstrated by the reference to the “Open Data in a Big Data World: An International Accord” in UN Document E/CN.16/2016/3 to be discussed at the next CSTD Session in May 2016.

This was also the opportunity for the ICSU Secretariat to provide guidance to those CSPR Members participating in the upcoming Expert Group Meeting on Emerging Issues for the 2016 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) to be held at UN HW on 5-7 April 2016.

Actions/Decisions:
The CSPR welcomed the presentation on CSTD and possible further linkages between ICSU and CSTD.

20. Finalization and next steps - Li Jinghai, Lucilla Spini
CSPR Members expressed the need to better prioritise items put for discussion, distinguishing between simple updates, items that require validation, and items that need substantive discussion. Updates can be provided in a table that members can read before the meeting but should not be presented during the meeting. For business items requiring validation (typically nominations), standard operating procedures need to be in place and the documentation should clearly lay out the relevant information. CSPR’s role there is mainly to check that the procedure is duly applied to nominations and not to discuss individual nominations. Some Members also reported issues in opening some of the PDF documents and portfolios.

Actions/Decisions:
The ICSU Secretariat took note of the suggestions towards improving the functioning of the CSPR and optimizing time at meetings.

21. Chair’s Summary and Evaluation of the meeting - Li Jinghai
CSPR Chair thanked the Committee for their active participation over the two days and the valuable inputs into the brainstorming sessions from which he summarized that ICSU is at a critical point where it must adapt to change, particularly, a few priorities should be identified to be more focusing on ICSU mission.

22. Any Other Business
CSPR Member Fumiko Kasuga raised a point around the role the international scientific community may play in preventing the misuse of science towards terrorist activities. This follows an invitation from the UN Office for disarmament Affairs for her to speak at an event in April on the role of science in preventing the dissemination of weapons of mass destruction. The CSPR took note of this important matter.

23. Dates and Place of Meeting in 2017
The meeting was adjourned by recalling that the 32nd CSPR Meeting will be held on 26th and 27th October 2016 in Paris, France, at ICSU HQ.

List of Annexes
1. Presentation by TOTAL SA (available on Member Zone)
2. Presentation by GOOS Secretariat (available on Member Zone)
3. Brainstorming Sessions – Notes
4. Presentation by UNCTAD-CSTD Secretariat (available on Member Zone)
ANNEX 3 – Brainstorming Session - Notes

What should ICSU be?

- Provide science to policy-makers
- Be future-oriented and engage scientists to work on emerging issues and new frontiers
- Consolidating frameworks for the scientific community to work together
- Be the global and inclusive voice of science (because of ICSU’s broad membership base)
- Catalyse the use of science in every nation for human development (and not just for science’s sake)
- Initiate collaboration on global issues or issues of global concern (can be country specific but is faced by many nations)
- Predict, initiate, and catalyse subjects and policy issues requiring collaboration.
- Honest broker, authoritative voice to policy-makers and society

ICSU’s work could be classified in two categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Policies (how science is done; scientific methods)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity</td>
<td>Research integrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate change</td>
<td>Science advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gene modification</td>
<td>Public outreach / engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big data</td>
<td>Acceptability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food security</td>
<td>Scientific freedom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Etc.</td>
<td>Gender issues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What are ICSU weaknesses?

- Lack of engagement of the members
- ICSU members questioning value (What can I do as a member of ICSU that I could not do otherwise?). This is a core issue for ICSU and jeopardize its long-term existence.
- Ensuring that ICSU’s unions are relevant (sharing best practices could be a useful exercise)
- ICSU’s regional offices and regional reach
- ICSU is only hitting a limited number of grand societal challenges (around global environmental change) while it should potentially tackle all problems that policy-makers need to address (e.g. food security, cyber-security, etc.). Over the years, ICSU has specialised on global environmental change and sustainability issues while it needs to be relevant to a broader spectrum of societal problems, especially now than Future Earth is up-and-running.
- Gap on heath, medical and life sciences
- Gap on engineering and technology
- Academies with various capacities
- Low visibility, especially among young scientists
- Governance is unclear (values, mission and focus unclear)
- Internal management and lack of focus (committees not used appropriately) – needs fewer but more impactful activities
• Takes little credit/responsibility of what programmes it sets up
• Ensure that programmes and bodies established are time-bound
• Proliferation of international scientific bodies – ICSU should reflect on its responsibility and capacity to act on this crowded landscape. Given ICSU’s legitimacy to set up international bodies and add to this landscape, can it ‘legislate’ it? This also makes it even more necessary for ICSU to identify which piece of this landscape it wants to focus on?

What are ICSU assets?
• ICSU broad and unique membership base (combination of academies and scientific unions) and related to that, a convening power.
• Regional offices and partnerships with like minded regional bodies (such as IAP, UNESCO, etc.)
• As a non-governmental organisation, working in partnership with UN agencies, it allows scientists to have access (be nominated)
• Programmes
• Recognition at the UN

Who are ICSU’s customers / stakeholders?
• Academies and Unions who pay dues as the core constituency
• The broad scientific community

What is ICSU for?
• ICSU should aim to have impacts on society but also on science (i.e. collaboration between disciplines)
• ICSU is about catalysing, initiating, incubating and not about implementing research programmes. It should pull back once programmes are established, only to review them regularly.
• Bring academies up (especially from developing countries) on both subjects and policies aspects
• Young scientists should be systematically involved in ICSU’s work (a dedicated young scientists programme could be developed as part of ICSU’s work on policy for science)

What is ICSU currently best know for?
• Future Earth

What are ICSU’s core values (that guide the approach it takes to its work)?

- Revolution
- Collectivity / inclusive
- Relevance
- Dynamic
- Fair partnership
- Universality
- Development assistance
- Scientific ethics
- Excellence
- Trusted
- Credibility
- Integration
- Knowledge independance
- Clarity
- Scientific leadership
- Foresight
- Professionalism
- Fit-for-purpose
- Responsibility
- Transparency
- impact
Recommendations on the strategic planning process

- ICSU should ask its members to identify issues that require international collaboration (also every national funding agency has identified a few key challenges that it seeks to address – a desk study of this could also provide useful guidance)

- Go back to the External Review which provided a robust assessment of ICSU and risks around its future. This should be the basis of the strategic planning process.

- Once the vision, mission and strategic aims are clarified, ICSU needs to distinguish on what it wants to lead? On what to take a backseat? And What to drop? The sequence should be as follows:
  1. Vision, mission, values
  2. Core Strategy distilled in a few clear strategic aims
  3. Develop strategic plan
  4. Implementation plan (that includes prioritisation of activities: need to do / nice to have / stop doing)
  5. Timetable
  6. Alignment of governance, staff, resources and shareholders
  7. Review