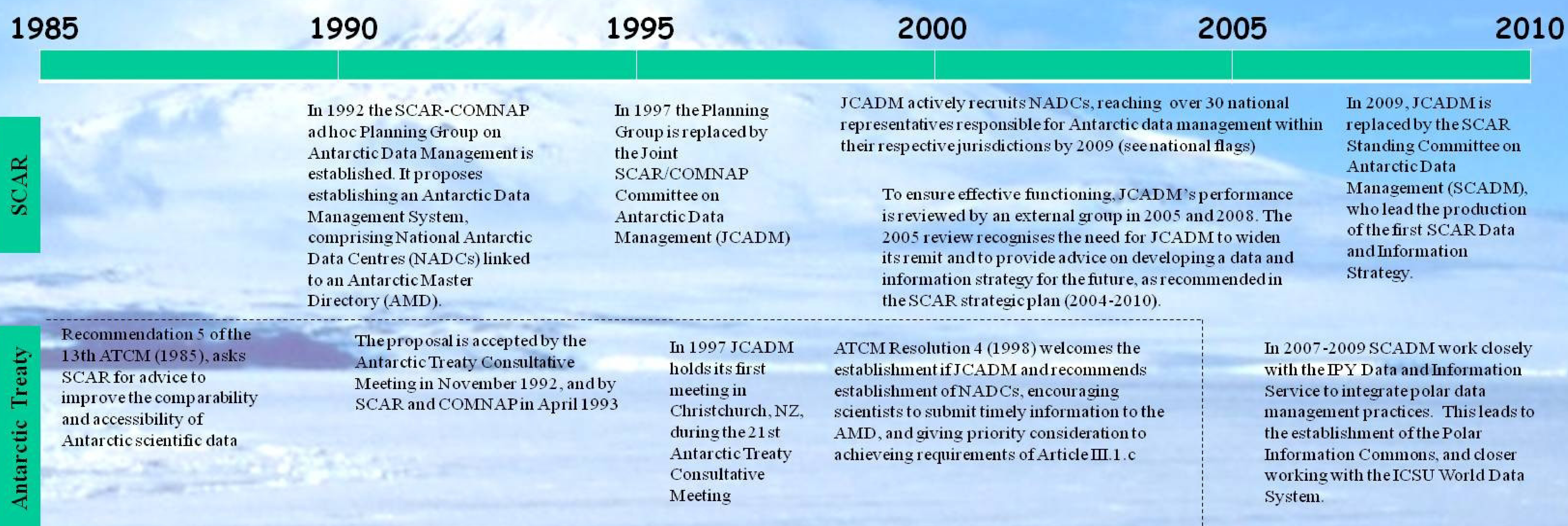


“Scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available”

(Antarctic Treaty, Article III – 1c)

History of Antarctic Data management

In recognition of the importance of good management and free exchange of data, SCAR and the Antarctic Treaty have worked over many decades to enhance access, and secure long-term preservation of Antarctic Science data. A timeline of this is shown below:



SCAR Data Products

There are a wide range of SCAR Data Products which have been built for the wider community. Two of these are highlighted below, but more information can be found at <http://www.scar.org/researchgroups/productsandservices/>

The Antarctic Master Directory (AMD)

<http://gcmd.gsfc.nasa.gov/KeywordSearch/Home.do?Portal=amd&MetadataType=0>

- a searchable global inventory of Antarctic and Southern Ocean data set descriptions
- contains > 5000 dataset descriptions and is the largest directory of Antarctic data set descriptions
- hosted by NASA's Global Change Master Directory (GCMD)

The SCAR Marine Biodiversity Information Network (SCAR MarBIN)

<http://www.scarmarbin.be/>

- SCAR-MarBIN compiles and manages existing and new information on Antarctic marine biodiversity by coordinating, supporting, completing and optimizing database networking
- It gives easy access to relevant marine biodiversity information, thereby maximising exploitation of these resources - the logos below show the diversity of science and policy organisations making active use of SCAR MarBIN
- SCAR-MarBIN will leave a valuable legacy for future generations, in the form of an information tool that will provide a baseline reference for establishing a State of Antarctic Environment, and predicting the future for marine communities around Antarctica, which are currently facing global change.



New Directions in Antarctic Data Management - the SCAR Data and Information Strategy

The Vision of the strategy is to build an Antarctic Data Management System (ADMS), capable of supporting inter-disciplinary Antarctic science and SCAR activities within the Antarctic Treaty System. The Strategy:

- Recognises that good science is founded on good data management practices.
- Focuses on the framework required to enhance the current data management system needed to support the goals of SCAR to coordinate high quality, international scientific research, and advise on the role of the Antarctic region in Earth Systems.
- Recognises the importance of partnership with existing polar and international data networks
- Aims to answer the following generic questions for SCAR data:

For more information on SCAR Data Management, SCADM, and the SCAR Data and Information Management Strategy go to <http://www.scar.org/researchgroups/>

Data Discovery: How will data be found?

Data Access: How will people and systems access data?

Data Quality: How will data quality be recorded and communicated?

Data Exchange & Integration: How will data be understood by other users, and integrated with other datasets?

Data Archiving: How will data be managed to enable re-use in the future?

