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Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

9 April 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a response to the Australian Senate's Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee on the issue of "Australia's future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters". The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) has long appreciated Australia's significant contributions to science in the region and in particular to the leadership roles Australian scientists have played in SCAR programmes, committees and activities (for example currently chairing or co-chairing several of our more relevant subsidiary bodies, research programmes and the 2014 SCAR Open Science Conference).

We would hope that as we move forward Australia will be able to continue to keep this high level of engagement that we believe is beneficial to Antarctic Science, SCAR and the international community.

Yours faithfully,

Jerónimo López- Martínez
SCAR President

Mike Sparrow
SCAR Executive Director