IUGG IACS International Association of Cryospheric Sciences

http://www.cryosphericsciences.org

IACS is a constituent Association of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics IUGG and aims to promote the study of the cryosphere in all of its aspects

IACS Extraordinary Plenary Administrative Meeting
14:00 – 14:35 UTC, Thursday 22 October 2026

Seventeen people attended this online meeting.

President's presentation

IACS President Mathieu Morlighem made a presentation of IACS activities since the BACO 2025 assembly, upcoming calls for nominations for the IACS Early Career Scientist Award and 2027-2013 IACS Bureau elections, IACS involvement in the UNESCO Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences, and plans for the 16-22 July 2027 IUGG General Assembly in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

Motions

Anaïs Orsi (Head of IACS Division V) presented Motion 1:

- The name of IACS Division V should be changed from "Cryosphere, Atmosphere and Climate" to "Climate System Interactions and Ice Cores".

This name change was proposed after discussion at the 2025 IACS Annual Bureau Meeting to clarify the remit of the Division and requires approval of a modification of IACS By-law 1: Divisions, which names the Divisions.

Olaf Eisen (IACS National Correspondent for Germany) asked in advance of the meeting about the emphasis on ice cores in the proposed name. Anaïs replied that this is intended to signal that there is a home for the ice core community within IACS, but the revised Division V description makes it clear that the remit includes "ice cores and other cryospheric proxies".

Frank Paul (University of Zurich) asked why the proposed name contained "Climate System" rather than "Cryosphere". Anaïs replied that a cryospheric focus is implicit for a Division of IACS, and Division V is intended as integrative between the system components represented by the other IACS Divisions.

Richard Essery (IACS Secretary General) presented Motion 2:

- By-law 6: Modifications to the By-laws “The By-laws may be modified by a simple majority of votes cast at a Plenary Administrative Session” should be modified by the addition of “or an electronic vote of IACS National Correspondents”.

This motion is intended to remove an inconsistency between IACS By-law 6 and IACS Statute 3.7, which states that “Electronic voting (e-voting) may be required in between Plenary Administrative Sessions on matters that are scientific, administrative, or financial in character”. This will allow IACS National Correspondents to discuss and approve changes in IACS By-laws without having to wait up to four years for a plenary session.

Voting on these motions was open for National Correspondents until 29 October 2026, after which both were accepted by simple majorities of the votes cast:

Motion 1 – 15 votes for, 2 against

Motion 2 – 17 votes for, 0 against