

WMO Congress Resolution – May 2003

Resolution 33(Cg-XIV)

HOLDING OF A THIRD INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR IN 2007-2008

THE CONGRESS,

CONSIDERING the fundamental contribution of the First and Second IPYs, held in 1882-1883 and 1932-1933, to the understanding of hydrometeorological processes in the polar regions,

NOTING the sensitivity of high latitude regions of our planet to natural and human impacts at global and regional levels and the need in this connection to study processes governing environmental changes in polar areas,

FURTHER NOTING that the main efforts at international cooperation under a third IPY will be to determine present and evaluate future climate change and the state of the environment in the polar regions,

CONSIDERING FURTHER that the observational data and scientific research results obtained will form a basis for developing recommendations for national government agencies and bodies involved in activities in the Arctic and Antarctic,

APPROVES the idea of holding a third IPY in 2007-2008 under the auspices of WMO;

REQUESTS the Executive Council at its fifty-sixth session to examine the preparation and holding of a Third International Polar Year in 2007-2008 in collaboration with other international organizations such as the Arctic Council, the Consultative Conference on the Antarctic Treaty, the International Arctic Science Committee, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research and the establishment of an ad hoc working body to prepare a plan of action in preparation for a third IPY and to coordinate its implementation;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to prepare the relevant programme document for the abovementioned Executive Council session.
