ISMASS 2012 Workshop, Portland, Oregon, 14 July 2012
Update of info (20-4-2012): preliminary agenda now available, new sponsors, travel grant application extended to 30 April

1) The preliminary agenda of the Workshop, including the listing of invited speakers, is now available at the Workshop website
http://www.climate-cryosphere.org/en/events/2012/ISMASS/Home.html

2) The International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), the International Glaciological Society (IGS) and the International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS) have joined the symposium organizers (the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, SCAR, the International Arctic Science Committee, IASC, and the World Climate Research Programme, WCRP) in co-sponsoring the Workshop. Substantial funding has been received through an ICSU Grant, as well as added funding from IGS and IACS.

3) The added funding from these new co-sponsors has allowed increasing the available funding for travel support of early career scientists and researchers from developing countries, and consequently the deadline for travel support application has been extended to 30 April. Visit the website for details on how to apply.

We look forward to seeing you in Portland.

ADDITIONAL INFO ON THE WORKSHOP (FROM ORIGINAL CALL) FOLLOWS:

When: 14 July 2012, from 08:00 to 17:00

Where: Hilton Portland, Portland, Oregon, USA - a venue of the SCAR Open Science Conference

Who should plan to attend: Anyone interested!

The ISMASS 2012 Workshop is free to all registered participants. Please register through the workshop website
http://www.climate-cryosphere.org/en/events/2012/ISMASS/Home.html
where you will find additional details on the workshop.

For planning purposes, please register by 31 May.

A limited amount of **travel support** is available to attend the ISMASS 2012 Workshop. Preference will be given to early career scientists and researchers from developing countries. Visit the website for details on how to apply (deadline 30 April).

Coordination support for the workshop and travel funding applications are provided by the WCRP/SCAR/IASC Climate and the Cryosphere Project (CliC) and the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS).

For questions about the workshop, please contact ismass2012@gmail.com.

NOTE that a related SCAR-OSC session (no. 7 - Glaciers and Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Their Relation to Sea Level) is also planned.

WORKSHOP AIMS:
 1) To assess the current knowledge of the contribution of the Antarctic and Greenland Ice Sheets to global and regional sea-level rise, taking into account ongoing and proposed

projects including the ESA/NASA-supported Ice Sheet Mass Balance Inter-Comparison Exercise. The focus will be on quantifying the uncertainties, and understanding and resolving the current discrepancies among the estimates from different observational and modelling methods. New techniques will also be explored.

2) To analyze how model-based predictions of ice-sheet discharge contributions to sea-level changes can be improved. The emphasis will be on identifying the main shortcomings of the currently available models and suggesting improvements for the next generation of ice-sheet models. Particular attention will be given to the interactions of ice sheets and shelves with the oceans and the atmosphere.

3) To reach a consensus on the magnitude of the current contribution of ice-sheet surface mass balance and discharge to sea-level change, and disseminate this knowledge not only to other researchers, but to policymakers and the general public.

4) To analyze the feasibility of preparing updates of the estimates of the contribution of ice-sheet discharge to sea-level rise between successive IPCC reports (e.g. every two years).

5) To study the regional distribution of sea-level rise and its impacts on coastal areas.

6) To determine how the renewed SCAR-IASC joint expert group on Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Sea Level (ISMASS) should be organized to effectively meet the above objectives.