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COMMISSION**
(of UNESCO)

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**INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR
SCIENCE**

IOC-WMO-UNEP Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System (I-GOOS) Board Meeting
9 – 10 March 2006
Paris, France

**IOC Resolution XXIII-5:
Terms of Reference of the Intergovernmental Committee for
the Global Ocean Observing System (I-GOOS) and the GOOS Scientific Steering
Committee (GSSC)**

And

**IOC Resolution XXIII-16:
IOC Programme and Budget for 2006-2007***

* Document also submitted for GSSC-IX meeting (Background document)

Resolution XXIII-5

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE GLOBAL OCEAN OBSERVING SYSTEM (I-GOOS) AND THE GOOS SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE (GSSC)

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission,

Recalling:

- (i) the decision of the IOC Assembly at its 21st Session (Resolution XXI-7) that a review of the organizational structure of GOOS be carried out by an external independent Review Group during 2002,
- (ii) the consideration of the Report of the GOOS Review Group (IOC/INF-1185) by the 22nd Session of the IOC Assembly,
- (iii) the decision of the 22nd Session of the IOC Assembly to create an open-ended Intersessional Working Group (Resolution XXII-4) of interested Member States and representatives of the GOOS-sponsoring organizations: to revise the Terms of Reference of the Intergovernmental Committee for GOOS (I-GOOS), the GOOS Scientific Steering Committee (GSSC) and the GOOS Project Office (GPO) accordingly; to develop a draft plan of action; and to present their findings to the IOC Executive Council at its 37th Session,
- (iv) the request of the 37th Session of the IOC Executive Council to re-examine the draft terms of reference of I-GOOS, the GSSC and the GOOS Project Office (GPO),
- (v) Resolution EC-XXXVII.6 and the subsequent invitation to Member States by IOC Circular Letter No. 2147 to submit further comments on the terms of reference and to seek the views of the three other co-sponsoring organizations (UNEP, WMO and ICSU),

Confirms that I-GOOS has the overall responsibility for promotion, planning and coordination of GOOS, and that the renamed GOOS Scientific Steering Committee (GSSC) has the responsibility for providing scientific and technical advice to I-GOOS;

Agrees that the operation of the GOOS Project Office is the responsibility of the IOC Executive Secretary;

Decides to amend the Terms of Reference of I-GOOS and the GSSC, as given in the Annex to this Resolution;

Instructs the IOC Executive Secretary to provide, in consultation with I-GOOS, a consolidated information document reflecting the conclusions of the GOOS Review Group (IOC/INF-1185) and subsequent decisions of the Executive Council and Assembly of IOC.

Identified funding: not applicable

Terms of Reference for I-GOOS and GSSC

1. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System (I-GOOS)

The Intergovernmental Committee for GOOS (I-GOOS), functioning under the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO and with co-sponsorship from WMO and UNEP, has the overall responsibility for formulation of policy, principles and strategy, and for planning and coordination of GOOS.

I-GOOS will:

- (i) oversee the implementation of GOOS;
- (ii) assess regularly the performance of GOOS in meeting user requirements for information products and services;
- (iii) facilitate development of scientific and technical strategies as well as sound plans, through the advice of the GOOS Scientific Steering Committee;
- (iv) formulate policy and approve overall plans for the implementation of GOOS;
- (v) facilitate the implementation of such policy and plans through national and regional initiatives and subsidiary bodies of IOC, as appropriate, including consideration of the socio-economic benefits and the identification and mobilization of needed resources;
- (vi) review and assess the development and implementation of GOOS and recommend changes as required;
- (vii) assist in developing the capacity of all Member States to contribute to and benefit from GOOS and in particular aid countries to acquire and make best use of information products and services derived from GOOS;
- (viii) develop recommendations for the consideration of the sponsoring organizations on priority needs for GOOS development, coordination and implementation;
- (ix) promote international support and cooperation for implementation of GOOS, through other UN agencies and international mechanisms such as the Global Earth Observation System of Systems.

A Chair and four Vice-Chairs will be elected in accordance with the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the IOC and will serve for a two-year term, extendable to a maximum of four years. The IOC Executive Secretary will provide secretariat support for I-GOOS.

I-GOOS shall meet at two-year intervals. The I-GOOS Board, consisting of the Chair and Vice-Chairs, as well as the Chair of the GSSC as an *ex-officio* member, shall provide guidance and advice on the implementation of the decisions of I-GOOS to the Chair during the intersessional period. The terms of reference for the I-GOOS Board will be decided by I-GOOS.

2. GOOS Scientific Steering Committee (GSSC)

The GOOS Scientific Steering Committee (GSSC), composed of nominated experts in relevant disciplines of marine science and global observation, co-sponsored by IOC, WMO, UNEP and ICSU, has the responsibility to provide scientific and technical advice to I-GOOS, the intergovernmental body responsible for GOOS.

GSSC will:

- (i) advise the I-GOOS on all scientific and technical aspects of GOOS, as well as on the resource requirements;
- (ii) develop and update, as appropriate, a long-term scientific and technical plan and accompanying short- to medium-term action plans and targets for GOOS;
- (iii) be responsible for the scientific and technical aspects of GOOS design and operation, and undertake appropriate activities to support the design process;
- (iv) submit, as required, reports to the sponsoring organizations and to I-GOOS;

The GSSC may establish technical advisory groups as appropriate.

The GSSC shall comprise (a) scientific and technical experts (up to a maximum of 18, selected by the sponsoring organizations as specified in the Memorandum of Understanding on GOOS, after consultation with Member States), taking into account balanced regional representation and selected on the basis of their personal expertise, so as to provide a balanced representation of the major scientific and technical disciplines and of the major operational and research programmes, including users, industry, governments and policy-makers, contributing to GOOS; (b) one representative of each of the GOOS sponsoring organizations; (c) the chairpersons of I-GOOS, JCOMM and IODE; (d) representatives of the other global observing systems. Individual experts may be invited as needed, including the chairs of the GSSC technical advisory groups. The Chair and a Vice-chair of GSSC will be chosen by the sponsors from among the scientific and technical expert members of the GSSC.

GSSC shall meet annually until decided otherwise by the sponsors. The members are appointed for three-year terms. The IOC Executive Secretary will provide secretariat support for the GSSC.

IOC PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2006–2007

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission,

Recalling Article 1 (2) and Article 10 (1) of the IOC Statutes,

Noting the presentation of the IOC Draft Programme and Budget for 2006–2007, as contained in Document IOC-XXIII/2 Annex 3 rev.,

Emphasizing the flagship status of IOC within UNESCO as designated in the 31 C/4 — Medium-term Strategy 2002–2007,

Emphasizing further the unique role of the IOC as the competent intergovernmental body dealing with ocean science and ocean services within the United Nations system, particularly as the ocean arm of UNESCO, operating through the concerted action of IOC Member States,

Noting the increased responsibilities IOC is called upon to fulfil, especially the coordination of the establishment of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWS),

Also noting the role IOC plays in the technical coordination with other UN Specialized Agencies and Programmes,

Having considered the proposals regarding the structure, formulation and budgetary framework for 2006–2007 biennium contained in the UNESCO *Draft Programme and Budget for 2006–2007*, 33 C/5, which includes a ca. US\$900,000 reduced allocation to IOC,

Concerned that the proposed reduction of the regular budget allocation from UNESCO to IOC would negatively impact the current programmes and activities of the Commission, especially the implementation of regional components of programmes,

Stressing the importance of:

- (i) the regular funds provided by UNESCO in attracting supplementary support from Member States, notably through contributions to the IOC Special Account, and secondment of personnel,
- (ii) the continuing support by Member States in addressing the long-term plans of the IOC, through voluntary extra-budgetary contributions,

Accepts as an interim measure, a uniform cut applied to each Main Line of Action for the proposed IOC Programme and Budget 2006–2007;

Decides that the IOC Programme and Budget for 2006–2007 should be based upon three main lines of action:

- (i) Main line of Action 1: Addressing scientific uncertainties for the management of the marine environment and climate change;
- (ii) Main line of Action 2: Developing operational capabilities for the management and sustainable development of the open and coastal ocean;
- (iii) Main line of Action 3: Capacity of Member States in marine science for the coastal ocean strengthened;

Adopts the following Draft IOC Programme and Budget 2006–2007:

<i>TITLE</i>	Amount
MLA 1 Addressing scientific uncertainties for the management of the marine environment and climate change	
Oceans & Climate	186,930
Ecosystem Protection & Marine Environment Protection*	177,585
*of which, HAB activities	60,348
ICAM	286,800
Sub-total MLA 1	651,315
MLA 2 Developing operational capabilities for the management and sustainable development of the open and coastal ocean	
GOOS	606,423
<i>Rio GOOS Staff</i>	<i>66,000</i>
<i>Perth Office Staff</i>	<i>160,000</i>
<i>GOOS-Africa Staff</i>	<i>50,000</i>
ITSU	72,123
JCOMM	139,831
<i>JCOMM Staff</i>	<i>50,000</i>
IODE Activities	143,510
<i>Ostend Office Staff</i>	<i>120,000</i>
Ocean Mapping	60,348
Sub-total MLA 2	1,468,235
MLA 3 Capacity of Member States in marine science for the coastal ocean strengthened	
Capacity-building	430,494
Ocean Governance & UNCLOS	135,415
<i>UNCLOS/ABE-LOS Cons.</i>	<i>100,000</i>
Governing Bodies & Public Awareness	235,504
<i>ADG/Office Staff</i>	<i>250,000</i>
Regional activities	95,637
<i>WESTPAC Staff</i>	<i>125,000</i>
<i>IOCARIBE Staff</i>	<i>230,000</i>
<i>HAB Office Staff</i>	<i>100,000</i>
Sub-total MLA 3	1,702,050
TOTAL ALLOCATION*	3,821,600

* As reflected in the current UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget (610 million US\$-baseline scenario).

Further reduction of approx. 13.4% to programme activities lines is anticipated in order to cover the IOC's share of running costs.

Appeals to the Thirty-third General Conference of UNESCO to approve the supplementary amount of US\$ 1,000,000 to be allocated to IOC for helping Member States to develop Tsunami Early Warning Systems;

Establishes an ad hoc open-ended working group chaired by the Vice-Chairman in charge of Programme and Budget, to:

- (i) consider possible future scenarios for the organization that could be used to reformulate its mechanisms and medium and long-term plans predicated on IOC mission priorities and on a consistent set of programme performance metrics;
- (ii) report on progress to the 39th Session of the Executive Council;

- (iii) define the outlines of the IOC Programme and Budget 2008–2009, to be submitted to the 39th Executive Council;

Authorizes the Executive Council at its 39th Session, to approve the Main Lines of Action for the 2008–2009 biennium;

Urges Member States:

- (i) to support the IOC programme proposals when the Draft 33 C/5 is being considered by the UNESCO Executive Board and the General Conference;
- (ii) to continue and increase their support to the IOC through direct and in-kind contributions.

Identified funding: not applicable.