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COMMITTEE FOR CO-ORDINATION OF JOINT PROSPECTING FOR MINERAL RESOURCES IN ASIAN OFFSHORE AREAS



Ad hoc CCOP-IOC Technical Meeting on Post-IDOE Studies in East Asian Tectonics and Resources (SEATAR) Seoul, Republic of Korea, 9 November 1990

SUMMARY REPORT

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1. OPENING

The ad hoc CCOP-IOC Technical Meeting on Post-IDOE Studies in East Asian Tectonics (SEATAR) was held at the Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel, Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 9 November 1990. The meeting was chaired by Professor John Katili, Chairman and Principle Co-ordinator for SEATAR. Professor Martin Flower, University of Illinois and Professor Weng Shijie, CCOP Technical Secretariat, served as Rapporteurs.

The Chairman welcomed the participants and stressed the need to publish the results of the SEATAR Transect Studies as soon as possible. Twenty-two experts from Member States and two CCOP experts attended the meeting. The list of participants is given in Annex II.

The Meeting adopted the Agenda as it appears in Annex I.

2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSECTS

Professor Weng Shijie and Professor C.S.Hutchison, the SEATAR Overall Co-ordinator, reported on the status of the SEATAR transects. Location of each transect is shown in Annex III.

Transect I: The Vietnamese Representative informed the Group that the Vietnamese Coordinator had contributed the relevant data three years ago to the CCOP Secretariat, which promptly transferred the information to the Thai Transect Co-ordinator. The Thai Representative informed the Group that the compilation work on this transect will be continued.

Transect II: Dr. Somehai has been nominated as the new co- ordinator. He promised to continue the work.

Transect III: The Malaysian Co-ordinator compiled his part two years ago. However, the Overall Co-ordinator reported that the Indonesian part still needs some improvement. The Indonesian representative reported that Dr. Sukamto of GRDC has now been entrusted with the responsibility of co-ordination.

Transect IV: The Transect Co-ordinator submitted the draft maps and manuscript to the Overall Co-ordinator, who sent the revised version to the Geological Society of America (GSA) for review in early October 1990.

Transect V: The work has been proceeding since the nomination of Mr. F. Sajona, Bureau of Mines and Geosciences (Philippines), as the new co- ordinator. Dr. P. Fryer, University of Hawaii, has contributed the data and text of the Mariana Region.

Transect VI: The Co-ordinators of Japan and the Republic of Korea finalized the maps and text and after review, the Overall Co-ordinator suggested some minor revisions. These were expected to be sent to GSA for review in November 1990. The Overall Co-ordinator expects this Transect manuscript to be readily accepted by GSA for publication in its map and chart series.

Transect VII: The draft maps and manuscript of the text were drafted by the Geological Survey of Malaysia and edited by the Overall Co-ordinator. They have been sent to the Geological Society of America (GSA) for review.

Transect VIII: The Indonesian Co-ordinator has completed his part. The Philippine Co-ordinator submitted his results to the Indonesian Co-ordinator in September 1990. The Overall Co-ordinator suggested a considerable amount of amendments and has sent his detailed comments to Dr. Sukamto, the national co-ordinator of Indonesia, who is responsible for the finalization of this transect.

Transects IX and X: No new information has been received.

Referring to the agreement of the previous SEATAR session held in Bangkok in 1989, the Meeting reconfirmed that all efforts should be made to publish two to four selected transects as early as possible, preferably before the end of 1991. The Overall Co-ordinator indicated that transects IV, VI and VII would be in the best position to be published by GSA and commented that more effort is required for the completion of transects III, V and VIII.

The Meeting observed that the Overall Co-ordinator had appropriately finalized transects IV and VII for publication and recommended that he should seek the best possible way to publish these transect maps by GSA. It also recommended the CCOP Technical Secretariat and IOC to seek possible financial assistance to complete his task.

The Director of the CCOP Technical Secretariat informed the Meeting that his office had maintained enough funds for the final drafting of at least one transect. The Representative of IOC informed the Group that his Commission could provide some financial support for the final drafting upon clear identification of work plans.

3. STATUS OF SUBMISSIONS TO GSA.

The Overall Co-ordinator reported that the Editor of the GSA Map and Chart series had sent him a detailed review on one of the submitted transect manuscripts. The review is not positive. The following comments were made by the Editor: "His review raises some troubling questions about the transect and potentially about the entire series... However, I want to consider very carefully the thoughts of other reviewers... Of course I want the transects to be as good as it is possible to make them... Naturally there is some threshold of acceptability".

The Overall Co-ordinator stated that he would continue his efforts throughout 1991 to bring as many transects as possible up to this threshold of acceptability. He also informed the Meeting that the Editor is still awaiting the outcome of the review on another transect submitted to GSA.

The Meeting suggested that two to four well prepared transect maps should be selected for publication. It urged the co-ordinators to take the necessary urgent action to improve their manuscripts to reach the standard required for publication.

The Meeting agreed that each national co-ordinator, or responsible organization in their respective countries, could publish their transect maps and accompanying text if they are not to be published by GSA, or place them on an open-file. It suggested that the SEATAR transect cross-sections could be made available to the East Asia Geotectonic Map Project, but with assurance that SEATAR be credited for the original data.

The Meeting recommended the Overall Co-ordinator, with the assistance of the CCOP Technical Secretariat, to make all efforts to finalize and publish, through GSA, the selected transects which could be completed by the end of 1991.

4. EXTENSION OF THE SERVICES OF THE OVERALL CO-ORDINATOR

The Meeting endorsed the proposed extension of Professor C. S. Hutchison's services to December 1991, so that several of the transects could be completed for publication by GSA.

5. TERMINATION OF THE SEATAR PROGRAMME

As the SEATAR programme has been going on for seventeen years and most of the original transect co-ordinators have retired from their responsibilities, it is necessary to conclude the programme.

The Meeting decided that the SEATAR Programme should be terminated by December 1991 with publication of selected maps and requested the CCOP Technical Secretariat, in close co-operation with the Overall Co-ordinator and IOC, to take action on this. To mark the conclusion of the Programme, the Meeting agreed that a special paper on SEATAR be included in the 25th Anniversary Volume of the CCOP Technical Publication series for 1991.

6. SEATAR COMPENDIUM

Professor Flower reported on the plans for a compendium volume on SEATAR. Some experts pointed out that his outline contains too many topics and would require an enormous effort to collect data and to analyze it. As a result, the final text would be very long and unrealistic. Problems would be encountered with respect to the delivery of invited papers and may effectively delay the project.

The Meeting appreciated the proposal made by Professor Flower and Dr. MaCabe and recommended that the CCOP Technical Secretariat should submit to the next session of SEATAR detailed information related to the proposed compendium, including contexts with annotation, time-frame, page length, proposed contributors, and an outline of the required financial input.

7. REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON THE NEXT DECADE OF GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN EAST ASIA, HONOLULU, 27-29 JULY 1990

Professor Flower presented a synopsis of the workshop purpose, agenda and deliberations, and reviewed relevant project proposals. He outlined the principal interest areas - microplate kinematics, basin evolution, collision tectonics, and global change, and suggested that the working groups could be charged with developing multidisciplinary projects in each. The Workshop was aimed at developing a basis for a research programme on marine geology/geophysics in the East Asian region with particular interest in resources research.

The Director of the CCOP Technical Secretariat, indicated that two of the four priority areas identified during the Workshop, i.e. the basin analysis and global change, are already included in the CCOP Work Programme for 1992-1996. The IOC Representative pointed out that some of the proposed research titles fall within the interest of IOC, especially its WESTPAC Programme and IOC-UN(OALOS) Programme on Ocean Sciences in Relation to Non-Living Resources (OSNLR).

The Meeting agreed that since these proposals were made only by the participants at the Workshop held in Honolulu, scientists in the region should be given opportunities to prepare proposals for new regional scientific research projects.

The Meeting concluded that more detailed infomation about the result of this Workshop and new research projects, including financial implications and the sources of external funding, should be brought to the attention of the CCOP Steering Committee and IOC.

8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The Meeting adopted the Summary Report and was adjourned on 9 November 1990 at 1800 hours.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING
- 2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSECTS
- 3. STATUS OF SUBMISSIONS TO GSA
- 4. EXTENSION OF THE SERVICES OF THE OVERALL CO-ORDINATOR
- 5. TERMINATION OF THE SEATAR PROGRAMME
- 6. SEATAR COMPENDIUM
- 7. REVIEW OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON THE NEXT DECADE OF GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH IN EAST ASIA HELD IN HONOLULU ON 26-28 JULY 1990.
- 8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

ANNEX II

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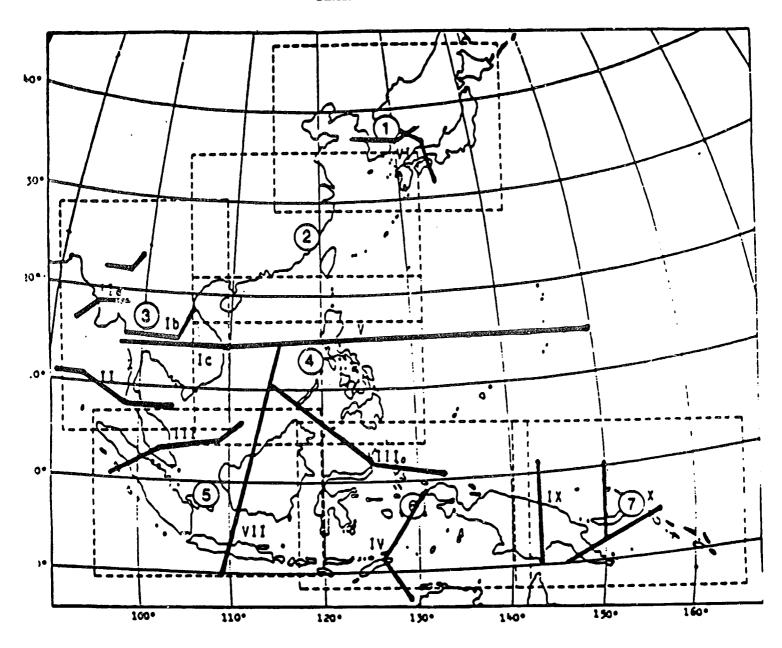
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ANNEX III
SEATAR TRANSECTS



SEATAR Transects (I to X) for strip maps and sections, and maps (1 to 7) of CCOP Programme on East Asian Basin Evaluation/Resources Assessment

ANNEX IV

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CCOP Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in Asian Offshore

Areas

GSA Geological Survey of America

GRDC Geological Research and Development Centre

IDOE International Decade for Oceanographic Exploration

OSNLR IOC-UN(OALOS) Programme on Ocean Science in Relation to Non-Living Resources

SEATAR CCOP-IOC Joint Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies of East Asian Tectonics and

Resources

WESTPAC IOC Regional Committee for the Western Pacific