

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
Reports of Governing and Major Subsidiary Bodies



**Forty-seventh Session
of the Executive Council**

Paris, 1–4 July 2014

UNESCO

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PART I

SUMMARY REPORT

1. OPENING

1 The Chair, Mr Sang-Kyung Byun, opened the 47th Session of the IOC Executive Council at 9:30 on Tuesday 1st July 2014 in Room IV at UNESCO Headquarters. The Chair delivered an opening speech and reported on his and the other Officers' activities since the 27th Session of the Assembly. ([Annex 2A](#)).

2 He announced two new IOC Member States who joined during the intersessional period: Vanuatu and Palau, bringing the IOC membership to 147, of which 34 are Small Island Developing States.

3 UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova, welcomed the IOC Executive Council later in the session. The Director-General spoke warmly of her professional and personal relationship with IOC Executive Secretary Wendy Watson-Wright. The Director-General emphasized how the Executive Secretary has raised the visibility of IOC and ocean issues within UNESCO and the UN, by among other achievements, actively supporting a thematic sustainable development goal for the ocean in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. ([Annex 2B](#)).

4 The Chair asked participants to stand for a minute of silence to honour distinguished individuals who had participated in the work of the Commission and passed away during the past year: Emilio Lorca (1940–2014, Chile), Lola Olsen (1944–2014, USA), Cesario R. Pagdilao (1952–2013, Philippines), Philip Polk (1932–2014, Belgium), John Withrow (1948–2013, USA) and Albert Tolkachov (1939–2014, Russian Federation).

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION**2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

5 The Chair reminded that the wording of item 4 was renamed “The Future of the IOC” in the revised Provisional agenda in accordance with Decisions IOC-XXVI/5.1 and 6.5 at the request of Portugal.

6 No Member State representative took the floor.

[Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.2](#)

The Executive Council,

Adopts the agenda and the timetable of work as set out in document IOC/EC-XLVII/1 Prov. Rev. and Add. Rev.

2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

7 The Chair invited the Executive Council to designate a Rapporteur to assist in the preparation of the Draft Summary Report for the present session.

8 Japan proposed that China designate a Rapporteur from their delegation. Tanzania, Argentina and Portugal seconded the proposal. China proposed that Mr Yang Yafeng (China) from electoral group IV serve as Session Rapporteur, which was approved by the Council.

9 No Member State representative took the floor.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.2

The Executive Council,

On a proposal of Japan, seconded by Tanzania, Argentina, and Portugal,

Designates Mr YANG Yafeng of China Rapporteur for its present session to assist the Chairperson and the Executive Secretary in the preparation of the draft provisional report of the session;

2.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF INTRASESSIONAL COMMITTEES

10 The Chair invited the Executive Council to form two sessional committees: the Resolutions Committee and the Financial Committee and invited proposals for sessional working groups.

11 On behalf of the Officers, the Chair proposed the establishment of three sessional working groups on: (i) the IOC participation to the 2nd International Indian Ocean Expedition (item 6.3) for which a Draft Resolution is required; (ii) the Future of IOC, in addition to the special meeting of the Intersessional Working Group on the Future of IOC that had taken place the day preceding the opening of the Council (item 4); and (iii) the preparation of a Draft Strategic Plan for Capacity Development (item 6.1).

12 No Member State representative took the floor.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.2

The Executive Council,

Establishes the following sessional open-ended committees and three working groups and refers to them the following agenda items and responsibilities:

Financial Committee (to examine the report on budget execution for 2012–2013, review the proposed workplans for 2014–2015, consider the financial implications of draft decisions/resolutions and propose a comprehensive draft resolution under items 7.1): under the chairmanship of Professor Peter M. Haugan (Norway) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Japan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, UK, USA and Venezuela¹. Ms Ksenia Yvinec provides the Secretariat support to the Financial Committee.

Resolutions Committee (to report on all draft resolutions duly presented for consideration at the session –item 8): with Dr Terry Schaefer (USA) as Chair and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Japan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Tanzania, Thailand, USA and Venezuela. Julian Barbière provides the Secretariat support to the Resolutions Committee.

On a proposal of the Officers, establishes also:

- (i) a sessional working group on “The Future of IOC” (item 4.) with Peter Haugan (Norway) and Javier Valladares, past Chair of IOC, as co-chairs and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Togo UK, USA and

¹ See also [Annex III](#) for detail

	Venezuela. Ksenia Yvinec provides the Secretariat support to the group;
(ii)	a sessional working group on “the IOC participation to the 2 nd International Indian Ocean Expedition” (item 6.3) with Prof. Yutaka Michida (Japan) and Dr Sateesh C. Shenoi (India) as co-chairs and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Australia, China, Egypt, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Japan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, UK, USA and Venezuela. Albert Fischer provides the Secretariat support to the group;
(iii)	a sessional working group on “the preparation of a Draft Strategic Plan for Capacity Development” (item 6.1) with Prof. Adoté Blim Blivi (Togo) as chair and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Tanzania, Thailand, UK, USA and Venezuela. Peter Pissierssens provides the Secretariat support to the group.

2.4 INTRODUCTION OF TIMETABLE AND DOCUMENTATION

13 The Executive Secretary introduced this item. She reviewed briefly the list of working documents and reminded the Executive Council that the report would be focused on decisions. In this view the drafting of formal draft decisions in the pre-session documentation was initiated at the 45th session of the Executive Council in 2012 and was extended to the Assembly session in 2013 and to the present session. Referring to IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.1, the Executive Secretary reminded that draft decisions would be agreed to during the discussion of each agenda item. The Action Paper was intentionally drafted as a pre-report in order to streamline the reporting process during this session scheduled over 3.5 days. Taking into account the feedback from Member States of governing bodies in 2012 and 2013, a summary of the discussion that led to the decision under each agenda item was to be drafted during the session and was to be submitted to Member States under item 8. Member States that wished to have specific, particularly important, plenary interventions recorded, were invited to provide written records thereof in one of the four working languages of the Commission, to be annexed to the report, in their original language as an informational [annex](#) to this report. A template (IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.1 Add.) and a dedicated e-mail address (iocgovbody@unesco.org) were set up to this end.

14 The Executive Secretary reminded that the deadline for submission of draft resolutions by one or more Member States was set as Tuesday 24 June, i.e. one week before the opening, with the exception of the draft resolution on programme and budget (item 7.1), which was submitted during the session. This is consistent with the new guidelines for the preparation and consideration of Draft Resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its 27th session (IOC/INF-1315).

15 With reference to the timetable for the session, the Executive Secretary informed about interpretation arrangements, side meetings, and sponsoring during the session, in particular Venezuela and Monaco who supported the Roger Revelle Memorial Lecture, 2014 and Côte d'Ivoire and Venezuela for sponsoring coffee/tea services. Side events included “Implementing the Galway Statement: trans-Atlantic Ocean Research Cooperation”, “Developing a Tropical Pacific Observing System for 2020 as a GOOS project” and an IOC evening reception sponsored by the Marine Technology Society (USA). A calendar of side meetings was updated in real time on the webpage of the Council. Meetings of the Financial Committee were held with English and French interpretation. To conclude she invited all Member States to formally express opinion on those working arrangements through the online evaluation questionnaire.

16 The Executive Secretary took note of the concern of the Executive Council for the delay in production of many of the documents for this session.

17 The representative of one Member State took the floor.

2.5 ROGER REVELLE MEMORIAL LECTURE

18 The Chair introduced this item and reminded that the IOC Roger Revelle Memorial Lecture was created by the Assembly in 1991 to address marine geology, geological oceanography, and institutional co-operation in these fields and in general, at the national and international levels. Roger Revelle was a pioneer in oceanography and in global ocean science cooperation and one of the founders of the IOC.

19 Dr Baumar José Marín Espinoza, Associate Professor at the University of Oriente (Venezuela) and member of the Study Group on Shellfish and Plankton Ecological Studies delivered the IOC Roger Revelle Memorial Lecture, 2014, on “The CARIACO Ocean Time-Series Project: A window into oceanography in Venezuela”. On this occasion Dr Máyida El Souki, representing La Salle Foundation for Natural Sciences in Venezuela further detailed the scientific contributions and benefits of the project to Venezuela and to the world. An abstract and summary of questions and answers is included in [Annex VI](#). Following his presentation Dr Marín was awarded the IOC Roger Revelle Medal. IOC certificates of appreciation were presented to INTECMAR (Instituto de Tecnología y Ciencias Marinas), the Instituto Oceanográfico de Venezuela (IOV) and La Salle Foundation for their support to the CARIACO project for the benefit of Member States in the Region.

20 [Venezuela](#) chose to provide a record of their plenary intervention for item 2.5 for the informational annex to the meeting report.

3. STATUTORY REPORTS

3.1 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED SINCE THE 27th SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

21 The Executive Secretary reported on the work accomplished by the Commission since the 27th session of the IOC Assembly (Paris, 26 June–5 July 2013).

22 Dr Watson-Wright mentioned the difficult conditions in which the Secretariat has had to operate within a reduced budget and explained that IOC was able to maintain a reasonable level of activity although it was not possible to operate at optimum level in any of the programmes. She then gave an overview of the activities carried out by the Commission. The reporting was done under the six functions as identified in the current IOC Medium-Term Strategy (IOC/INF-1314).

23 Under Function A “Ocean Research”, the Executive Secretary reported on the activities of the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) and explained the rationale of expanding the ocean observing system to cover acidification. The role of the IOC in the organization of the next UNFCCC/COP 21 in Le Bourget, France in December 2015 was also highlighted.

24 Under Function B, “Observing system/data management”, it was reported that monitoring statistics of the status of the *in situ* networks contributing to the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) showed a relatively stable status reflecting continued Member State investment, including an in-kind contribution by Australia for the creation of a support position for the GOOS Biology and Ecosystems Panel. Decisions taken at the Officers’ meeting of the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange programme (IODE) and the 3rd meeting of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) Steering Group were reported.

- 25 Under Function C “Early warning and services” the Executive Secretary reported that IOC managed to keep the Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) process for the four regional tsunami warning systems going through help from UNESCO’s emergency funds. The report also included recent activities and products developed by the Tsunami Unit as well as services developed by the Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM).
- 26 Under Function D “Assessment and information for policy”, it was mentioned that IOC continued to follow closely the preparation of the World Ocean Assessment (WOA) report under the UN Regular Process and that it was leading the implementation of the marine components of the Transboundary Water Assessment Programme (TWAP) funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- 27 Under Function E “Sustainable management and governance”, the Executive Secretary mentioned that for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), IOC is co-leading the UN Ocean Task Support Team (TST) mandated to provide scientific and technical information upon request to the Member States negotiating the formulation of SDGs. The TST prepared a policy brief on ocean and provided technical advice on potential ocean targets and indicators that could be integrated in a standalone ocean SDG.
- 28 Under Function F “Capacity Development”, the Strategic Plan (2014–2021) for the IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA), which was accepted by the IOC Assembly in 2013 as part of its report, has formed the basis of IOC’s interventions in Africa. The highlight of WESTPAC’s accomplishment over the last intersessional period was the successful organization of the 9th WESTPAC International Scientific Symposium (Nha Trang, Vietnam, 22–25 April 2014). IOCARIBE participated in an exhibition promoting IOC’s activities in the Caribbean Region within the framework of the International Event “Sail Cartagena de Indias 2014” (Cartagena, Colombia, 15–19 May 2014).
- 29 The Executive Secretary introduced the Report on Budget Execution 2012–2013 and reminded the Council of the context in which the last biennium budget was implemented. The General Conference of UNESCO at its 36th session having adopted the Organization’s Programme and Budget for 2012–2013 (36 C/5), with the total appropriation of \$653 million, of which \$10.4 M for the IOC, the corresponding allocation of regular budget resources by programme activities was guided by Resolution XXVI-12 of the IOC Assembly (June 2011) ‘IOC Biennial Priorities and Implementation Strategy and Draft Programme and Budget for 2012–2013’. However, due to the cash-flow problems experienced by the Organization, the actual 2012–2013 budgetary allocation to the IOC was revised to \$7.5 M. In its decision EC-XLV/Dec.5.1, the Executive Council endorsed the Priority Funding Plan for 2012–2013 presented by the Executive Secretary *‘as an interim measure to ensure programme continuity consistent with the priorities of the Medium-term Strategy for 2008–2013 and without prejudice to the development of the Medium-term Strategy for 2014–2021’*. To the \$7.5 M allocated to the IOC under UNESCO’s regular budget, should be added \$1,1 M allocated by the Director-General of UNESCO from the UNESCO Emergency Fund, thus raising the total funding available for programme activities from 26% to 58% of the 36 C/5 approved.
- 30 In introducing the Programme and Budget for 2014–2017 and workplans 2014–2015, the Executive Secretary explained that these were elaborated by the Secretariat based on the budgetary allocation approved by the UNESCO General Conference at its 37th session and on the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2). The Assembly provided its recommendation on the preferred distribution of the regular budget to Expected Results (ERs) in a scenario with an allocation of 86% of the total budgetary allocation to the IOC proposed in the fully-funded Draft 37 C/5 (\$653 M scenario). This preferred distribution among ERs was based upon consideration of the functions and activities contributing to each ER, their interrelation as well as the need to fulfil statutory requirements and agreements. However, the final budgetary allocation approved by the

UNESCO General Conference at its 37th session was of \$8,643,600 or 72% of the fully funded 37 C/5. As a consequence the reduction of \$3.4 M compared to the fully funded scenario (\$12 M) and of \$1.7 M compared to the anticipated allocation of 86% (\$10.3 M), has a serious impact on the IOC's ability to deliver. A detailed forecast of programme implementation by function within the limits of the \$8.6 M allocation is provided in Appendix I to the document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3.

31 The Executive Secretary also explained the rationale for the restructuring of the Secretariat, based on the need to clarify and streamline the coordination function and give priority to operational programme needs.

32 The Executive Council was unanimous in congratulating the Executive Secretary for the work accomplished despite the challenging financial situation, and expressed support for the programmatic priorities defined in the IOC Medium Term Strategy for 2014–2021 as well as the secretariat restructuring as responding to the need to strengthen the operational programmes in the priority areas of ocean observations, science and data exchange and management. The Executive Council stressed the importance of ensuring adequate sustainable funding and staffing to enable the Commission to achieve its programmatic objectives, with emphasis on regional and inter-regional cooperation. Member States of IOCARIBE expressed their concern that the full time post of the Secretary of the Regional Sub-Commission could not be ensured within the current biennium budgetary envelope and informed the Executive Council of their fundraising initiative to secure such funding through extra budgetary resources.

33 Among many other cited examples of innovative and creative approaches of IOC Member States to increasing their ownership and support of the Commission's programme objectives through extra budgetary resources, in-kind support and national investments in the IOC's areas of activity included the following:

- Increased support from Germany with a new cash contribution of up to 300,000.00 Euros towards the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network and for GLOSS/NEAMTWS in the South-Eastern Mediterranean;
- Renewal of the UNESCO-Flanders Science Cooperation Agreement and the earmarking of a substantial amount for the IOC activities;
- Confirmation of continued commitment from China with annual cash support in the amount of US\$150,000.00, in addition to staff secondments both to Headquarters and to regional offices;
- Offers to host regional training centres by Senegal, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa;
- The establishment of the International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOOcean) in India;
- Establishment of the Partnership Centre for the Ocean Data Portal by the Russian Federation;
- Secondment of two staff by Colombia to the IOCARIBE Secretariat in Cartagena.

34 A number of recommendations were made on the way to further improve programme delivery by strengthening regional and inter-regional cooperation via the Regional Sub-Commissions and other bodies; enhanced cooperation with other UN agencies, and in particular WMO; raising the IOC's visibility as the competent organization for ocean science within the UN system and exploring ways of enhancing media activity as a way to increase Member States involvement in the IOC and reaching out to broader community.

35 The Executive Council was informed that the African Union had retained 2015–2025 as the Decade of African Seas and Oceans.

- 36 Concerning section I of Decision 3.1 the representatives of 19 Member States and three observers (IODE, WMO and UNEP) took the floor.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.3.1 (I)

The Executive Council,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1,

Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on programme and budget implementation, subject to the review of the Financial Committee in Resolution EC-XLVII.(7.1);

- 37 Two additional items for decision by Member States were raised in the Executive Secretary's report: (i) a revision of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for Joint IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4), and (ii) a request from the GOOS Steering Committee to recognize the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) as a GOOS Regional Alliance (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1, Section J).

- 38 Since the documentation related to the proposed second revision of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the Joint IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee was made available only a week prior to the Executive Council, some Member States expressed concern that they had not had sufficient time to consider the proposed revisions. Three sessional working sessions took place to collect initial inputs from Member States as reflected in document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4 Rev.2.

- 39 Concerning section II of Decision 3.1 the representatives of five Member States and two organizations (IHO, GEBCO) took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on agenda item 3.1 (GEBCO) for the informational annex to the meeting report: [China](#), [Japan](#), [Republic of Korea](#), [U.K.](#)

Decision EC-XLVII/3.1 (II)

The Executive Council,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4 Rev.2,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation between IOC and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) in the field of bathymetry,

Encourages Member States to voluntarily contribute to the improvement of global bathymetric data sets and data products of the IHO–IOC GEBCO Project;

Requests the Joint IHO–IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee to continue to use the current terms of reference and rules of procedure in order to allow IOC Member States sufficient time to review the proposed changes;

Requests also the Executive Secretary to circulate the draft of the terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Joint IHO–IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee as contained in IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4 rev.2, supported by background information;

Decides to have an item on the draft terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Joint IHO–IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee on the agenda of the 28th Session of the IOC Assembly.

- 40 The Executive Council reviewed the recommendation of the GOOS Steering Committee to recognize the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) as a GOOS Regional Alliance (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1, Section J). The Executive Council acknowledged the accomplishments of Australian IMOS, welcomed the intention of IMOS to serve regional needs in addition to national programmes and recognized the IMOS as a GOOS Regional Alliance.

41 Concerning section III of Decision 3.1, the representatives of two Member States took the floor.

42 The following Member States and observer chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on agenda item 3.1 for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Australia](#), [Belgium](#), [Canada](#), [Chile](#), [China](#) (twice), [Columbia](#), [Germany](#), [India](#), [Japan](#), [Republic of Korea](#), [Russian Federation](#), [United Kingdom](#), [United States of America](#), and [WMO](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/3.1 (III)

The Executive Council,

Recalling the GOOS Regional Policy 2013 (IOC/INF-1308),

Having examined the recommendation by the GOOS Steering Committee (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1, Section J),

Recognizes the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) as a GOOS Regional Alliance.

3.2 PROGRAMME MATTERS REQUIRING DECISIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

3.2.1 Early Warning Systems and Preparedness for Tsunamis

3.2.1.1 *Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS)*

43 Captain Enrique Silva, Head of the Oceanography Department of the Chilean Navy Oceanographic and Hydrographic Service (Chile), on behalf of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS), introduced this item. He reported on the developments of the ICG/PTWS, including the New Enhanced Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre products for PTWS (IOC/2013/TS/105) and the on-going establishment of a Tsunami Warning System in the South China Sea Region, as recommended by the ICG/PTWS at its 25th Session (Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 9–11 September 2013). He highlighted the importance of the coming ICG/PTWS-XXVI session in April 2015 in Hawaii, USA, and the related 50th anniversary of the establishment of the first international tsunami warning system.

44 The list of Member States that took the floor is provided under item 3.2.1.4.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.1 (I)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the executive summary reports of the recent sessions of the Intergovernmental Coordination Groups for: the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXV), the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX), the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/NEAMTWS-X), and the report of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG-VII),

Accepts the reports and the decisions and recommendations contained therein;

Notes the ongoing work to introduce the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC) Enhanced Products for tsunami threat assessment and that these products will come into full operation as of 1st October 2014, pending final review and approval by the ICG/PTWS Steering committee, at its meeting in July 2014;

Notes also the continued efforts to establish a South China Sea Tsunami Advisory

Centre (SCSTAC) to service the approved sub-regional South China Sea Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System within the framework of the ICG/PTWS;

3.2.1.2 *Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS)*

45 Mr Ahmet Yalciner, Chair of Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS), introduced this item. He reported on the developments of the ICG/NEAMTWS notably the continuation of the interim operational phase of NEAMTWS, through the Candidate Tsunami Watch Providers (CTWPs) of France, Greece, and Turkey, the plans to establish national tsunami warning centres by Italy and Portugal in the second half of 2014, and the decision to hold a second tsunami exercise for the NEAM region from 28–30 October 2014, and the continuation of the activities of the NEAM Tsunami Information Centre.

46 The list of Member States that took the floor is provided under item 3.2.1.4.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.1 (II)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the executive summary reports of the recent sessions of the Intergovernmental Coordination Groups for: the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXV), the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX), the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/NEAMTWS-X), and the report of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG-VII),

Accepts the reports and the decisions and recommendations contained therein;

Welcomes the decision to conduct the NEAMTWS tsunami exercise, namely NEAMWave14, in the fourth quarter of 2014;

Acknowledges the commitment by Italy and Portugal to announce the establishment of national tsunami warning centres and the intent to provide Candidate Tsunami Watch Providers service in 2014;

Expresses the urgent need for Member States to secure continued technical secretariat support to the NEAMTWS via extrabudgetary resources or secondments.

3.2.1.3 *Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS)*

47 Ms Christa Hillebrandt Andrade (USA), re-elected Chair of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS), introduced this item. She highlighted the results of the CARIBE WAVE14 exercise, training activities taking place in the Caribbean in the intersessional period and the continued enhancement of the sea-level monitoring network in the region under the lead of IOC, as well as the near complete nomination process of the Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) for the region.

48 She also referred to the schedule decided by the ICG to initiate the use of Enhanced PTWC products for the ICG/CARIBE EWS, and the establishment in September 2013 of the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) hosted by the Government of Barbados. In this

respect she reported that CTIC's business plan does have funding gaps and called for increased extrabudgetary contributions towards CTIC.

49 The list of Member States that took the floor is provided under item 3.2.1.4.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.1 (III)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the executive summary reports of the recent sessions of the Intergovernmental Coordination Groups for: the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXV), the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX), the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/NEAMTWS-X), and the report of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG-VII),

Accepts the reports and the decisions and recommendations contained therein;

Notes the achievements in 2013–2014 including the launching of the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC), established in Barbados, the successful CARIBE WAVE 2014 exercise, on 26 March 2014, with 47 of the 48 Member States and territories participating and almost 200,000 people signing up for it;

Notes also the increased number of communities receiving the Tsunami Ready recognition in the region;

Encourages Member States contributions towards the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) to enable it to fully play its role as a key instrument for tsunami preparedness and awareness in the Caribbean region.

3.2.1.4 Working Group on Tsunamis and other Hazards related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG)

50 Mr Yutaka Michida, Chair of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG) introduced this item. He reported on the decisions and recommendations of the 7th meeting of TOWS-WG.

51 Mr Michida highlighted a number of decisions and recommendations adopted at the TOWS-VII, including: (i) development of Standard Operating Manuals and Post-Event Performance Surveys from the Task Team of Disaster Management and Preparedness, (ii) two types of maps from the Task Team of Tsunami Watch Operations, and (iii) the new definitions of National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP). Mr Michida further reported that the TOWS-WG expressed its concern about possible confusion of GDACS tsunami alert products and those by ICG-Tsunami Service Providers, and that the required actions based on the decision of TOWS-VII would be taken shortly after the present session of the Executive Council.

52 In a more prospective approach, Mr Michida highlighted that major anniversaries are approaching for: (i) the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami; (ii) the establishment of three regional ICGs in 2005; and (iii) the Pacific Tsunami Warning System established in 1965. He underlined briefly the major achievements and recommended that IOC highlight these at anniversaries and international conferences over the next 18 months and that IOC promotes the importance of national investments in the continued development of tsunami warning systems.

53 The representatives of Australia, Canada, China, Grenada, Japan, Republic of Korea, Portugal, Russian Federation, UK, USA, and WMO took the floor.

54 Australia will continue its support to the IOC/IOTWS secretariat in Perth, Australia. Japan offered to support meetings of the TOWS-WG Inter-ICG Task Team on Disaster Management and Preparedness and the TOWS Inter-ICG Task Team on Tsunami Watch Operations.

55 The following Member States and organization chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on agenda item 3.2.1 for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Japan](#), [Republic of Korea](#), [Portugal](#), [United Kingdom](#), and [WMO](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.1 (IV)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the executive summary reports of the recent sessions of the Intergovernmental Coordination Groups for: the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXV), the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX), the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/NEAMTWS-X), and the report of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG-VII),

Accepts the reports and the decisions and recommendations contained therein;

Underlines the role of Tsunami Information Centres (TICs) have in the management of post event performance surveys, and requests that ICGs provide appropriate resourcing and mandate of their TICs to be able to perform this function;

Adopts the procedures and guidelines for Tsunami Service Advisory Providers issuing and disseminating tsunami bulletins for earthquakes outside their respective ICG coverage;

Welcomes that the Task Team on Hazard Assessment Related to Highest Potential Tsunami Sources Areas has met and underlines the need for the Task Team to continue its work;

Decides to update the definitions of National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP), and instructs the secretariat to update the ICG reference documents with these new definitions, as follows:

- National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC): A centre officially designated by the government to monitor and issue tsunami warnings and other related statements within their country according to established National Standard Operating Procedures,
- Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP): A 24 x 7 point of contact (office, operational unit or position, not a person) officially designated by the NTWC or the government to receive and disseminate tsunami information from an ICG Tsunami Service Provider according to established National Standard Operating Procedures. The TWFP may or not be the NTWC,

Requests Member States to update their Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP) data according to the above definition;

Calls upon:

- IOC and UNESCO to participate (as resources allow) in major anniversaries and international conferences over the next 18 months and that IOC promotes the importance of national investments in the continued development of tsunami warning systems; and
- Member States to increase their extra-budgetary contributions to IOC to provide the needed resources for the priorities identified by TOWS-WG and ICGs.

3.2.2 Renewal of the JCOMMOPS Hosting Agreement

56 The Executive Secretary proposed this item, which was introduced by Dr Nadia Pinardi, Co-President of JCOMM. She recalled the history of the JCOMM in-situ Observations Programme Support Centre (JCOMMOPS) and its important role in technical support and coordination of basin-scale in-situ elements of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), noted increased support from France for hosting and a planned move to the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer) in Brest by end 2014, and highlighted the need to improve the sustainability of JCOMMOPS.

57 The representatives of four Member States and one organization took the floor. The following Member States and organization chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Australia](#), [Canada](#) and [WMO](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.2

The Executive Council,

Having considered document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 5,

Notes with appreciation the increased commitment of support to JCOMMOPS by French national and local agencies in the context of its move to Brest, France; and expresses its considerable appreciation to CLS/service Argos for having hosted JCOMMOPS in its various manifestations and for providing such excellent support to it over more than 25 years;

Recognizes the strong cooperation between the IOC and WMO Secretariats supporting JCOMMOPS;

Encourages Member States to contribute to the work of JCOMMOPS via the IOC; and

Requests the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the WMO Secretariat, to clarify IOC/UNESCO and WMO's responsibilities for JCOMMOPS with a view to improving its sustainability, and report on the outcome to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015.

4. THE FUTURE OF THE IOC

58 Professor Peter M. Haugan, Chair of the intersessional and sessional working groups on the Future of IOC introduced this item. He informed the Executive Council of the consultative process conducted in the intersessional period and presented a brief summary of the sessional working group meeting on 30 June 2014. Intersessional consultations focused primarily on the three areas identified in Decision IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1: (i) rationalization of cooperation and communication between IOC and other organizations; (ii) sharpening and clarifying IOC's identity; and (iii) enhancing flexibility and adaptability of IOC's governance, while the sessional working group took a broader approach.

59 Both groups had a very substantive and positive dialogue and reached consensus that the IOC Governing Bodies should maintain in their agendas an item and mechanism to enable Member States to reflect and exchange ideas on this highly strategic and important subject.

60 The Executive Council expressed its high appreciation of the work conducted by the Chair of the working groups Professor Peter M. Haugan, assisted by the past Chair of the IOC, Mr Javier Valladares.

61 All speakers agreed on the importance of reconvening the inter-sessional working group under Professor Haugan's leadership in order to define a comprehensive strategy, short-, medium- and long-term goals, as well as concrete mechanisms and actions needed to

achieve them, in particular at this time of considerable financial difficulties. The Executive Council agreed that specific attention should be devoted to clarifying the status of IOC within UNESCO, exploring ways of expanding the funding and enhancing IOC's visibility and effectiveness by improving regional coordination, strengthening regional subsidiary bodies, and promoting better collaboration with young scientists, NGOs and other stakeholders at national, regional and global levels. The Executive Council stressed that key to the success of the Commission as a whole in this important endeavour will be increased involvement and ownership of the IOC by Member States complemented by improved communication with the National Commissions for UNESCO, other relevant national authorities and representatives to the United Nations and other agencies of the UN system.

62 The representatives of 14 Member States and one observer took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Brazil](#), [China](#), [Kenya](#), [Republic of Korea](#), [South Africa](#), [Thailand](#), [United Kingdom](#) and [IMarEST](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.4

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Chair of the intersessional and sessional working groups on the Future of IOC (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 6),

Noting the consensus reached by IOC Member States that the IOC Governing Bodies should maintain in their agendas an item and mechanism to enable Member States to continuously reflect and exchange ideas on this highly strategic and important subject,

Recalling that the Assembly at its 27th Session suggested in Decision IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1 that the areas of deliberation should focus on sharpening IOC's identity, as well as on rationalized cooperation and communication between IOC and other organizations, and enhanced flexibility and adaptability of IOC governance,

Taking into account the documents of the 47th session of the Executive Council on the Future of the IOC which provided an overview of issues, suggested solutions and priorities, including the Report of the Chair of the Intersessional Working Group on "The Future of the IOC", and the IOC Workshop Reports 250, 254, and 261 and Future 13-14/Inf.1,

Taking advantage of the self-assessment of the IOC in the context of the ongoing process of the External Audit of the Governance of UNESCO,

Acknowledging the relevance of the Medium-Term Strategy for the Future of the IOC,

Expresses its appreciation to Professor Peter M. Haugan for his leadership and contribution to the work of the intersessional and sessional working groups;

Requests the IOC officers on behalf of the Member States and with support from the secretariat to intensify efforts prior to the next IOC Assembly to:

- (i) pursue clarification of the interpretation and implementation of the role of IOC as an intergovernmental body with functional autonomy within UNESCO,
- (ii) explore regular and extrabudgetary funding mechanisms to provide stability and continuity to the work of IOC, consistent with article 10 of the IOC Statutes,
- (iii) undertake an assessment of the established IOC functional autonomy within the UNESCO dispositions, and provide information on its degree of implementation for the use of the Intersessional Working Group on "The Future of the IOC";

Requests Member States and the IOC officers, with support from secretariat to intensify efforts to:

- (i) Raise the profile of IOC within the United Nations system to make sure that the

unique mandate of IOC in the United Nations systems understood and communicated widely,

- (ii) ensure enhanced visibility of IOC across the marine science and marine policy sector and stimulate involvement from youth and young scientists, including through taking advantage of modern social media technologies;

Decides that the open-ended intersessional working group on the Future of the IOC be reconvened under the chairmanship of Professor Haugan with a view to providing proposals for each of the following issues to the IOC Assembly at its 28th Session in 2015:

- (i) formulate a common message from IOC to UNESCO and other UN organizations about the societal benefits of the IOC mission, programmes and activities, and develop a strategy for dissemination, including preparation of information material on IOC for use in Member States,
- (ii) develop recommendations for strengthening IOC mission implementation by linking the issues already identified during the process with the Medium-Term Strategy, revised with criteria of prioritization,
- (iii) consider new or expanded roles for sub-commissions and other regional subsidiary bodies of IOC in achieving the strengthening under (ii),
- (iv) consider the information provided under paragraph 8 (iii) above and develop recommendations, as appropriate, in the context of its function as a joint specialized mechanism in the UN system;

Decides that the intersessional working group shall work primarily by electronic means and should consider establishment of a task team on paragraph 10 (iv) and consider establishment of other task teams led by interested Member States to develop the different sub-tasks where appropriate;

Decides to request the IOC Assembly at its 28th Session to consider the appropriateness of presenting a special report on these issues for the consideration of UNESCO Governing Bodies, including the decisions taken on the Future of the IOC by the IOC Assembly at its 28th Session in 2015.

5. CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SHORT LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF IOC TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO

63 This item was introduced by the Chairman who referred to IOC Circular Letter 2513 dated 24 March 2014, which conveyed information on the consultation process and curricula vitae of 14 applicants, out of 89 applications, who had been pre-selected by a panel comprised of the IOC Officers, the IOC Executive Secretary, the Director of UNESCO Human Resources Management and the interim Director of the Office of UNESCO's Director-General. Document IOC/INF-1316 served as reference for an overview of the process and the arrangements for the consultative vote in an in camera session of the IOC Executive Council.

64 Portugal asked that clarification be provided concerning the number of applicants to be forwarded on the short list to the Director-General of UNESCO, the issue being that document IOC/INF-1316 states that "a shortened list of preferably up to six applicants" be forwarded to the Director-General of UNESCO, while the vote is on three candidates. Portugal recommended that in order to avoid future problems for IOC Officers and Secretariat the wording should be clarified. Portugal, while open to follow a consensus, further noted that to reinforce its status as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, the IOC should endeavour to provide a short list of the most qualified applicants to the Director-General, in order not to diminish IOC's role in that process. Portugal also proposed that the procedure of the consultative vote (IOC/INF-1316) be revised in light of the debate.

65 Following a brief debate on this matter, the Executive Council agreed that a short list of up to six applicants should be established based on the consultative vote as described in IOC/INF-1316. If there are compelling reasons to place less than six applicants on the short list, the Executive Council would expect that an explanation be given to the *in camera* session by the Chair.

66 After the public introduction the Council shifted to an *in camera* (private) session. Only one representative of each Member State of the Executive Council was permitted in the meeting room. Prior notice of the name of each representative had to be given to the Chairman of IOC and to the IOC Secretariat by 2 June 2014.

67 Following the vote and ballot counting, the Chairman reconvened the Council *in camera* session to provide the short list of the highest six scored applicants in alphabetical order to be submitted to the Director-General.

6. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS

6.1 DEVELOPMENT OF AN IOC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

68 Professor Adoté Blim Blivi, Vice-Chair for Group V, responsible for Capacity Development and Chair of the Intersessional Working Group for Developing a Draft Strategic Plan for Capacity Development, introduced this item. The draft Capacity Development Strategy was produced by the Intersessional Working Group set up by the Assembly through Decision 5.5.1. Dr Bhikajee acted as Technical Secretary for the group. The IWG held consultations through email and had a formal meeting on 10 and 11 December 2013.

69 Prof. Blivi mentioned that the Draft Strategic Plan should cover the same period as the IOC Medium-Term Strategy, 2014–2021, and that it should be considered as a supporting document to the MTS. He proposed that the Executive Council take note of the Draft Capacity Development Strategy and that the Intersessional Working Group finalize the strategy and prepare preliminary elements of an action plan. He stressed that final drafting of the strategy would involve all Member States including IOC Sub-Commissions, Regional and Technical Committees and other (relevant) subsidiary bodies of the IOC, to seek their advice and input to further improve the document. The strategy would then be considered for adoption by the Assembly at its 28th session in 2015.

70 The Executive Secretary informed the Council that the Capacity Development coordination function will be assumed by Mr Peter Pissierssens, Head of the UNESCO/IOC Project Office of IODE in Ostend, Belgium, which already serves as a training hub as detailed in Ivory Note DG/Note/14/31 of 11 June 2014. She also stressed that it is the IOC Member States that must implement the strategy, with assistance from the Secretariat.

71 Member States re-iterated the importance of capacity development as one of the cornerstones of IOC activities. While welcoming the work undertaken by the Intersessional Working Group during the past year, Member States noted the need for further work towards a capacity development strategy and elements of a workplan. They further stressed the need to closely work with the sub-commissions, and to take into account existing capacity development programmes and training facilities in the different regions.

72 Prof. Blivi further introduced a proposed timetable for the work of the re-constituted Intersessional Working Group: a circular letter inviting Member States to participate in the work of the Group will be sent out by end of July 2014; the Group will then start work by email; depending on availability of extra-budgetary funds, a face-to-face meeting of the Group can be planned end of March/early April 2015; the final draft of the strategy will be submitted for approval by the the IOC Assembly at its 28th session.

- 73 The representatives of 11 Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Brazil](#), [India](#), [Islamic Republic of Iran](#), [Japan](#), [Republic of Korea](#), [South Africa](#), and [Thailand](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.6.1

The Executive Council,

Having considered document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 7,

Takes note of the “Draft Capacity Development Strategy” presented in the document;

Decides to reconstitute the Intersessional Working Group for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy, with the Vice-Chairperson responsible for capacity development as Chairperson, and with the Terms of Reference as annexed to this decision;

Instructs the Chair of the Intersessional Working Group for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy to submit the final draft of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy and associated documentation as referred to in the Annex to this decision to the IOC Assembly for adoption at its 28th session in 2015;

Requests:

- (i) the Executive Secretary to include the Draft Strategic Plan for Capacity Development on the agenda of the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015;
- (ii) Member States to consider funding (as necessary) and supporting the activities leading to the formulation and adoption of the final version of the Capacity Development Strategy.

6.2 REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE OPEN-ENDED INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP ON AN IOC GLOBAL OCEAN SCIENCE REPORT

- 74 The IOC Vice-chair for Group II, Dr Atanas Palazov, introduced the report and the conclusions of the Open-ended Intersessional Working Group (IWG) and Dr Luis Valdés presented the new proposal for a Global Ocean Science Report (GOSR). They remarked that the IWG was a successful exercise which resulted in an improved outline, updated timeline and streamlined content for the GOSR. The IWG agreed that the first edition of the GOSR should focus on national level analysis, providing regional coverage where possible but recognizing it will not be comprehensive. Dr Luis Valdés also explained that the GOSR will be strictly scientific and it will not enter into legal issues nor duplicate existing efforts or initiatives underway.

- 75 Following the recommendation of several Member States to remove the ambiguity of the term ‘Governance’, the title of chapter 6 of the Global Ocean Science Report was rephrased as: “International supporting organizations on ocean science”.

- 76 The representatives of 11 Member States and one observer organization took the floor. Several Member States recommended further strengthening of the methodological approach. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Australia](#), [Canada](#), and [Islamic Republic of Iran](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.6.2

The Executive Council,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 8,
Takes note and welcomes the report of the Chair of the Open-ended Intersessional Working Group to further review and improve the Global Ocean Science Report;
Recognizing IOC's competencies and expertise to lead such a global report,
Accepts the new Global Ocean Science Report proposal and recommendations contained in the Report and those suggested by the Member States in the discussions of its 47th session;
Decides to approve the proposal for the Global Ocean Science Report, as amended in its 47th session;
Requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate the preparation of the Global Ocean Science Report, with a view to present the final draft of the Global Ocean Science Report to its 49th session; and
Calls upon Member States to increase their extra-budgetary contributions to IOC for the production and the publication of the Global Ocean Science Report.

6.3 IOC PROPOSAL FOR THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN EXPEDITION (50TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVE)

- 77 The Head of the Ocean Observations Section, Dr Albert Fischer, introduced this item and reminded the Council that the Assembly at its 27th session decided to add this item to the agenda of this session of the IOC Executive Council in order to formalise, through a Draft Resolution, IOC's involvement in an Second International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative (IIOE-2), proposed for the period 2015–2020 in collaboration with the Scientific Committee for Oceanic Research (SCOR) and the Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System (IOGOOS).
- 78 The establishment of a voluntary international Reference Group for a possible IIOE-2, as well as the results of its first meeting (Hyderabad, India, May 2013), were reported at the 27th Assembly (2013). Two further Reference Group meetings (in Qingdao, China, November 2013 and Mauritius, March 2014) occurred, all of which have been by open invitation and widely advertised to all IOC Member States. Each meeting brought together existing and new stakeholders to refine the concept, developing an outline of scientific priorities, as well as elements of an IIOE-2 governance/coordination structure involving: overarching governance; sub-committees; and secretariat support. Consultation with SCOR and IOGOOS has further refined concepts on how to plan for and implement IIOE-2, which includes a SCOR lead on the development of a Research Plan and IOC lead in setting up an Interim Planning Committee (IPC) to make recommendations on coordination structures and identify resources.
- 79 The Co-chairperson of the sessional working group established under this item, Dr Satheesh Sheno, reported on its work, particularly related to the Draft Resolution submitted by Australia, China, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, United Kingdom, and USA.
- 80 The Executive Council strongly supported IOC's involvement in the IIOE-2, and welcomed the close cooperation with SCOR and IOGOOS. Some Member States described their already-underway national efforts in planning for IIOE-2.
- 81 The Executive Council highlighted the importance of involving IOC's regional subsidiary bodies IOCAFRICA and WESTPAC in IIOE-2 planning and implementation, and the potential opportunity to revive IOCINDIO. It identified the importance of capacity development, raising awareness, and promoting the meaningful involvement of developing countries around the Indian Ocean.

82 India expressed its willingness to host an IIOE-2 programme office and highlighted its plans with SCOR and IOC to hold an International Symposium on Indian Ocean Research in November 2015. Australia offered the resources of the Perth Project Office in support of the IOC. The representative of SCOR committed to supporting its two nominated members on the IPC.

83 The United Kingdom suggested that the IIOE-2 monitor development of conservation policy for Areas beyond National Jurisdiction and any possible conflict with the freedom to carry out Marine Scientific Research on the High Seas.

84 The representatives of 14 Member States and two observers took the floor. The following Member States and organizations chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [India](#), [Islamic Republic of Iran](#), [South Africa](#), [Tanzania](#), [Thailand](#), [United Kingdom](#), [IOGOOS](#), and [SCOR](#).

85 The Executive Council adopted [Resolution EC-XLVII.1](#).

Second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2)

The Executive Council,

Recalling Decision IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1.2 that agreed:

- (i) it is appropriate for IOC, in collaboration with the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) and Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System (IOGOOS), to further develop a proposal for the second IIOE in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the First International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-1),
- (ii) to add the International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative to the agenda of the IOC Executive Council at its 47th session in 2014 in order to formalize, through a Draft Resolution, IOC's involvement in an IIOE-2, implemented for the period 2015–2020,

Recalling further that:

- (i) IOC played a major role in the implementation of the IIOE-1,
- (ii) IIOE-1 could not have succeeded without substantial international and intergovernmental collaboration and coordination,
- (iii) IIOE-1, in addition to the major scientific results obtained, had a substantial and long-lasting impact on ocean science and applications in the Indian Ocean region and globally,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 9, on the Proposal for IOC involvement in the second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2),

Considering:

- (i) that a number of major scientific activities have taken place since IIOE-1, which included substantial work in the Indian Ocean, such as the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE), Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS), and Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research (SIBER) and the Indian Ocean Panel (IOP),
- (ii) the major developments in ocean observing technology, communications and research capacity since IIOE-1, making it potentially easier and more cost-effective to undertake substantial ocean observing and data processing programmes,

Recognizing:

- (i) that much remains unknown about the Indian Ocean and its interactions with and influence on the global ocean and atmosphere,
- (ii) the importance of translating scientific knowledge into substantive economic and social benefits to Member States, both within the region and globally,
- (iii) the added value to be gained through internationally collaborative investigations, above the value resulting from individual agency and national efforts alone,

Recognizing further:

- (i) the importance of the Indian Ocean in coupled ocean-atmosphere processes influencing major climate phenomena such as the monsoon, as well as meteorological, climatological and hydrological extremes, including in waves, sea level, temperatures, currents, acidification, droughts, floods, that impact directly on countries in the region and more widely,
- (ii) the need to characterize the cascade of scales that link open ocean with coastal processes in the Indian Ocean,
- (iii) the need to ensure that the great advances currently being made by ocean science in the Indian Ocean and beyond, and that could further be made under an IIOE-2, must be connected to societal benefits through pathways that link science to users, particularly in developing countries, using capacity development activities as a major tool,

Decides to:

- (i) adopt the IIOE-2 as a major initiative of the IOC, to be undertaken jointly with SCOR and IOGOOS;
- (ii) entrust the development of a research plan for the IIOE-2 to SCOR in collaboration with IOC and IOGOOS and drawing on the outputs of the Reference Group meetings as presented in Document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 9, paras 6 and 7;
- (iii) establish an Interim Planning Committee (Group of Experts) (IPC) for the IIOE-2, jointly with SCOR and IOGOOS, to undertake initial planning work, based on the research plan, and to report on this work to the Assembly at its 28th session in 2015, with membership and terms of reference for the IPC as given in the [annex](#) to this resolution;

Stresses the importance of an active and adequately funded Secretariat to support the work of the IPC and subsequently the implementation of IIOE-2;

Invites SCOR and IOGOOS to join with the IOC in co-sponsoring the IIOE-2 and establishing and supporting the IPC;

Invites further other interested and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular IOC's partner organizations, to participate in and contribute to the success of the IIOE-2 initiative;

Urges Member States to:

- (i) cooperate with and contribute to the IIOE-2 planning process, including in particular through providing funding and expertise for the IPC;
- (ii) develop national plans to participate in the implementation of the IIOE-2;
- (iii) identify national focal points and/or bodies to oversee the implementation of the IIOE-2 at the national level, and to inform the IOC Executive Secretary of such national contacts;

- (iv) consider hosting and/or contributing to the establishment and maintenance of a regional secretariat/project office for the IIOE-2;
- (v) where possible, provide funding and other support to the IOC Secretariat to assist in the planning and implementation of IIOE-2;

Requests IOC's network of Regional Subsidiary Bodies, Committees and global programmes to formulate their contribution to and involvement in the IIOE-2, in close coordination with the IPC, and in line with the research plan, and to report on this to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session;

Requests the IOC Executive Secretary to:

- (i) coordinate with SCOR and IOGOOS in the establishment of the IPC as a matter of urgency;
- (ii) invite Member States to nominate experts to serve on the IPC;
- (iii) assist in the planning for and implementation of the IIOE-2, within the available budgetary resources.

6.4 INTERNATIONAL POLAR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

86 The Head of the Ocean Observations Section, Dr Albert Fischer, introduced this item and reminded the Council that the International Polar Partnership Initiative (IPPI) is the evolution of the concept for the International Polar Decade (IPD). The IOC Assembly at its 26th session in 2011 (Decision 6.4) requested that the IOC Executive Secretary: "(a) cooperate with the WMO and other organizations in the preparation of the IPD; and (b) arrange for IOC representation in a multi-agency Steering Group, which, when established, will lead the IPD consultative process and prepare a draft IPD Concept document;" for consultation with an IOC governing body meeting.

87 Mr Vladimir Ryabinin (WCRP), who acted as secretariat to the IPPI Steering Group, presented the draft IPPI Concept which was refined at the most recent IPPI Steering Group (hosted by IOC, 10–11 February 2014). He emphasized that polar regions play an important role in climatic system and biogeochemical cycles. Changes in the polar regions have very significant global implications and are anticipated to increase in the decades to come. Economic activity in the rapidly changing Arctic Ocean region is increasing. The polar environment affects the Earth system influencing weather patterns, extreme events world-wide and economic sustainability. The understanding of physical and biogeochemical processes in these regions is limited, with the sparseness of observations seen as a major factor.

88 The draft IPPI Concept recognizes the existence of a wide range of common polar interests and objectives, many polar stakeholders, and therefore emphasizes an ability to accommodate bottom-up ideas from science communities and more centralized coordination needed to achieve practical results. He stressed that the draft IPPI Concept is designed to address the polar objectives of participating organizations in the most economical way by increasing coordination and the sharing of research. IOC programmes stand to both contribute to the IPPI, through research and observations; as well as benefit from the coordination of knowledge-gathering from the IPPI through meeting objectives related to science, the development of services, and improved Member State decision-making related to polar issues.

89 The draft IPPI Concept requires further articulation of tangible benefits and outcomes, and Member State feedback on this was sought. Other IPPI stakeholders are also being consulted with a view to presenting a final IPPI proposal for consideration by international organizations in 2015.

90 The representatives of 12 Member States and one organization took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [India](#), [Islamic Republic of Iran](#), and [Republic of Korea](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.6.4

The Executive Council,

Having considered the IPPI Concept document (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 10),

Reiterates the interest of having IOC involved in the IPPI Concept development, firmly associated with existing IOC research, observation, data management, and services programmes;

Provides the following advice for improving the IPPI Concept paper:

- (i) the added value of the IPPI to existing programmes should be clearly identified,
- (ii) the scientific and societal value of the outputs of the IPPI should be identified,
- (iii) the scope, objectives and expected results of the IPPI should be clearly identified,
- (iv) it should describe the potential synergies with other polar initiatives,

Invites the IPPI Steering Group to seek active participation from other international and intergovernmental organizations relevant to the IPPI.

Requests the Executive Secretary to continue participation in the IPPI Steering Group and in shaping the IPPI proposal, and to report to the 28th session of the IOC Assembly in 2015.

Requests the Executive Secretary to work towards the IPPI being developed in close coordination and consultation with Parties to the Antarctic Treaty and related agreements, and members of the Arctic Council.

6.5 CONTRIBUTION TO UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVES
(UN-OCEANS, SDG PROCESS, UN SIDS CONFERENCE)

91 The Technical Secretary, Mr Julian Barbière, introduced the IOC contribution to various ocean-related UN inter-agency activities. As the focal point within the UN system for ocean sciences, observations, services, data and information exchange and capacity development, IOC contributes to a number of UN processes, responds to the needs expressed by the UN General Assembly, and plays an active role in UN inter-agency mechanisms and activities.

92 Mr Barbière highlighted a number of UN initiatives related to the Ocean, namely: (i) UN-Oceans, the UN inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean affairs, whose new terms of reference have been endorsed by the UN General Assembly in December 2013 through resolution A/Res/68/70; (ii) the on-going UN negotiations related to formulation of a set of the Sustainable Development Goals in the post 2015/MDG context; (iii) the preparations for the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (1–4 September 2014) in Samoa; (iv) the IOC contribution to the UN World Ocean Assessment and its report to be released by the end of 2014; and (v) UN Working Group on conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national jurisdiction.

93 No representatives of Member States took the floor.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.6.5

The Executive Council,

Having considered document IOC/INF-1317,

Takes note and welcomes the active role played by the Commission in UN-Oceans, the elaboration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the preparation to the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the World Ocean Assessment, and the UN negotiations related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national Jurisdiction;

Notes further that the financial and human resource implications of the Commission's engagement in these processes are generally being absorbed by programme budgets identified as part of the overall IOC Programme and Budget (2014–2015); and

Calls on IOC and UNESCO Member States to support IOC's role and contributions in these processes by:

- (i) Engaging in the review process of the World Ocean Assessment report;
- (ii) integrating the importance of the ocean and the contribution of IOC, into their preparation and statements for the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (1–4 September 2014) in Samoa; the further elaboration and implementation of the SDGs, including their monitoring; as well as the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national Jurisdiction.

7. ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

7.1 REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

94 The Chair of the Financial Committee reported to the Executive Council on the results of the Committee's review of the Report on Budget Execution 2012–2013, Programme and Budget for 2014–2017 and Workplans 2014–2015 and the proposals of the Complementary Additional Programme of Extrabudgetary Resources for 2014–2015) in accordance with Rule of procedure 8.1(c). He informed the Executive Council that the Financial Committee had several very productive meetings and thanked the Member States that participated in its consensual in-depth discussions in the spirit of constructive collaboration. He informed that the draft resolution was prepared by the Financial Committee for consideration by the Executive Council.

95 The complete text of the report of the Chair on the discussions in the Financial Committee is attached to this report as [Annex III](#).

96 The Executive Council was unanimous in congratulating Professor Peter M. Haugan for the exceptional quality of his leadership and the considerable work accomplished in a short period of time.

97 Grenada, supported by the United States of America, suggested that the reporting on the financial situation of the IOC could be further improved by accounting for in-kind contributions and national investments of Member States in the IOC programme areas, based on written statements provided by Member States.

98 The representatives of three Member States took the floor.

99 The Executive Council adopted [Resolution EC-XLVII.2](#).

Financial matters of the Commission

The Executive Council,

Having examined documents IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 2 Rev., IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Rev. and IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Addendum,

Confirms that the IOC budget for 2012–2013 has been executed in accordance with the approved Programme and Budget for 2012–2013 (36 C/5) and the Priority Funding Plan adopted by the IOC Executive Council in its decision EC-XLV/Dec.5.1;

Expresses great concern for the impact of the financial difficulties of UNESCO on the delivery of the IOC programmes, with the reduction of the IOC budget from US \$12,026,200 in the approved Programme and Budget for 2014–2015 (37 C/5) to US \$8,643,600 under the US \$507 M expenditure plan for 2014–2015 (or 72% of the 37 C/5 approved);

Further expresses great dissatisfaction with the fact that the budgetary allocation to the IOC for the biennium 2014–2015 at the level of 72% of the 37 C/5 approved is not consistent with the recommendations of the 5th special session of UNESCO Executive Board (Paris, 4 July 2013) to allocate between 100% and 80% to high priority Expected Results, like those of the IOC;

Recognizes the efforts of the IOC Executive Secretary to maintain programme continuity under these challenging circumstances and the difficulty to fully implement the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2), given that the Assembly provided its recommendation on a scenario with an allocation of 86% (and not 72%) of the 37 C/5 approved budget;

Welcomes the programmatic choices of the IOC Executive Secretary;

Endorses the Programme and Budget for 2014–2017 and Workplans for 2014–2015 contained in document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 rev. as a measure to ensure programme continuity at essential level and consistent with the priorities of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2014–2021;

Expresses its appreciation to the IOC Executive Secretary for the development of a Complementary Additional Programme (CAP) of Extrabudgetary Resources (Proposals for 2014–2015) contained in document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Addendum;

Further expresses its thanks to Member States who have already contributed to the CAP, and;

Urges all Member States to provide voluntary contributions for the financing of the CAP, preferably to the IOC Special Account;

Further urges Member States to:

- (i) continue to advocate to the UNESCO Director-General and the Governing Bodies of UNESCO the importance of IOC as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, focusing in particular on the value that IOC provides to UNESCO and to the sustainable development of coastal areas and islands;
- (ii) support the reinforcement of the IOC in the consultation process for the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017 (38 C/5);

Invites the Director-General of UNESCO to:

- (i) consider further reinforcement of IOC in this biennium as well as in the Draft 38 C/5 in order to address current and emerging priorities;
- (ii) request the Governing Bodies of UNESCO to ensure that resources allocated to the IOC in the Draft 38 C/5 be clearly identified in the appropriation resolution;
- (iii) maintain all IOC activities in a single Main Line of Action in the Draft 38 C/5 entitled "Promoting knowledge and capacity for protecting and sustainably managing the ocean and coasts";

Requests the IOC Executive Secretary to:

- (i) prepare a Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017 to be submitted to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session, based on the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2), and consistent with the high level objectives defined in the IOC Medium-Term Strategy for 2014–2021; and
- (ii) support the work of the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group by providing timely information on the UNESCO budgetary planning process;

Further requests the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group to provide guidance to the Executive Secretary in preparing the Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017;

Invites the Chairperson of the IOC to forward this Resolution to the Director-General of UNESCO.

7.2 SELF-ASSESSMENT OF THE IOC GOVERNING BODIES IN FOLLOW-UP TO THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT INSPECTION UNIT'S (JIU) RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE METHODS OF WORK OF UNESCO'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES

100 The Executive Secretary informed the Council that an audit of the Governance of UNESCO and dependent entities, funds, and programmes, including the IOC had been initiated at the request of the UNESCO General Conference (37 C/Resolution 96). This audit has been entrusted to the External Auditor with a view to formulating governance reform and cost-saving measures for the next General Conference of UNESCO in 2015 and was addressed to the IOC governing bodies, through its chairman in May 2014. In the framework of this strategic performance review, the governing bodies of IOC are invited to "perform a self-assessment of the overall relevance of their work in relation to their specific terms of reference as well as the efficiency and effectiveness of their meetings, including the impact and utility of experts' time", with the IOC Secretariat limiting its role to providing factual information as is necessary. Responses to self-assessment questionnaires are expected by 2 September 2014. The documentation for the audit and its timeline were available as an information document for this session (IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.3).

101 The Chairman, to whom the audit is addressed, suggested that the Officers be entrusted with this task with the advice of intersessional working groups dealing with financial matters and the future of the Commission, if any. He pointed out that the way the governing bodies organized themselves to answer the audit would also be interpreted as an element of their performance.

102 The Executive Council was unanimous in recognizing the importance of using the opportunity presented by the UNESCO Governance Audit exercise to communicate the key messages on which there is consensus to UNESCO Governing Bodies, in particular as regards the intergovernmental nature of the Commission and its special status as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO. It expressed concern about the extremely tight timeframe of the exercise, which presents a serious challenge in terms of inclusiveness and,

therefore, legitimacy of the information to be transmitted to the External Auditors. The Executive Council invited the IOC Officers to consult extensively within their respective regional groups, soliciting the opinion of all IOC Member States and ensuring that commonly agreed high level priorities are emphasized but diverging views and nuances of opinions that may be expressed on various items are also reflected.

- 103 The representatives of 10 Member States took the floor. One Member State chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: [Republic of Korea](#).

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.7.2

The Executive Council,

Having considered the elements of the audit, in particular the two questionnaires and the financial analysis table to be answered by the governing bodies of IOC,

Stresses the need that the unique role of IOC in the UN system in relation to ocean science and the scientific base for ocean management and its position as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO be reflected in any nomenclature of UNESCO's intergovernmental bodies or any other parts of the final governance review document;

Requests the Executive Secretary to seek further clarification from the External Auditor on the methodology that will be used for the assessment;

Entrusts the IOC Officers, in consultation with IOC Member States, to answer the audit on behalf of the governing bodies of the Commission taking into account advice already received from the open-ended intersessional working groups dealing with financial matters and the Future of IOC;

Reserves the right of the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in June 2015 to comment on the information related to the Commission in the interim synthesis document prepared by the External Auditor before submission of its final report by 15 July 2015, and to submit its comments on the recommendations of the audit report to the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO.

7.3 PREPARATION OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY
AND NEXT SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 104 The Executive Secretary introduced this item. She highlighted that the duration of the governing body sessions had regularly decreased over a period of seven years: from 10 to 6 days for the Assembly and from 7 to 3.5 days for the Executive Council. Budgets of governing bodies have reduced by 40% over the same period. With reference to funding, she reminded that the next sessions of the governing bodies will be organized as required by IOC statutes and rules but with diminishing funding, a difficulty faced by all governing bodies in UNESCO. The current self-assessment of their performance as governing bodies may lead to a consensus by Member States on new principles that will guide intergovernmental meetings in the future, using available levers of change: periodicity of sessions, governance structure, funding, etc. On this line, the Executive Secretary encouraged Member States to be pro-active in this evaluation process. She also reiterated her invitation to Member States to host governing body sessions such as it is done for many IOC subsidiary bodies and to consider the possibility of providing voluntary extrabudgetary contributions. Portugal noted that this proposal, when presented in previous Governing Bodies of IOC, was not considered timely under the present situation.

- 105 She reminded the Council that the Assembly did not give clear indication of duration and dates for its next session. The Officers recommended that the Assembly should be held over six working days to be decided from 15 to 30 June 2015, preceded by a one-day 48th session of the Executive Council. With help of delegates she then reminded of the scheduled

or anticipated dates of major international commitments of the oceanographic communities and IOC's partners over the period considered, in particular the WMO 17th Congress and 67th Executive Council (25 May–17 June 2015) and the UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP) for which dates were not known.

106 With regard to future IOC memorial lectures, the Executive Secretary referred to the list of themes proposed by the Assembly at its last session (IOC-XXVII/Dec.6.6), to mention one additional recommendation by the Officers for the IOC Anton Bruun Memorial Lecture: Oceans and Human Health by Lora E. Fleming.

107 The Executive Council reiterated that in accord with previous decisions of the Governing Bodies the Future of IOC will be retained as an agenda item of the 28th Session of the Assembly.

108 The representatives of five Member States took the floor.

Decision EC-XLVII/Dec.7.3

The Executive Council,

Recalling Decisions 6.5 and 6.6 of the Assembly at its 27th session,

Decides to hold:

- (i) the 28th session of the Assembly in 2015 for a duration of six working days from 18 to 25 June preceded by a one day 48th session of the Executive Council on 17 June, while requesting the Executive Secretary to ensure the documentation is available to Member States in accordance with the deadlines set out in Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure;
- (ii) the 49th session of the Executive Council during June 2016 on dates yet to be decided;

Proposes the following themes for each of the IOC memorial lectures:

- (i) IOC Anton Bruun Memorial Lecture, 2015:
 - Arctic Sea Ice (Dr Robie MacDonald)
 - Oceans and Human Health (Lora E. Fleming)
- (ii) IOC N.K. Panikkar Memorial Lecture, 2015:
 - Challenger Glider Mission (Dr Scott Glenn, University of Rutgers),
 - 50th anniversary of the Indian Ocean Expedition, past, present and future,
 - Canadian Rangers Ocean Watch (Dr Eddy Carmack),
 - Impact of IOC Capacity Building for Tsunami Warning System within a region,
 - Capacity development on Harmful Algal Blooms (Prof. Fukuyo Yasuwo)
- (iii) IOC Roger Revelle Lecture, 2016:
 - Ocean Chemistry and Ocean Acidification (Dr Richard Feely),
 - Protected Marine Areas-Malpelo, one of the UNESCO's World Heritage marine sites (Dr Sandra Bessudo).

8. REPORT

109 The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee reported to the Executive Council on the work of the sessional Committee. ([Annex IV](#)).

110 The IOC Chairman then invited the Executive Council to adopt, in plenary, the draft resolutions that were still pending after discussion in plenary.

111 The Rapporteur for the session introduced the draft summary report.

112 The Executive Secretary quickly reminded the Council that working arrangements had greatly evolved since 2011 to adapt to the financial crisis which required efforts from Member States. Responses to the evaluation questionnaire prove that this evolution is not to the detriment of the efficiency of the governing bodies. She concluded in encouraging even greater interaction with the Secretariat to progress on this path, conscious that we are reaching limits to the efforts possible in the present context.

113 The draft summary report was prepared in three parts and translated into the four IOC languages. The Executive Council was unable to complete the approval process within the time allotted for the session. Item 6 of part 2 and all of part 3 will be approved through correspondence, wherein Heads of delegation will receive the drafts by email and will be expected to submit revisions within not more than three weeks following receipt.

9. CLOSURE

114 In concluding the session, the Chairman expressed his personal appreciation of the Executive Secretary's support over her tenure, and thanked her for her service to IOC on behalf of all the IOC Member States. In response to the Chair and various messages from the floor, the Executive Secretary addressed the Council with a concluding statement ([Annex 2C](#)).

115 The Executive Council met in plenary session during 3.5 days from 1 to 4 July 2014, considered 24 items on its agenda and approved 18 decisions and 2 resolutions. The plenary meeting was supported by some 13 preparatory and sessional group meetings and 8 information side meetings during the session. The Chair of the Commission closed the 47th Session of the Executive Council at 12:50 on Friday 4 July 2014.

PART II

RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

Resolution EC-XLVII.1

Second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2)

The Executive Council,

Recalling Decision IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1.2 that agreed:

- (i) it is appropriate for IOC, in collaboration with the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) and Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System (IOGOOS), to further develop a proposal for the second IIOE in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the First International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-1),
- (ii) to add the International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative to the agenda of the IOC Executive Council at its 47th session in 2014 in order to formalize, through a Draft Resolution, IOC's involvement in an IIOE-2, implemented for the period 2015–2020,

Recalling further that:

- (i) IOC played a major role in the implementation of the IIOE-1,
- (ii) IIOE-1 could not have succeeded without substantial international and intergovernmental collaboration and coordination,
- (iii) IIOE-1, in addition to the major scientific results obtained, had a substantial and long-lasting impact on ocean science and applications in the Indian Ocean region and globally,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 9, on the Proposal for IOC involvement in the second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2),

Considering:

- (i) that a number of major scientific activities have taken place since IIOE-1, which included substantial work in the Indian Ocean, such as the World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE), Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS), and Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research (SIBER) and the Indian Ocean Panel (IOP),
- (ii) the major developments in ocean observing technology, communications and research capacity since IIOE-1, making it potentially easier and more cost-effective to undertake substantial ocean observing and data processing programmes,

Recognizing:

- (i) that much remains unknown about the Indian Ocean and its interactions with and influence on the global ocean and atmosphere,
- (ii) the importance of translating scientific knowledge into substantive economic and social benefits to Member States, both within the region and globally,
- (iii) the added value to be gained through internationally collaborative investigations, above the value resulting from individual agency and national efforts alone,

Recognizing further:

- (i) the importance of the Indian Ocean in coupled ocean-atmosphere processes

influencing major climate phenomena such as the monsoon, as well as meteorological, climatological and hydrological extremes, including in waves, sea level, temperatures, currents, acidification, droughts, floods, that impact directly on countries in the region and more widely,

- (ii) the need to characterize the cascade of scales that link open ocean with coastal processes in the Indian Ocean,
- (iii) the need to ensure that the great advances currently being made by ocean science in the Indian Ocean and beyond, and that could further be made under an IIOE-2, must be connected to societal benefits through pathways that link science to users, particularly in developing countries, using capacity development activities as a major tool,

Decides to:

- (i) adopt the IIOE-2 as a major initiative of the IOC, to be undertaken jointly with SCOR and IOGOOS;
- (ii) entrust the development of a research plan for the IIOE-2 to SCOR in collaboration with IOC and IOGOOS and drawing on the outputs of the Reference Group meetings as presented in Document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 9, paras 6 and 7;
- (iii) establish an Interim Planning Committee (Group of Experts) (IPC) for the IIOE-2, jointly with SCOR and IOGOOS, to undertake initial planning work, based on the research plan, and to report on this work to the Assembly at its 28th session in 2015, with membership and terms of reference for the IPC as given in the annex to this resolution;

Stresses the importance of an active and adequately funded Secretariat to support the work of the IPC and subsequently the implementation of IIOE-2;

Invites SCOR and IOGOOS to join with the IOC in co-sponsoring the IIOE-2 and establishing and supporting the IPC;

Invites further other interested and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular IOC's partner organizations, to participate in and contribute to the success of the IIOE-2 initiative;

Urges Member States to:

- (i) cooperate with and contribute to the IIOE-2 planning process, including in particular through providing funding and expertise for the IPC;
- (ii) develop national plans to participate in the implementation of the IIOE-2;
- (iii) identify national focal points and/or bodies to oversee the implementation of the IIOE-2 at the national level, and to inform the IOC Executive Secretary of such national contacts;
- (iv) consider hosting and/or contributing to the establishment and maintenance of a regional secretariat/project office for the IIOE-2;
- (v) where possible, provide funding and other support to the IOC Secretariat to assist in the planning and implementation of IIOE-2;

Requests IOC's network of Regional Subsidiary Bodies, Committees and global programmes to formulate their contribution to and involvement in the IIOE-2, in close coordination with the IPC, and in line with the research plan, and to report on this to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session;

Requests the IOC Executive Secretary to:

- (i) coordinate with SCOR and IOGOOS in the establishment of the IPC as a matter of urgency;

- (ii) invite Member States to nominate experts to serve on the IPC;
- (iii) assist in the planning for and implementation of the IIOE-2, within the available budgetary resources.

Annex to Resolution EC-XLVII.1

**Terms of Reference of the Interim Planning Committee (Group of Experts)
for IIOE-2**

The Interim Planning Committee (Group of Experts) is established for a period of one year, to June 2015. It will be responsible for the initial planning for the IIOE-2, including the establishment of relevant programme coordinating bodies, the development of implementation plans based on the research plan to be prepared by SCOR in coordination with IOGOOS and IOC, and the identification and securing of resources for management and implementation of the programme. In particular the IPC will:

1. Propose to the IIOE-2 sponsoring organizations (IOC, SCOR and IOGOOS) the establishment of committees to oversee the planning and implementation of IIOE-2 (such as a Scientific Steering Committee, an Implementation Committee, and possible sub-committees on key elements such as data and information management, cruise coordination and capacity development and outreach), including terms of reference and membership,
2. Arrange for and coordinate the development of implementation, data and information management, and capacity development plans for the IIOE-2,
3. Engage other interested organizations in the planning of the IIOE-2, in particular IOC partner organizations and space agencies,
4. Develop a draft budget for planning and implementation of the IIOE-2, and identify and secure the resources required for this planning and implementation, including for secretariat support, in both IOC Paris and the proposed regional secretariat,
5. Propose and oversee a mechanism for the formal launch of the IIOE-2 in 2015,
6. Work largely by electronic correspondence, but with a minimum of two face-to-face meetings, depending on the availability of funds, to establish the IPC work programme and prepare the final report to the sponsoring organizations, and
7. Report in detail on these activities to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015.

Membership

Maximum of 15 members to be appointed jointly (10 nominated by IOC, 3 nominated by IOGOOS, and 2 nominated by SCOR) by the Executive Secretary of IOC, the President of SCOR and the Chair of IOGOOS, to provide the necessary range of scientific, technological, geographical and gender balance to ensure the success of the planning process and the full engagement of Member States and relevant scientific and technological organizations. Where possible and relevant, consideration should be given to including those experts who have already been involved in and contributed to the initial, informal IIOE-2 planning process, as members of the IPC.

Nominations for the ten IOC members of the IPC will be invited from Member States by the IOC Executive Secretary immediately following the 47th session of the IOC Executive Council, with the final selection to be made by the IOC Executive Secretary, in consultation with the IOC Officers.

Criteria for selection of the Interim Planning Committee (Group of Experts)

1. Appropriate higher qualifications in one of the marine/ocean/maritime disciplines required for IIOE-2.

2. Extensive experience in planning and implementing major marine science projects, including field-based operations, and/or in marine data and information management and/or in marine capacity development and outreach.
3. Experience in working in the Indian Ocean region.
4. Experience in identifying and securing resources (cash and in-kind) and deployment and operation of multinational large research infrastructure required to implement major marine science projects.

Financial implications:

For the period 2014–2015 (28th Assembly): implementation will be subject to identification of extrabudgetary funding.

For the period 2015–2020, the financial implications will be identified by the IPC and submitted to the IOC Assembly for examination at its 28th Session.

Resolution EC-XLVII.2

Financial matters of the Commission

The Executive Council,

Having examined documents IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 2 Rev., IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Rev. and IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Addendum,

Confirms that the IOC budget for 2012–2013 has been executed in accordance with the approved Programme and Budget for 2012–2013 (36 C/5) and the Priority Funding Plan adopted by the IOC Executive Council in its decision EC-XLV/Dec.5.1;

Expresses great concern for the impact of the financial difficulties of UNESCO on the delivery of the IOC programmes, with the reduction of the IOC budget from US \$12,026,200 in the approved Programme and Budget for 2014–2015 (37 C/5) to US \$8,643,600 under the US \$507 M expenditure plan for 2014–2015 (or 72% of the 37 C/5 approved);

Further expresses great dissatisfaction with the fact that the budgetary allocation to the IOC for the biennium 2014–2015 at the level of 72% of the 37 C/5 approved is not consistent with the recommendations of the 5th special session of UNESCO Executive Board (Paris, 4 July 2013) to allocate between 100% and 80% to high priority Expected Results, like those of the IOC;

Recognizes the efforts of the IOC Executive Secretary to maintain programme continuity under these challenging circumstances and the difficulty to fully implement the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2), given that the Assembly provided its recommendation on a scenario with an allocation of 86% (and not 72%) of the 37 C/5 approved budget;

Welcomes the programmatic choices of the IOC Executive Secretary;

Endorses the Programme and Budget for 2014–2017 and Workplans for 2014–2015 contained in document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 rev. as a measure to ensure programme continuity at essential level and consistent with the priorities of the Medium-Term Strategy for 2014–2021;

Expresses its appreciation to the IOC Executive Secretary for the development of a Complementary Additional Programme (CAP) of Extrabudgetary Resources (Proposals for 2014–2015) contained in document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Addendum;

Further expresses its thanks to Member States who have already contributed to the CAP, and;

Urges all Member States to provide voluntary contributions for the financing of the CAP, preferably to the IOC Special Account;

Further urges Member States to:

- (i) continue to advocate to the UNESCO Director-General and the Governing Bodies of UNESCO the importance of IOC as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, focusing in particular on the value that IOC provides to UNESCO and to the sustainable development of coastal areas and islands;
- (ii) support the reinforcement of the IOC in the consultation process for the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017 (38 C/5);

Invites the Director-General of UNESCO to:

- (i) consider further reinforcement of IOC in this biennium as well as in the Draft 38 C/5 in order to address current and emerging priorities;
- (ii) request the Governing Bodies of UNESCO to ensure that resources allocated to the IOC in the Draft 38 C/5 be clearly identified in the appropriation resolution;
- (iii) maintain all IOC activities in a single Main Line of Action in the Draft 38 C/5 entitled “Promoting knowledge and capacity for protecting and sustainably managing the ocean and coasts”;

Requests the IOC Executive Secretary to:

- (i) prepare a Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017 to be submitted to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session, based on the guiding principles adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 27th session (Resolution XXVII-2(C), Annex 2), and consistent with the high level objectives defined in the IOC Medium-Term Strategy for 2014–2021; and
- (ii) support the work of the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group by providing timely information on the UNESCO budgetary planning process;

Further requests the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group to provide guidance to the IOC Executive Secretary in preparing the Draft Programme and Budget for 2016–2017;

Invites the Chairperson of the IOC to forward this Resolution to the Director-General of UNESCO.

DECISIONS

EC-XLVII/Dec.2

The Executive Council,

I. Agenda

Adopts the agenda and the timetable of work as set out in document IOC/EC-XLVII/1 Prov. Rev. and Add. Rev.

II. Rapporteur

On a proposal of Japan, seconded by Tanzania, Argentina, and Portugal,

Designates Mr YANG Yafeng of China Rapporteur for its present session to assist the Chairperson and the Executive Secretary in the preparation of the draft provisional report of the session;

III. Sessional Committees and Working Groups

Establishes the following sessional open-ended committees and three working groups and refers to them the following agenda items and responsibilities:

- (i) Financial Committee (to examine the report on budget execution for 2012–2013, review the proposed workplans for 2014–2015, consider the financial implications of draft decisions/resolutions and propose a comprehensive draft resolution under items 7.1): under the chairmanship of Professor Peter M. Haugan (Norway) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Japan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, UK, USA and Venezuela. Ms Ksenia Yvinec provides the Secretariat support to the Financial Committee.
- (ii) Resolutions Committee (to report on all draft resolutions duly presented for consideration at the session –item 8): with Dr Terry Schaefer (USA) as Chair and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Japan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Tanzania, Thailand, USA and Venezuela. Julian Barbière provides the Secretariat support to the Resolutions Committee.

On a proposal of the Officers, establishes also:

- (iii) a sessional working group on “The Future of IOC” (item 4.) with Peter Haugan (Norway) and Javier Valladares, past Chair of IOC, as co-chairs and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Togo UK, USA and Venezuela. Ksenia Yvinec provides the Secretariat support to the group;
- (iv) a sessional working group on “the IOC participation to the 2nd International Indian Ocean Expedition” (item 6.3) with Prof. Yutaka Michida (Japan) and Dr Sateesh C. Shenoi (India) as co-chairs and with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Australia, China, Egypt, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Japan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, UK, USA and Venezuela. Albert Fischer provides the Secretariat support to the group;
- (v) a sessional working group on “the preparation of a Draft Strategic Plan for Capacity Development” (item 6.1) with Prof. Adoté Blim Blivi (Togo) as chair and with the

following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, India, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Tanzania, Thailand, UK, USA and Venezuela. Peter Pissierssens provides the Secretariat support to the group.

EC-XLVII/Dec. 3.1

The Executive Council,

I. Report of the Executive Secretary

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1,

Takes note of the report of the Executive Secretary on programme and budget implementation, subject to the review of the Financial Committee in Resolution EC-XLVII.2;

II.

**Revised Terms of reference of the General Bathymetric Chart
of the Oceans (GEBCO) Guiding Committee**

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4 Rev.2,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation between IOC and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) in the field of bathymetry,

Encourages Member States to voluntarily contribute to the improvement of global bathymetric data sets and data products of the IHO-IOC GEBCO Project;

Requests the Joint IHO–IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee to continue to use the current terms of reference and rules of procedure in order to allow IOC Member States sufficient time to review the proposed changes;

Requests also the Executive Secretary to circulate the draft of the terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Joint IHO–IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee as contained in IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4 rev.2, supported by background information;

Decides to have an item on the draft terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Joint IHO–IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee on the agenda of the 28th session of the IOC Assembly.

III.

**Recognition of the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)
as a GOOS Regional Alliance**

Recalling the GOOS Regional Policy 2013 (IOC/INF-1308),

Having examined the recommendation by the GOOS Steering Committee (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1, Section J),

Recognizes the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) as a GOOS Regional Alliance.

EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.1

Early Warning Systems and Preparedness for Tsunamis

The Executive Council,

Having considered the executive summary reports of the recent sessions of the Intergovernmental Coordination Groups for: the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXV), the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX), the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/NEAMTWS-X), and the report of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG-VII),

Accepts the reports and the decisions and recommendations contained therein;

I.

Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS)

Notes the ongoing work to introduce the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC) Enhanced Products for tsunami threat assessment and that these products will come into full operation as of 1st October 2014, pending final review and approval by the ICG/PTWS Steering committee, at its meeting in July 2014;

Notes also the continued efforts to establish a South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Centre (SCSTAC) to service the approved sub-regional South China Sea Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System within the framework of the ICG/PTWS;

II.

**Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System
for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (CARIBE-EWS)**

Notes the achievements in 2013–2014 including the launching of the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC), established in Barbados, the successful CARIBE WAVE 2014 exercise, on 26 March 2014, with 47 of the 48 Member States and territories participating and almost 200,000 people signing up for it;

Notes also the increased number of communities receiving the Tsunami Ready recognition in the region;

Encourages Member States contributions towards the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) to enable it to fully play its role as a key instrument for tsunami preparedness and awareness in the Caribbean region.

III.

**North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas Tsunami Warning
and Mitigation System (NEAMTWS)**

Welcomes the decision to conduct the NEAMTWS tsunami exercise, namely NEAMWave14, in the fourth quarter of 2014;

Acknowledges the commitment by Italy and Portugal to announce the establishment of national tsunami warning centres and the intent to provide Candidate Tsunami Watch Providers service in 2014;

Expresses the urgent need for Member States to secure continued technical secretariat support to the NEAMTWS via extrabudgetary resources or secondments.

IV.

Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG)

Underlines the role of Tsunami Information Centres (TICs) have in the management of post event performance surveys, and requests that ICGs provide appropriate resourcing and mandate of their TICs to be able to perform this function;

Adopts the procedures and guidelines for Tsunami Service Advisory Providers issuing and disseminating tsunami bulletins for earthquakes outside their respective ICG coverage;

Welcomes that the Task Team on Hazard Assessment Related to Highest Potential Tsunami Sources Areas has met and underlines the need for the Task Team to continue its work;

Decides to update the definitions of National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP), and instructs the secretariat to update the ICG reference documents with these new definitions, as follows:

- National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC): A centre officially designated by the government to monitor and issue tsunami warnings and other related statements within their country according to established National Standard Operating Procedures,
- Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP): A 24 x 7 point of contact (office, operational unit or position, not a person) officially designated by the NTWC or the government to receive and disseminate tsunami information from an ICG Tsunami Service Provider according to established National Standard Operating Procedures. The TWFP may or not be the NTWC,

Requests Member States to update their Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP) data according to the above definition;

Calls upon:

- IOC and UNESCO to participate (as resources allow) in major anniversaries and international conferences over the next 18 months and that IOC promotes the importance of national investments in the continued development of tsunami warning systems; and
- Member States to increase their extra-budgetary contributions to IOC to provide the needed resources for the priorities identified by TOWS-WG and ICGs.

EC-XLVII/Dec.3.2.2

Renewal of the JCOMM *in-situ* Observations Programme Support Centre (JCOMMOPS) Hosting Agreement

The Executive Council,

Having considered document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 5,

Notes with appreciation the increased commitment of support to JCOMMOPS by French national and local agencies in the context of its move to Brest, France; and expresses its considerable appreciation to CLS/service Argos for having hosted JCOMMOPS in its various manifestations and for providing such excellent support to it over more than 25 years;

Recognizes the strong cooperation between the IOC and WMO Secretariats supporting JCOMMOPS;

Encourages Member States to contribute to the work of JCOMMOPS via the IOC; and

Requests the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with the WMO Secretariat, to clarify IOC/UNESCO and WMO's responsibilities for JCOMMOPS with a view to improving its sustainability, and report on the outcome to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015.

EC-XLVII/Dec.4

The Future of the IOC

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Chair of the intersessional and sessional working groups on the Future of IOC (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 6),

Noting the consensus reached by IOC Member States that the IOC Governing Bodies should maintain in their agendas an item and mechanism to enable Member States to continuously reflect and exchange ideas on this highly strategic and important subject,

Recalling that the Assembly at its 27th session suggested in Decision IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1 that the areas of deliberation should focus on sharpening IOC's identity, as well as on rationalized cooperation and communication between IOC and other organizations, and enhanced flexibility and adaptability of IOC governance,

Taking into account the documents of the 47th session of the Executive Council on the Future of the IOC which provided an overview of issues, suggested solutions and priorities, including the Report of the Chair of the Intersessional Working Group on "The Future of the IOC", and the IOC Workshop Reports 250, 254, and 261 and Future 13-14/Inf.1,

Taking advantage of the self-assessment of the IOC in the context of the ongoing process of the External Audit of the Governance of UNESCO,

Acknowledging the relevance of the Medium-Term Strategy for the Future of the IOC,

Expresses its appreciation to Professor Peter M. Haugan for his leadership and contribution to the work of the intersessional and sessional working groups;

Requests the IOC officers on behalf of the Member States and with support from the secretariat to intensify efforts prior to the next IOC Assembly to:

- (i) pursue clarification of the interpretation and implementation of the role of IOC as an intergovernmental body with functional autonomy within UNESCO,
- (ii) explore regular and extrabudgetary funding mechanisms to provide stability and continuity to the work of IOC, consistent with article 10 of the IOC Statutes,
- (iii) undertake an assessment of the established IOC functional autonomy within the UNESCO dispositions, and provide information on its degree of implementation for the use of the Intersessional Working Group on "The Future of the IOC";

Requests Member States and the IOC officers, with support from secretariat to intensify efforts to:

- (i) Raise the profile of IOC within the United Nations system to make sure that the unique mandate of IOC in the United Nations systems understood and communicated widely,
- (ii) ensure enhanced visibility of IOC across the marine science and marine policy sector and stimulate involvement from youth and young scientists, including through taking advantage of modern social media technologies;

Decides that the open-ended intersessional working group on the Future of the IOC be reconvened under the chairmanship of Professor Haugan with a view to providing proposals for each of the following issues to the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015:

- (i) formulate a common message from IOC to UNESCO and other UN organizations about the societal benefits of the IOC mission, programmes and activities, and develop a strategy for dissemination, including preparation of information material on IOC for use in Member States,
- (ii) develop recommendations for strengthening IOC mission implementation by linking the issues already identified during the process with the Medium-Term Strategy, revised with criteria of prioritization,
- (iii) consider new or expanded roles for sub-commissions and other regional subsidiary bodies of IOC in achieving the strengthening under (ii),
- (iv) consider the information provided under paragraph 8 (iii) above and develop recommendations, as appropriate, in the context of its function as a joint specialized mechanism in the UN system;

Decides that the intersessional working group shall work primarily by electronic means and should consider establishment of a task team on paragraph 10 (iv) and consider establishment of other task teams led by interested Member States to develop the different sub-tasks where appropriate;

Decides to request the IOC Assembly at its 28th session to consider the appropriateness of presenting a special report on these issues for the consideration of UNESCO Governing Bodies, including the decisions taken on the Future of the IOC by the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015.

EC-XLVII/Dec. 6.1

IOC Capacity Development Strategy

The Executive Council,

Having considered document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 7,

Takes note of the “Draft Capacity Development Strategy” presented in the document;

Decides to reconstitute the Intersessional Working Group for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy, with the Vice-Chairperson responsible for capacity development as Chairperson, and with the Terms of Reference as annexed to this decision;

Instructs the Chair of the Intersessional Working Group for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy to submit the final draft of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy and associated documentation as referred to in the Annex to this decision to the IOC Assembly for adoption at its 28th session in 2015;

Requests:

- (i) the Executive Secretary to include the Draft Strategic Plan for Capacity Development on the agenda of the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015;
- (ii) Member States to consider funding (as necessary) and supporting the activities leading to the formulation and adoption of the final version of the Capacity Development Strategy.

Annex to EC-XLVII/Dec. 6.1

**Terms of Reference for the Intersessional Working Group
for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy**

PURPOSE

The Intersessional Working Group will develop the final draft of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy and associated documentation. This strategy will then be implemented through partnerships with Member States, donors, UN Agencies, global financial institutions and the private sector.

TERM

The Intersessional Working Group for the IOC Capacity Development Strategy, constituted at the 47th IOC Executive Council in 2014, will operate until the 28th session of the IOC Assembly in 2015.

FUNCTIONS

- (a) To organize a review of the draft of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy document, as submitted to the 47th session of the IOC Executive Council (2014), by IOC Sub-Commissions, Regional and Technical Committees and other (relevant) subsidiary bodies of the IOC, to seek their advice and input to further improve the document.
- (b) To identify, through consultations with the IOC Member States and IOC Sub-Commissions, Regional and Technical Committees and other (relevant) subsidiary bodies of the IOC and major programmes, elements of a draft work plan to be considered subsequent to the adoption of the Strategy.
- (c) Prepare a document for consideration by the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in 2015 including the final draft of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy and preliminary elements of a draft work plan.

COMPOSITION

- The Vice-Chairperson of the IOC for Group V, Prof. Adoté Blim Blivi will serve as Chairperson;
- The Working Group will be open to all IOC Member States, IOC Secretariat members responsible for IOC Sub-Commissions, Regional and Technical Committees and other (relevant) subsidiary bodies of the IOC.

WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- The Working Group will conduct the majority of its business by electronic means;
- The Chairperson may convene a face-to-face meeting, funded by Member States and/or extra-budgetary funding;
- The Group will follow procedures for IOC Subsidiary Bodies, seeking to formulate its conclusions and recommendations through consensus.

EC-XLVII/Dec. 6.2

Proposal of a Global Ocean Science Report (GOSR)

The Executive Council,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 8,

Takes note and welcomes the report of the Chair of the Open-ended Intersessional Working Group to further review and improve the Global Ocean Science Report;

Recognizing IOC's competencies and expertise to lead such a global report,

Accepts the new Global Ocean Science Report proposal and recommendations contained in the Report and those suggested by the Member States in the discussions of its 47th session;

Decides to approve the proposal for the Global Ocean Science Report, as amended in its 47th session;

Requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate the preparation of the Global Ocean Science Report, with a view to present the final draft of the Global Ocean Science Report to its 49th session; and

Calls upon Member States to increase their extra-budgetary contributions to IOC for the production and the publication of the Global Ocean Science Report.

EC-XLVII/Dec. 6.4

International Polar Partnership Initiative

The Executive Council,

Having considered the IPPI Concept document (IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 10),

Reiterates the interest of having IOC involved in the IPPI Concept development, firmly associated with existing IOC research, observation, data management, and services programmes;

Provides the following advice for improving the IPPI Concept paper:

- (i) the added value of the IPPI to existing programmes should be clearly identified,
- (ii) the scientific and societal value of the outputs of the IPPI should be identified,
- (iii) the scope, objectives and expected results of the IPPI should be clearly identified,
- (iv) it should describe the potential synergies with other polar initiatives,

Invites the IPPI Steering Group to seek active participation from other international and intergovernmental organizations relevant to the IPPI;

Requests the Executive Secretary to continue participation in the IPPI Steering Group and in shaping the IPPI proposal, and to report to the 28th session of the IOC Assembly in 2015;

Requests the Executive Secretary to work towards the IPPI being developed in close coordination and consultation with Parties to the Antarctic Treaty and related agreements, and members of the Arctic Council.

EC-XLVII/Dec. 6.5

Contribution to United Nations initiatives

The Executive Council,

Having considered document IOC/INF-1317,

Takes note and welcomes the active role played by the Commission in UN-Oceans, the elaboration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), the preparation to the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the World Ocean Assessment, and the UN negotiations related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national Jurisdiction;

Notes further that the financial and human resource implications of the Commission's engagement in these processes are generally being absorbed by programme budgets identified as part of the overall IOC Programme and Budget (2014–2015); and

Calls on IOC and UNESCO Member States to support IOC's role and contributions in these processes by:

- (i) Engaging in the review process of the World Ocean Assessment report;
- (ii) integrating the importance of the ocean and the contribution of IOC, into their preparation and statements for the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (1–4 September 2014) in Samoa; the further elaboration and implementation of the SDGs, including their monitoring; as well as the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national Jurisdiction.

EC-XLVII/Dec. 7.2

Self-Assessment of the IOC Governing Bodies in Follow-up to the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit's (JIU) Recommendations Concerning the Methods of Work of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Bodies

The Executive Council,

Having considered the elements of the audit, in particular the two questionnaires and the financial analysis table to be answered by the governing bodies of IOC,

Stresses the need that the unique role of IOC in the UN system in relation to ocean science and the scientific base for ocean management and its position as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO be reflected in any nomenclature of UNESCO's intergovernmental bodies or any other parts of the final governance review document;

Requests the Executive Secretary to seek further clarification from the External Auditor on the methodology that will be used for the assessment;

Entrusts the IOC Officers, in consultation with IOC Member States, to answer the audit on behalf of the governing bodies of the Commission taking into account advice already received from the open-ended intersessional working groups dealing with financial matters and the Future of IOC;

Reserves the right of the IOC Assembly at its 28th session in June 2015 to comment on the information related to the Commission in the interim synthesis document prepared by the

External Auditor before submission of its final report by 15 July 2015, and to submit its comments on the recommendations of the audit report to the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO.

EC-XLVII/Dec.7.3

**Preparation of the 28th Session of the Assembly
and Next Sessions of the Executive Council**

The Executive Council,

Recalling Decisions 6.5 and 6.6 of the Assembly at its 27th session,

Decides to hold:

- (i) the 28th session of the Assembly in 2015 for a duration of six working days from 18 to 25 June preceded by a one day 48th session of the Executive Council on 17 June, while requesting the Executive Secretary to ensure the documentation is available to Member States in accordance with the deadlines set out in Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure;
- (ii) the 49th session of the Executive Council during June 2016 on dates yet to be decided;

Proposes the following themes for each of the IOC memorial lectures:

- (i) IOC Anton Bruun Memorial Lecture, 2015:
 - Arctic Sea Ice (Dr Robie MacDonald)
 - Oceans and Human Health (Lora E, Fleming)
- (ii) IOC N.K. Panikkar Memorial Lecture, 2015:
 - Challenger Glider Mission (Dr Scott Glenn, University of Rutgers),
 - 50th anniversary of the Indian Ocean Expedition, past, present and future,
 - Canadian Rangers Ocean Watch (Dr Eddy Carmack),
 - Impact of IOC Capacity Building for Tsunami Warning System within a region,
 - Capacity development on Harmful Algal Blooms (Prof. FUKUYO Yasuwo)
- (iii) IOC Roger Revelle Lecture, 2016:
 - Ocean Chemistry and Ocean Acidification (Dr Richard Feely),
 - Protected Marine Areas-Malpelo, one of the UNESCO's World Heritage marine sites (Dr Sandra Bessudo).

ANNEX I

AGENDA

1. OPENING

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

- 2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- 2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR
- 2.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF SESSIONAL COMMITTEES
- 2.4 INTRODUCTION OF TIMETABLE AND DOCUMENTATION
- 2.5 ROGER REVELLE MEMORIAL LECTURE
[IOC-XXVII/Dec.6.6]

3. STATUTORY REPORTS

- 3.1 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED SINCE THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY
[Rule of Procedure 49.1]

- 3.2 PROGRAMME MATTERS REQUIRING DECISIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

3.2.1 Early Warning Systems and Preparedness for Tsunamis
[Rule of Procedure 48.3]

- 3.2.1.1 *Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS)*
- 3.2.1.2 *Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS)*
- 3.2.1.3 *Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS)*
- 3.2.1.4 *Working Group on Tsunamis and other Hazards related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG)*

3.2.2 Renewal of the JCOMMOPS Hosting Agreement
[Rule of Procedure 8.1g]

4 THE FUTURE OF THE IOC
[IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1]

5. CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SHORT LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF IOC TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF UNESCO
(*in camera*)² [Statutes Art. 8.2; EC-XLVI/Dec.5]

² After an introduction, discussion of Item 5 on the recruitment of the new Executive Secretary of the Commission was held in an *in camera* session according to document IOC/INF-1316, "Consultation for the appointment of the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO: Process for the establishment of a short list of applicants for submission to the Director-General of UNESCO".

6. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS

- 6.1 DEVELOPMENT OF AN IOC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN
[IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.5.1]
- 6.2 REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE OPEN-ENDED INTERSESSIONAL
WORKING GROUP ON AN IOC GLOBAL OCEAN SCIENCE REPORT
[IOC-XXVI, item 4.7, par.117; IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.5.2]
- 6.3 IOC PROPOSAL FOR THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL INDIAN OCEAN
EXPEDITION (50TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVE)
[IOC-XXVII/Dec.5.1.2]
- 6.4 INTERNATIONAL POLAR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE
[Rule of Procedure 8.1g]
- 6.5 CONTRIBUTION TO UNITED NATIONS INITIATIVES (UN-OCEANS, SDG
PROCESS, UN SIDS CONFERENCE)
[Rule of Procedure 8.1g]

7. ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE
- 7.2 SELF-ASSESSMENT OF THE IOC GOVERNING BODIES IN FOLLOW-UP TO
THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT INSPECTION UNIT'S (JIU)
RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE METHODS OF WORK OF
UNESCO'S INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES
[Rule of Procedure 8.1g]
- 7.3 PREPARATION OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY
AND NEXT SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
[Statutes Art. 7.C.8; Rule of Procedure 8.3 & 21.2(c); Rule of Procedure 19.2]

8. REPORT

9. CLOSURE

ANNEX II

ADDRESSES AND STATEMENTS

- A -

**Chairman's Statement on the state
of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)**

Dr Sang-Kyung Byun
1 July 2014

Your Excellencies,
Distinguished guests and colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure and honour for me to report on the state of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to its Forty-seventh session of Executive Council on behalf of the IOC Officers.

Four years ago we celebrated the 50th anniversary of IOC. Since then, we had faced challenges arising from the change of external circumstances among which the financial situation of UNESCO and IOC has drawn our keen attention. The current budget reduction has never been experienced before, yet IOC has endeavored to respond to it by minimizing its impact on activities. IOC would like the Member States to be informed of the current financial situation of IOC so as to explore the ways to contribute to its extra-budgetary funds.

The Medium-Term Strategy for 2014–2021 was accepted during the 27th IOC Assembly by consensus of Member States and it was approved by the 37th UNESCO General Conference. The High Level Objectives are:

1. Healthy ocean ecosystems and sustained ecosystem services,
2. Effective early warning systems and preparedness for tsunamis and other ocean-related hazards,
3. Increased resiliency to climate change and variability and enhanced safety, efficiency and effectiveness of all ocean-based activities through scientifically-founded services, adaptation and mitigation strategies, and
4. Enhanced knowledge of emerging ocean science issues.

Member States should take into account the IOC Medium-Term Strategy in developing their national plans and programmes for ocean sciences, observations and services, as well as in planning their contribution to and participation in the programmes of the Commission.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The 2014 IOC officers' meeting was held on 13–14 March 2014 at IOC headquarters to produce a list of most highly qualified applicants for the position of IOC Executive Secretary, and to prepare the provisional agenda and timetable for the 47th IOC Executive Council. Fifty candidates from 89 applicants were pre-screened by UNESCO Human Resources Management (HRM). The pre-selection committee, composed of the IOC Officers, the current Executive Secretary, the Director of HRM and the interim Director of the Cabinet of the UNESCO Director-General retained 14 applications to be forwarded to the IOC Executive Council. Considering IOC budget reductions, the officers agreed to shorten the meeting period of the Executive Council to three and a half days with refined meeting procedures.

I had an opportunity to participate at the 37th session of the General Conference of UNESCO from 12–14 November 2013. The “Joint Statement of the Chairpersons of the five Intergovernmental and International Scientific Programmes and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission” was reported to the Director-General and the 37th session of the General Conference of UNESCO in order to ensure and foster effective functioning and accessibility of UNESCO’s scientific activities.

I am very pleased to report to you on regional activities

The “IOC/WESTPAC 9th International Scientific Symposium” sponsored by Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology was held in Nha Trang, Vietnam on 22–25 April 2014 with the view to examining the achievements in marine sciences over last 25 years and catalyzing multi- and cross-disciplinary collaboration among marine scientists and institutions. During the Symposium, a “Research Directors’ Forum” was convened to further the promotion of sustained observations and services to Indo-Pacific societies. 550 scientists and governmental officials from 21 countries participated in the Symposium for 250 oral and 251 poster presentations.

Following decision 4.2 of the 45th session of IOC Executive Council to improve IOC’s activities in the area of sustained ocean observations and services, the third Regional Workshop was held on 25–28 November 2013, in Bangkok, Thailand, with the participation of 38 experts from 12 Member States of Group IV, under the auspices of the IOC/WESTPAC and the governments of Thailand, Japan and Republic of Korea. This workshop was a continuation of consecutive meetings for Group II held in Varna, Bulgaria, in March 2012 and Group III in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in March 2013. The Workshop was also one of the activities of the 25th anniversary of WESTPAC based on WESTPAC recommendation WESTPAC-IX.2. I am expecting such workshops to be continued in other groups as well.

It is also worth mentioning that I was invited to speak at the “Munakata Eco-100 International Forum” held in Munakata, Japan, from 31 May–2 June 2014. This Forum was organized by Munakata city in collaboration with UBrain TV JAPAN in order to bring together environmental leaders from around the world to discuss practical solutions facing the global environment. Approximately 50 university students were also invited to increase their environmental knowledge and awareness and to nurture them as global citizens of tomorrow.

I wish to mention the “7th World Ocean Forum” held in Seoul, Korea on 11–13 September 2013 under the auspices of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of Korea, Busan Metropolitan city and the Korea Association of Marine Industries. During the Forum, a special session titled “The Present and The Future of Marine Science” was organized to analyze the trends of marine science with participation of 50 marine scientists including former chairmen of IOC.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

L’océan joue un rôle clé dans le développement durable de notre planète, qui promet un avenir bleu et vert à la COI. Depuis sa création en 1960, les activités de la COI semblent se concentrer davantage sur la science plutôt que sur les services. Cela a amené la COI à faire face à la concurrence d’autres organisations internationales et nationales au cours de la dernière décennie en termes de leadership dans le système des Nations Unies. Afin de répondre aux questions des Etats membres, la COI devrait développer une fonction de veille océanique pour anticiper autant que nos connaissances nous le permettent des catastrophes liées à l’océan et au changement climatique. En outre, la COI doit s’atteler à développer des mécanismes appropriés visant à trouver un consensus dans les domaines de l’océanographie opérationnelle pour l’observation et les services durables ainsi que les axes de recherche et l’échange des connaissances scientifiques.

Il est vrai qu'aujourd'hui, la réduction du budget de la COI et de l'UNESCO nous place dans une position difficile notamment pour répondre aux questions urgentes reflétées dans les quatre objectives de haut-niveau que s'est donnée la Commission. Malgré ces difficultés, je reste persuadé que l'avenir de la COI est prometteur et prospère à condition que nous avançons ensemble, nous les Etats membres, en travaillant la main dans la main. Mes chers collègues et distingués Représentants des Etats Membres, allons-y ensemble !

[The ocean plays a key role in the sustainability of our planet, which promises IOC's future with the blue and green ocean. Since its establishment in 1960, IOC's activities seem to be more focused on science rather than services. This brings IOC in facing continuous challenges from other international and domestic organizations during the last decade in terms of its leadership in the UN system. In order to meet the pending issues of member states, IOC should develop the function in ocean forecasting for predicting ocean-related disasters and climate change over the global ocean and coastal seas. Furthermore, IOC should find proper mechanisms, in consensus, such as operational oceanography for sustainable observation and service as well as for scientific research and knowledge.

It is true that today we have many challenges caused by recent budgetary reductions and also by urgent ocean related issues as expressed in the current four High Level Objectives of the IOC. However, I am sure that we can make the future of IOC to be more bright, promising and prosperous if we strive hand in hand to overcome obstacles. Let's go forward together!]

Je vous remercie de votre aimable attention.

- B -

**Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General
of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
on the occasion of the Forty-seventh Session of the IOC Executive Council**

3 July 2014

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank you for this opportunity to make a brief address to the Member States and the Secretariat of the Commission at this important juncture, when you have just completed the consultative process for the designation of the shortlisted candidates for the post of the Executive Secretary of IOC.

This Executive Council will be the last IOC Governing Body meeting for the current Executive Secretary Wendy Watson-Wright and I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my most sincere appreciation of all the work that she has accomplished to sustain and further strengthen IOC's and UNESCO's role within the UN system on ocean issues.

I trust you are aware that since my first day in office I have been a convinced supporter of the importance of the work of the IOC. Whether we realize it or not, all of our lives are affected by the ocean every day: the ocean is critical to the earth's global systems that regulate weather and climate, the concentration of gases in the atmosphere including the oxygen we all breathe, the cycling of nutrients, and it provides important food resources. As ocean scientists deploy new technologies to observe these dynamic processes, the impacts of human activity are becoming increasingly obvious and of growing concern. Rising sea level, melting ice sheets, ocean acidification, dead zones, harmful algal blooms, coral bleaching, fish population and ecosystem declines are all being experienced at local and global scales. The well-being of humankind, in every Member State whether landlocked or coastal, is dependent on the health and function of the world ocean.

Despite the difficult economic situation, IOC has been at the forefront of a number of global initiatives.

On Wendy's watch there are many results to be proud of:

- The active participation of IOC in the Rio+20 Conference, which also contributed to reaching consensus that the Ocean should be a thematic priority in the post-2015 development agenda.
- IOC's coordination of tsunami early warning and preparedness, with particular reference to the full operational status of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning System since 31 March 2013.
- The one millionth temperature and salinity profile measured by autonomous Argo floats in November 2012;
- The growth in the number of sea level stations that now report real time observations, from 80 in 2006 to 793 real-time reporting stations in the last eight years.
- Cooperation with WMO in extending areas covered by routine maritime weather and sea ice safety reports to the Arctic Ocean in 2011;
- The total number of records on the portal of Ocean Biographic Information System, which now stands at just over 38.85 million, to inform global action on the conservation of marine biodiversity and assist Member States in the development of strategies for environmental stewardship.

Ocean monitoring is a key piece of climate monitoring and research, and IOC's work in ocean carbon monitoring and ocean acidification provided key new datasets to the global scientific community.

In implementing its Medium-Term Strategy for 2014-2021, it is essential that the Commission maintains its scientific leadership in the UN system, acting as the focal point for identifying new and emerging science/knowledge that requires facilitation through international cooperation. And I look forward to supporting you in this task by all means possible.

I am fully aware that IOC had to undergo the challenge of performing with reduced financial resources and staff.

I thank Wendy for relentlessly bringing to my attention that the IOC has a critical but sometimes less visible role in the development, coordination and maintenance of long-term sustained systems that provide monitoring and observations of the ocean, and manage, transform and disseminate data and information to help Member States mitigate risks associated with the ocean and face a wide and growing range of societal challenges.

In this context, I trust that the recently approved restructuring of the Secretariat will help give priority to operational programmatic needs.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you and I assure you that as the Director-General of UNESCO, I am fully committed to supporting and strengthening the Commission, as a body with functional autonomy within the Organization. It is, however, also extremely important that Member States step in and increase their extrabudgetary support to the IOC in order to sustain these long-term programmes with high societal benefits under its leadership.

Maintenant, permettez-moi une parenthèse plus personnelle. Je voudrais souligner ici le plaisir que j'ai eu à travailler avec Wendy, et saluer son engagement, sa volonté et sa loyauté envers la COI et l'UNESCO. Ma chère Wendy, je vous remercie au nom de l'Organisation et en mon nom propre, pour les années d'effort et de dévouement qui ont apporté à la COI de l'UNESCO une nouvelle visibilité.

Merci !

(DG/2014/101)

- C -

**Closing Remarks by Ms Wendy Watson-Wright,
IOC Executive Secretary**

4 July 2014

Excellences, Mesdames et Messieurs

Before I give you my closing remarks I would like to acknowledge one of our staff who will be leaving us next week. That is the Deputy Executive Secretary, Mitrasen Bhikajee, who has accepted a new challenge with the Natural Sciences sector in New Delhi India. I would like to thank Mitrasen for his many contributions to the IOC in the time he was here – I am sure we all wish him all the very best in this new and exciting post.

We began this 47th session of the IOC Executive Council with the same issue that has been facing the IOC it seems forever, but which has become acute in the last three years – our frustration with the lack of budget to carry out what we see so clearly is needed.

Now it would be tempting to continue to bemoan financial situation and to blame that for everything that we cannot do. But I am a firm subscriber to the actress Shirley MacLaine's statement that "Dwelling on the negative simply contributes to its power". As they say, 'the best thing to do with frustration is to turn it into positive motion....'

At the 27th Assembly last June, I asked Member States to reflect on what it meant to be a member of this organization. I think there was some reflection on this question then and I think that it continued at this Executive Council, for we saw demonstrations of loyalty, active participation and support, and we received then and now pledges of commitment to both financial and in kind resources. Perhaps the most gratifying was to hear you, the Member states, say that 'we must own our institution'. This is the way it SHOULD be, indeed MUST be, and I would urge you to demonstrate in concrete ways that you really believe it.

This has been my last Governing Body as your Executive Secretary – it is hard to believe four and a half years have passed so quickly. In fact I feel like I'm just getting started, but I've always felt that it's better to go now than to hang on until most are saying "Gee...is she NEVER going to leave?"

I would like to express my gratitude to all IOC Member States, the Officers, delegates, scientists, and partner organizations for the support you have given to the Commission and to me personally since 2010 – it has been a true honour and pleasure to have worked with and for you. And I would like to sincerely thank the IOC and UNESCO for having given me the opportunity to lead this organization, trust in my judgement, and assistance whenever I needed it. *I hope you will show the incoming Executive secretary as much support and friendship as you have shown me.*

Most especially I would like to again thank our most valuable asset, the secretariat. Your secretariat staff have kept their heads down, their 'noses to the grindstone', as they say, and have continued to push on. As I have said more than once, my experience with IOC secretariat staff has been that they will do their utmost for the good of the IOC, and for that they deserve your sincere support and appreciation – they are passionate about the ocean and ocean science, and dedicated to the mission of the IOC and its Member states. So please publicly recognize and thank the IOC staff for this dedication as well as for the incredible effort they put into these, your governing body meetings.

As I prepare to depart from this fascinating and deeply gratifying position of Executive Secretary of the IOC, I would like to reiterate my messages from the Biannual report to three key groups in IOC governance:

First, to the Secretariat. Remember, more than the keepers of the IOC mandate, you are the repositories of the IOC spirit of commitment and passion to undertake the science necessary for the wellbeing of our planet's crown jewel: the ocean.

Second, to the UNESCO Permanent Delegations. The verbal support given to the IOC over the past biennium has been most inspiring, since it underscores the importance of the IOC activities to your countries. But, words in the absence of adequate resources are of little assistance to the IOC – that is to say '**Actions** speak louder than words. It's not the things you say that are important, it's the things you do that prove everything.' **PLEASE move the IOC from being a high priority in your hearts to one in the budget.**

And finally, to you, the IOC delegations. As was reiterated here, the Secretariat is not the IOC – you the Member States are. It is up to you to ensure the IOC's work throughout the globe continues and is supported. It is incumbent upon you to ensure that your countries understand the importance of ocean science and the IOC, and that this translates into appropriate actions. You've said you believe in the IOC – now show it.

Again I thank you all for your enthusiastic participation here and for your continued support to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO.

But rather than allowing myself to become nostalgic and sad that this wonderful ride is coming to an end, I have to remind myself of the words of a great philosopher (Dr Seuss), who said "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened". Indeed I will be smiling for the rest of my days.

ANNEX III

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE SESSIONAL FINANCIAL COMMITTEE
(under item 7.1)

Peter Haughan (IOC Vice-Chair, Norway)

The Financial Committee met during the Executive Council in the morning of 2 July and 3 July, leaving its third planned meeting at lunch time on 3 July for transmission of the Draft Resolution EC-XLVII/DR.(7.1) to the Resolutions Committee.

The Chair would like to thank the Member States for active involvement in the drafting of the resolution as well as constructive debates and contributions to clarification of the budgetary process of IOC. A total of 19 Member States (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, India, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom and United States) contributed to the committee work.

The present financial difficulties of UNESCO which have now lasted for several years, originate primarily from Member States of UNESCO not paying their dues. This is a serious condition which cannot be remedied by the IOC or by resolutions proposed by the Financial Committee. However, the reduction in the IOC regular budget allocation from UNESCO forms the background and rationale for the Draft Resolution and the strong messages and calls for action that it contains.

The financial difficulties for IOC have become even more serious by the surprisingly large budget reduction for IOC given the high priority assigned by UNESCO in 2013 to the Expected Results associated with the IOC. The committee discussed in some detail various possibilities for involvement of Member States in contributing to furthering IOC in the UNESCO budgetary process. There is a willingness from Member States to take an active part in the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group in the coming intersessional period. By providing an active such group with timely information during the intersessional period, we remain optimistic that Member States can be mobilized to remedy the situation and avoid unjustified budget cuts for the IOC in the future.

It was also emphasized in the Financial Committee that priorities emerging from the Future of IOC discussion should also feed into the programme and budget planning leading up to budget prioritizations for the IOC Assembly in 2015.

In addition to preparing the Draft Financial Resolution, the Financial Committee also examined financial implications of the Draft Resolution EC-XLVII/DR.(6.3)Rev. on the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2). Its implementation in the short term will be subject to identification of extrabudgetary funding, and we note that the assembly in 2015 will have to address financial implications in the longer term.

ANNEX IV

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Dr Terry Schaefer (USA)

The Resolutions Committee met three times during this session of the IOC Executive Council to review the two Draft Resolutions (DRs) that were submitted. I had the pleasure to use the Revised Guidelines for Draft Resolutions that were adopted at the 27th Session of the IOC Assembly in 2013. The new provisions for DR submissions in the Revised Guidelines for Resolutions and the smaller number of DRs submitted made the work of the Committee much more manageable than in the past.

I would like to thank Mr Arthur Paterson for giving this report on my behalf. Many thanks to the numerous delegates who contributed their time and expertise to this Committee. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation for the support of the IOC Secretariat in assisting with the amendments, formatting, and translation of the Draft Resolutions. Special thanks to Mr. Julian Barbière for his attentiveness and valuable guidance in the work of this Committee.

In conclusion, thanks to the IOC Executive Secretariat for giving me the opportunity to chair the Resolutions Committee at this session of the IOC Executive Council.

ANNEX V

INFORMATIONAL ANNEX

Record of Member States' interventions at the 47th Session of the IOC Executive Council that were provided to the IOC Secretariat by the respective Member States. Interventions are reprinted without review or verification.

2.5 Roger Revelle Memorial Lecture

Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of

En nombre del Gobierno Bolivariano del Presidente Nicolás Maduro, deseo expresar nuestro más sincero agradecimiento a la COI, en especial en la persona de su Secretaria Ejecutiva Dra. Wendy Watson-Wright y de todo su equipo, por el apoyo brindado a la presentación del “Proyecto Cariaco: Una ventana de la Oceanografía de Venezuela”.

En hora buena deseo felicitar a los Doctores Baumar Marín del Instituto Oceanográfico de Venezuela y la Dra. Máyida El Souki de la Fundación La Salle por esta extraordinaria exposición, que recoge en su conjunto numerosos datos y aportes de índole científico, generados sobre la única cuenca permanentemente anóxica existente en aguas marinas abiertas.

3.1 Report of the Executive Secretary on the Work Accomplished since the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Assembly

Australia

Thank you Mr Chairman. My intervention is to support the proposal from the GOOS Steering Committee to recognise the Australian Integrated Marine Observing System, IMOS, as a GOOS Regional Alliance. As you may know, IMOS was established several years ago now, with largely Federal Government funding, to provide a multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional approach to enhancing the observation and understanding of the oceans for societal benefit, not just within the Australian EEZ, but extending to large open ocean areas in the Indian, Southern and south-west Pacific Oceans. It has been remarkably successful in its short lifetime to date, with all the data collected under IMOS being freely and openly available through a dedicated IMOS web portal, which is also showing success in integrating other, non-IMOS, marine related data sets, such as those for the marine atmosphere. We understand that the IMOS web portal should also be made accessible through the Ocean Data Portal of IODE.

Mr Chairman, although IMOS would be only a “single country” GOOS Regional Alliance, the GRA rules do not preclude this, as pointed out by the Executive Secretary, and it would not be unique in this regard. IMOS arguably incorporates a larger ocean area than many existing GRAs, and has already established working relationships with other GRAs such as Indian Ocean GOOS and Pacific Islands GOOS, as well as with ocean agencies in countries neighbouring Australia. We would therefore like to encourage the Executive Council to support this proposal from the GSC and adopt the draft decision to recognize IMOS as a GOOS Regional Alliance.

Belgium

The Belgian delegation wants to express her gratitude to the Ms Wendy Watson Wright Executive Secretary of the IOC, for her excellent report and keeping IOC quite active, despite the reduction of resources both in financial and staff terms. Belgium always have been urging for additional budget during the last UNESCO's Executive councils. We were pleased that IOC received some additional funds allocated by the DG of UNESCO from the Emergency Fund.

We also welcome the restructuring of the Secretariat and are convinced that this will contribute to vitalize the operational programs needs like GOOS biogeochemistry and Biology/Ecosystems. For this latter we intend to contribute through the renewed Flanders UNESCO Science Trust fund cooperation agreement for a new period of 5 years (2014-2018).

Together with this agreement, Flanders Government of Belgium approved 6 FUST Projects of which 3 IOC-proposals for a total contribution of about 3.3 Million USD over the next 4 years.

Canada

Canada thanks and congratulates Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright for her good and interesting report in challenging time as Executive Secretary (ES). More particularly Canada wants to acknowledge Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright for her role and work as ES. She has been dealing with serious issues facing the IOC over her years as ES. Her leadership has been supporting in building a road forward, and her collaborative approach has been building many partnerships for the IOC to strengthen the organization. On this very “Canada Day” today July 1st, Canada is proud of Dr. Watson-Wright’s contribution as ES of the IOC. Merci!

Chile

Quisiéramos expresar nuestro agradecimiento a la Secretaría Ejecutiva de la Comisión Oceanográfica Intergubernamental (COI) por el liderazgo demostrado en la implementación del programa presupuesto 2012-2013. Sin duda, la crisis económica por la que atraviesa la UNESCO golpea uno de los buques insignia de la Organización, no obstante ha demostrado una gran capacidad de gestión y de captación de recursos extrapresupuestarios.

Sabemos que el desafío de continuar funcionando con excelencia y no perder las capacidades ya instaladas es grande y apelamos a los miembros del Consejo Ejecutivo de la UNESCO para que lleven esta inquietud a los debates de este Órgano. Para nuestro país, los trabajos de la COI son de gran relevancia, con especial injerencia en lo que se refiere al tema de desarrollo de sistemas de alerta y preparación para mitigar el riesgo de tsunamis.

En relación con el proyecto de decisión que tenemos en frente, la Delegación de Chile quiere expresar sus observaciones a los términos de referencia revisados del GEBCO Guiding Committee. Al respecto queremos señalar que hubiéramos preferido contar con un Comité Directivo mas representativo.

Queremos agradecer al gobierno Alemán que nos ha ayudado a través de la Agencia Aeroespacial Alemana (DRL) y el Alfred Wegener Institute en la implementación de un prototipo de sistema de soporte de decisiones para tsunamis.

China

First, China thanks the report of the Executive Secretary, which clearly and comprehensively concludes the works of the Commission in the past year. We noted that despite of the serious financial crisis, the high-level objectives of the Commission, as designed by its Medium-Term Strategy, were well undertaken and reflected in the six functional areas. With regard to the report of the Executive Secretary, China would like to present some general comments on the following areas:

- 1) China would like to encourage IOC to more actively participated in relevant United Nations and global initiatives, and further expand its collaboration with other important international organizations or NGOs, which we believe will benefit IOC in improving its influences and visibility and looking for more extra-resources. Furthermore, we would also like to urge IOC to make the best use of its own international cooperation platforms, such as GOOS, IODE, and Tsunami Warning Systems, and positively establish new international mechanisms for marine cooperation, so that to strengthen the leading role of IOC in global marine sciences and international marine affairs.
- 2) The role and function of the subsidiary bodies, especially the Sub-commissions, should be further strengthened in implementing IOC’s global programs. The regional mechanisms could well reflect the interests and requirements in different areas under a global framework. Therefore, IOC should further enhance its support to the regional bodies.
- 3) With regard to the serious problems of shortage of financial and human resources, China will continue to donate US \$150,000 to IOC and provide seconded staff to work in the headquarters and regional offices of IOC. And I would also like to encourage the Executive Secretary, as well as

other officers of the Secretariat, to take all opportunities to strengthen the communication with government of the Member States to raise their awareness and understanding of the importance of IOC, so that to promote the supports of Member States to the activities of IOC.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the Executive Secretary and the staff of the Secretariat again for the achievements of the past years.

(On GEBCO Guiding Committee) China would like to thank USA for chairing the side meeting on GEBCO yesterday and today, and would like to express its appreciation to all participants to the side meeting for their contributions to the discussion. We would also like to thank our colleagues from IHO and GEBCO for their clarifications on the questions we raised, which we believe are very helpful for us to move forward.

However, we would like to remind the meeting again that the current version of revised ToR-RoP of GEBCO Guiding Committee was posted online at a very short time, just a few days before the Executive Council session. Many Member States don't have enough time for a careful review. Through the discussion, China realized that the proposed revision to the current ToR-RoP of GEBCO is more than just editorial changes. Some of changes are even vague or ambiguous.

Considering the importance of the responsibilities of GEBCO, China believes that full consultation with Member States is necessary before we could adopt the revised ToR-RoP. Therefore, China would like to suggest and request the IOC secretariat to formally inform the Member States of the proposed revision of GEBCO ToR-RoP together with background information including the reason and necessity of such revision after the Executive Council meeting. Therefore, the Member States would have the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed revision.

Colombia

La delegación de Colombia felicita la presentación del informe rendido por la señora Secretaria Ejecutiva y reitera el apoyo que el gobierno de ese país ha dado a IOCARIBE a través de la Armada Nacional con dos personas que se destinaron específicamente para el trabajo de COI en Cartagena coordinando los programas en la región y el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores que financia el pago del arriendo de las oficinas en las que funciona. Colombia observa con mucha complacencia la iniciativa de México de buscar recursos con los países de la región para hacer posible el pago de una persona de tiempo completo trabajando en Cartagena dirigiendo IOCARIBE y recuerda que esta pendiente que con los presupuestos IOC que esta persona se nombre desde la planta de personal como ha sido solicitado en ocasiones anteriormente porque de esa manera sería sostenible ese esfuerzo.

Germany

Thank you to the Executive-Secretary for an excellent report and the hard work you have accomplished under difficult conditions.

We are all aware of the budgetary constraints of the Organization. That is why Germany has continuously supported the IOC with extra budgetary contributions.

Marine research has for many decades been and continues to be a focus for Germany – an extensive fleet of research vessels and a large number of specialized marine research institutions such as the GEOMAR testify to this focus. Germany has now decided to provide an extra budgetary contribution to the IOC with up to € 300.000, dedicated to the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network GOA-ON as well as to the Tsunami Warning System in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network GOA-ON

GOA-ON is an international approach to document the status and progress of ocean acidification in open-ocean, coastal, and estuarine environments. Through its additional extra budgetary support of up to € 200.000, Germany contributes to reaching the Aichi Target 10, agreed upon at COP 10, which states that by 2015, the anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification, shall be minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

In addition, Germany views its support as contribution to the conservational efforts regarding marine world heritage sites. These sites include many reef ecosystems which are particularly threatened by ocean acidification, with the Great Barrier Reef as probably best known example. Altogether, natural marine heritage sites cover no less than 20% of the total marine protected area surface.

Tsunami Warning System in the eastern Mediterranean

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and connected seas (ICG/NEAMTWS) was formed in response to the tragic tsunami on 26 December 2004, in which over 250,000 lives were lost around the Indian Ocean region. One important element of this system is sea level monitoring through a real-time tide gauge network provided through GLOSS. With an additional extra budgetary contribution of up to € 100.000, Germany aims to extend the south-eastern Mediterranean tide gauge network. In addition to this extra budgetary contribution, Germany participates in all relevant working groups of NEAMTWS.

On-going in-kind contribution to the ARGO programme

Let me stress again, that in the IOC framework continuous observation, data exchange and the related forecasting and warning systems are of the highest priority for Germany and a focus of German extra budgetary contributions.

For example, for the last years, Germany has given additional support to the to the Argo global array by providing floats and contributions to data management and related oceanographic research. Altogether, these activities amount to approximately € 700.000 annually.

German involvement in other IOC programmes

German scientists are involved in various other IOC programmes and activities. Among these are the WMO-IOC Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM), the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE, the Global Sea Level Observing System (GLOSS) and the IOC Sea Level Monitoring Facility.

India

Mr. Chairman, we thank and congratulate the Executive Secretary, Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright, for the detailed report on the work carried out by IOC. We also appreciate the Executive Secretary for making notable progress in various programmes, especially in ocean sciences, ocean observations, tsunami and other ocean hazards, capacity building and also for rightly flagging the future programmes on IIOE-2.

Mr. Chairman, India will continue its support on the programmes like Argo Float Network, Tsunami early warnings, capacity building, ocean observations to monitor the climate change, ocean data management, etc.

As that was mentioned in the report of Executive Secretary, since the signing of Memorandum of Agreement between Government of India and IOC for collaborating in capacity building, the International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography has become operational at INCOIS, Hyderabad.

While building the dedicated infrastructure and facility for ITCOOcean, ITCOOcean has started organizing training courses targeted mainly to the Indian Ocean countries and Africa using the existing facilities at INCOIS. During 2013, ITCOOcean conducted 3 training courses and during the first half of 2014 two training courses. Two of them were attended by the trainees from Indian Ocean Rim and African countries (India, Australia, Kenya, Nigeria and Togo, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros). Two trainees from Belgium and Italy attended such courses.

Mr. Chairman, regarding the World Ocean Assessment, India hosted a workshop during 27-29 January 2014, to facilitate the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects, organized by UN-DOALOS. The workshop was attended by 38 delegates.

Mr. Chairman, finally, we take note of and appreciate the contributions of various member states, specially, the extra budgetary support provided to various programmes of IOC. We thank them for their support and contributions.

Mr. Chairman, Government of India remains committed to the goals and programmes of IOC and continue to support IOC future also.

Japan

Japan really appreciates excellent accomplishments reported by the IOC secretariat under difficult period for IOC.

One of the IOC's vital roles is to promote and to sustain ocean observation, data exchange and management through international cooperation. From this viewpoint, various mechanisms such as GOOS and JCOMM have been playing the important roles. Japan also has contributed to the mechanisms through the NEAR-GOOS and other international programs such as Argo.

To take measures against climate change or natural disaster, Japan believes that ocean observation, data exchange and management must be conducted sustainably. Therefore, IOC and the member states should continue to support the programmes such as GOOS and JCOMM.

With regard to JCOMM, Japan would like to point out that IOC is required to cooperate with WMO much closer in the time of financial difficulties while the IOC has been keeping its leadership.

With regard to the decision which is proposing changes in TOR of General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) Guiding Committee, Japan would like to support the decision as the proposed changes are reasonable and do not make any differences in decision-making and guiding processes at the GEBCO Guiding Committee, and as they have already been discussed at the latest meeting of the Guiding Committee with well participation from the IOC side as well.

Kenya

Kenya appreciates the work done by the IOC secretariat despite the challenging financial situation.

We concur with the Executive Secretary in her statement presented in the IOC Biennial report for 2012-2013, on the need to match the strong support for IOC with actions from Member States. The important activities of the IOC should further be supported by human and financial resources. Kenya is pleased to have seconded an expert to support the IOCAFRICA sub-commission.

The IOCAFRICA sub-commission plays an important role in promoting cooperation amongst Member States as well in capacity development.

In this regard, we look forward to the “African Summer School on Application of Ocean and Coastal Data and modelling products” as a platform for capacity development, exchange of good practices and ideas.

Kenya also welcomes the achievements of WESTPAC and IOCARIBE sub-commissions.

We call for stronger inter-regional cooperation. In this regard, the 1st Sino-African Forum on Marine Science and Technology held in China in November 2013 set a good foundation for stronger collaboration. The support by the Government of Flanders, Belgium, Spain and the Republic of Korea is also appreciated.

We wish to highlight, that the African Union retained 2015 to 2025 as the Decade of African Seas and Oceans. We therefore see the IOC as a key stakeholder that will promote actions towards the achievements of the decade.

Kenya also welcomes IOC's contribution to the post-2015 development agenda and efforts to raise awareness of the importance of conservation and sustainable use of oceans.

Finally, we wish to request the secretariat for more detailed information on the structure and staffing of the IOC Secretariat.

Republic of Korea

It is my pleasure and honor for me to take this opportunity to mention on the current IOC activities and Korea's willingness to support IOC. First of all, I, on behalf of the government of Republic of Korea, would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright for her continued efforts in managing IOC under the recent financial difficulties. IOC is currently facing various pending issues. I, however, would like to highlight and thank IOC Secretariat for its hard works and endeavors in maintaining and executing various IOC programs and activities successfully. I also would like to inform that Korea has continuously contributed to ocean observation and climate change filed with the project of JCOMM and has deeply engaged in oceancarbon and ocean acidification issue.

Re. GEBCO: Republic of Korea supports the opinion of China. Korean delegations would like to point out that the document was uploaded on June 28 so all the member states did not have enough time to review the documents. Also, as this document accompanies the methodology change and organizational change, these changes should not be rushed under the name of 'time constraint' but should be carefully examined. Thus, Korea requests adequate time to review this document for all member states and discuss this at the 28th Session of IOC Assembly again.

Russian Federation

IOC and Russian Federation (Roshydromet) adopted the Memorandum of Understanding to establish a Partnership Centre for the IODE Ocean Data Portal (ODP) hosting at RIHMI-WDC/NODC of Russia in Obninsk. The Partnership Centre for the IODE Ocean Data Portal will develop, host and maintain the tools and specifications for the portal and IODE distributed marine data system operation for data and services use under IOC programmes. At 2013 September a Partnership Centre was officially opened. Roshydromet provides the financial support for the Partnership Centre operation as in-kind impact into IOC activity. Member States are invited to contribute to the IODE Ocean Data Portal and to support the IODE data network based on ODP technology.

United Kingdom

The UK thanks the Executive Secretary for her very detailed and informative report. In view of the great progress made in the methods, procedures and technology now available to map the sea floor the UK supports the revision of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the joint IHO-IOC GEBCO guiding committee.

Regarding the important progress being made on establishing conservation measures for marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, such as marine protected areas, the UK requests that IOC emphasizes to the rest of the UN-Oceans community the importance of maintaining freedom of access within the High Seas and The Area for Marine Scientific Research. Any loss of this freedom to carry out MSR could impact on existing research, and upon future IOC-supported programmes such as the Proposed Second International Indian Ocean Expedition.

Finally picking up on the comments made by the delegation of China and others, we agree that IOC needs to enhance the promotion of it's activities to the wider global marine community, and we regret that due to constrained resources, IOC appears to have withdrawn from being an active user of social media such as Twitter, which play such an important part in raising the visibility of IOC's role in ocean science and stewardship. The UK encourages fellow members to join us to explore with the secretariat ways of reinstating and enhancing social media activity as a contribution to the future of the IOC.

United States of America

The U.S. delegation compliments the Executive Secretary on her report and her most excellent work during a particularly challenging time. We recognize that the IOC continues to face challenging budgetary circumstances and the Executive Secretariat has worked hard to meet these challenges.

The United States is encouraged by the activities of many Member States in their contributions to the programs and activities of the IOC. We recognize the success of IOC being dependent upon

the funds of the regular budget, through extra-budgetary contributions, and through supra-budgetary contributions in which Member States undertake the performance of science missions defined and determined by the IOC as appropriate. We believe that the work of the Inter-sessional Working Group on the Future of the IOC may have solution strategies worth pursuing. As the IOC is a unique and vital forum, the United States remains committed to the success of this body. The objectives of IOC and our own National Ocean Policy are remarkably harmonious.

The United States will continue with our substantial investments in the major program areas of Ocean Research, Ocean Observations, Early Warnings, Assessments, and others. The United States will also continue its support for the engagement of U.S. scientists and technical experts in the multiple IOC sessional and inter-sessional committees, working groups, and regional subsidiary bodies. The United States will remain very engaged in supporting those science objectives and mission programs that have been generated by IOC deliberations and conclusions.

Further to the comments of previous interventions, we look forward to an understanding of the impacts on program reflected by a changing ratio of staff funding to program expenses.

World Meteorological Organization

It's my pleasure to be invited to attend the EC-47 session of the IOC. On behalf of WMO Secretary-General, Mr Michel Jarraud, and Weather and Disaster Risk Reduction Service Department of WMO, I shall congratulate the IOC on its progress and achievements to meet the challenge and opportunity since last session which reported by Dr. Wendy Watson-Wright in the session.

I shall also take this opportunity, on behalf of the WMO and my own, to express my appreciation to IOC of the cooperation between the two organizations.

You may recall, the partnership between WMO and IOC started back in 1950's. The sustained partnership has been ever consolidated over the decades, especially through the establishment of JCOMM. The efforts and activities in marine meteorology and oceanography, supported by both organizations, have become integrated and synergized. Consequently, seamless actions in Metocean services and climate change adaptation, taken by both organizations, have been well recognized by WMO EC-66, which was held in Geneva 18 to 27 June 2014. The service delivery with specific focus on Marine Meteorology and Oceanography will become one of Priority Area in 5 priorities of the WMO Strategic Plan and Operating Plan (2016-2019) which will be approved by the World Meteorological Congress 17, in June, 2015.

Strong and coordinated cooperation between two organizations has become an important engine to the field. High level discussions were conducted between WMO Secretary General and IOC Executive Secretary on 15th January 2014. Both JCOMM co-presidents actively participated in WMO EC-66 and its ocean side event.

The WMO and IOC made efforts to provide coordinated interventions in UN-Oceans. Both organizations proactively participated in climate change adaptation activities, such as COP-19, WCRP including ocean acidification, GCOS and GFCS etc.

JCOMM contributes to enhance marine meteorological service capabilities by expert groups and teams to implement the JCOMM inter-sessional workplan (2012–2017), in particular through JCOMM Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS).

In this regard, I shall draw your attention, the 2nd Maritime Safety Services Enhancement Workshop, to be held 18 to 22 August 2014 in Wellington, New Zealand, is to strengthen responsible Services for METAREA Coordination.

WMO EC-66 also noted that JCOMM contributes to support for Transfer of Science to Operation, such as, 1) Ocean component of operational coupled sub-seasonal to seasonal predictions, taking into account applications of ocean observations and standardization of ocean data in ocean analyses and seasonal forecast systems; 2) Integration of sea ice component in the Global Integrated Polar Prediction System; 3) Intake of scientific and technical development into the operational coastal forecasting and warnings, through the Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Project (CIFDP).

I am aware in this session, the IOC will contribute to the International Polar Partnership Initiative in research and observations. The WMO appreciates the engagement of the IOC. Also, I am aware that the IOC is going to take the lead in the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition. The WMO congratulates and supports on this initiative to further study and understand the Indian Ocean.

I would like to assure you, that WMO will continue to strengthen and extend coordination with the IOC in climate change and UNFCCC/COP21, UN-Oceans, SDGs, SIDS, and DRR with specific focus on MHEWS, in particular, through JCOMM to promote R&D, observations and data management, as well as forecasting and warning services in marine meteorology and oceanography.

3.2.1 Early Warning Systems and Preparedness for Tsunamis

Australia

ICG/PTWS: Thank you Mr Chairman, and our thanks also to Captain Silva for his excellent report. Australia welcomes the planned implementation of the PTWC Enhanced Products, as this marks a significant milestone for the PTWS in the introduction of forecast based tsunami threat information for countries in the Pacific region and the continuing highly recognised support provided by the PTWC operated by the USA. However, we offer the following caveat regarding the proposed wording in the text under this item. We believe that this wording needs to include the caveat as agreed at ICG/PTWS XXV in Russia, Sep 2013 "... these products will come into full operation as of 1st October 2014, pending final review and approval by ICG/PTWS Steering Committee at its meeting in July, 2014". Thank you.

TOWS: Thank you Mr Chairman, and our thanks also to Mr Michida for his excellent presentation on the activities of the TOWS working group. Mr Chairman, Australia remembers and wishes to express its condolences to Member States severely affected by the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004 and other devastating tsunamis affecting other communities around the world since then.

Australia acknowledges the longstanding work of the ICG/PTWS over the last 50 years, and the achievements of the other three ICGs established in 2005 in developing tsunami warning capabilities in the other vulnerable ocean areas.

Whilst recognising and promoting these successful global efforts through the IOC in developing tsunami warning capabilities in the Indian Ocean and across other vulnerable regions of the world since 2004, we believe that there is much more work to be done and this must be communicated accordingly to ensure these efforts continue to be supported.

Australia welcomes the continued efforts of the TOWS Working Group and its Task Teams in developing global guidelines and harmonisation of tsunami warning services across the four ICG's and their respective Areas of Service and recommends the continuation of this important Working Group. Australia also supports and endorses the Decisions and Recommendations of the TOWS Working Group.

Finally Mr Chairman, Australia is pleased to continue its financial support for the ICG/IOTWS Secretariat Office in Perth, support which it has provided since 2005.

Canada

Canada supports the reports and progress of the four Regional Intergovernmental Coordinating Groups. However, in the current fiscal situation some of the objectives may be out of reach.

Also, the requests need to take into account the specific situations of member states. For example, Canada's Emergency Management system is not nationally driven and the relevant agencies take a multi-hazard approach to early warning systems. Hence Canada is unlikely to meet the exact definitions for a National Tsunami Warning Centre nor a Tsunami Warning Focal Point.

Canada also encourages TOWS to collaborate with JCOMM to develop a synergy with the Wave and Storm Surge community as a way to integrate improved science to advance their objectives.

Canada has an interest in the Intergovernmental Group for the Pacific where there has been introduction of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PTWC). Enhanced products for tsunami threat assessment based on tsunami forecast models and pre-defined coastal zones are used.

Natural Resources Canada has released a preliminary tsunami hazard assessment of the Canadian Coastline by L.J. Leonard et al which shows that the Pacific Coast has the greatest risk of tsunamis.

Most recently, a threat from an underwater earthquake in the Aleutians was assessed on June 23, 2014.

At the 27th session of the Assembly, Canada offered Ocean Networks Canada data for use by the Pacific Tsunami Group. We hope that these data are used to improve our understanding of the propagation of tsunami waves.

Canada supports continued efforts to improve the science behind tsunami prediction and warning on the Pacific Coast.

China

China delegation would like to express great appreciation to the progress and achievements made by the ICG-PTWS in the past year, in particular the progress on introducing new enhanced tsunami warning products and promoting the establishment of sub-regional tsunami warning and mitigation system in the SCS region.

For the sub-regional tsunami warning and mitigation system in the SCS region, we are glad to see that all the SCS Member States have made contribution to the system. Progress has been made since the ICG/PTWS 25th session in Vladivostok last September. The 1st Task Team Meeting on the establishment of the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Centre (SCSTAC), as well as the 3rd SCS Regional Working Group Meeting, was hosted by Hong Kong China in April. The main purpose of the meetings were to identify the operational requirements and available observational resources, to discuss the types of the operational products and performance indicators for the SCSTAC, as well as to confirm the future work plan of the Task Team.

To assist the SCS Member States in comprehending the PTWC new enhanced products correctly, a regional training course on “Strengthening Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Tsunami Warning and the PTWC New Enhanced Tsunami Products” was successfully held in December 2013 in Beijing. More than 30 trainees from 6 countries including Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Mexico, Thailand, and China, took part in this training course.

China is dedicated to deploy and maintain the SCS tsunami monitoring facilities in service. However over the past three years the SCS tsunami buoys were subject to severe vandalism with unknown reason, China has re-deployed the SCS tsunami buoys for four times with expenditure of more than one million US dollar overall. China will continue to be actively involved in the operation of the SCS tsunami buoys so as to keep the real-time monitoring of tsunami sources in Manila Trench. We also appeal to all sides within the region to make efforts on resisting potential risks by maintaining the tsunami observational facilities together.

Finally, we would like to request the IOC and ICG/PTWS continue their support to the establishment of a SCS tsunami warning and mitigation system. We also encourage the SCS Member States to further contribute observational resources for enhancing regional warning capacity.

Japan

Japan congratulates the planned transition to the PTWC new enhanced products this October and appreciates the efforts by PTWC to develop and implement the new enhanced products for years, as well as the efforts by PTWC, ITIC and IOC Secretariat in holding workshops to familiarize recipient countries with the new products. It is our great pleasure that Japan has been able to join the efforts by sending lecturers from the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) to some of the workshops as well as participating to the related working groups and task teams under the framework of the ICG/PTWS. The Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Center (NWPTAC) is also preparing for enhancing its products based on the requirements of the recipient countries.

Currently, under the auspices of ICG/PTWS, NWPTAC's Area of Responsibility embraces the South China Sea on an interim basis. Japan commends the efforts by countries concerned for the establishment of the Sub-Regional Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System for the South China Sea Region and hopes that the new System will facilitate the disaster mitigation in the countries around the South China Sea.

Japan appreciates the activities of the TOWS Working Group (TOWS-WG) which was established with a view to the coordination among the four ICGs on the globe, and has been made much contribution to the ICG activities through the recent compilation of the Existing Services, for instance. I am pleased to inform that, to facilitate the WG activities, the JMA will host the joint meeting of the two task teams under the WG: Inter-ICG Task Team on Disaster Management and Preparedness and Inter-ICG Task Team on Tsunami Watch Operations, to be held in Japan this October. Japan hopes the success of the meetings.

Portugal

Portugal expressed appreciation for the progress of NEAMTWS and confirmed that Portugal will start to provide tsunami watch service to NEAMTWS Member States by the end of 2014. Portugal also expressed the need for more stable resources allocated to the NEAMTWS Secretariat.

Republic of Korea

Republic of Korea would like to inform member and member states that the KMA (Korea Meteorological Administration) is carrying out the research to countermeasure large-scale Tsunami prediction from the Pacific Ocean.

In this regard, the KMA is developing the real-time prediction system of Tsunami when earthquakes occur in the Pacific ocean, which uses the high resolution unstructure grid model such as FVCOM (Finite Volume Coastal Ocean Model) and will be completed in the near future.

So, the Republic of Korea would like to suggest that each country shares the experiences and data regarding the establishment and operation of the Tsunami warning system to effectively response to Tsunami.

United Kingdom

The UK is playing an active role in the development of tsunami warning systems, including having our former Head of Delegation Trevor Guymer serving as Vice-Chair of the North East Atlantic and Mediterranean Tsunami Warning System committee. The UK is pleased to announce that during today's session we have received confirmation from the Governor of Montserrat that a Tsunami National Contact has been named, and action has begun on the establishment of a Tsunami Warning Focal Point. The UK looks forward to working with the IOC/ARIBE community and other stakeholders to ensure that the six UK Overseas Territories in that region all achieve tsunami-ready status in due course.

World Meteorological Organization

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has been working closely with IOC since the establishment of the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System. I would like to take this opportunity to express appreciation for the work of IOC and its Member States continuing successful implementation at the global and regional levels.

WMO continues its effort to realize operational multi-hazard forecasting and early warning to the widest extent as possible, and furthermore, toward the implementation of fully operational risk-informed forecasting and impact-based warning systems. For tsunami early warning systems, We channel our coordinating effort to the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) as a coordinated input to the disaster risk reduction priority area of both WMO and IOC, to the IOC Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation System (IOC/TOWS-WG). WMO's Global Telecommunication System (GTS) provides the means for communication of tsunami alert messages within the framework of the WMO Information System (WIS).

I wish to draw your attention to the Tsunami Communication Test Exercises (CTEs) that has been running across all the regions, using various means for communication and warning dissemination while the Short Messaging Service (SMS) through mobile phones provides fast and easy access to alerts by wide range of public, it provides no guarantee or notification of receipt. Meanwhile, e-mails has performed very well and proved more effective than SMS although the internet-based services are not guaranteed for some regions during/after the event.

It is worth noting that the WIS, and in particular the GTS, is monitored and tested; and distribution faults are being resolved. Through the robust monitoring process and effort for continuous improvement, the GTS is proven to be the truly reliable system for guaranteed delivery between Member States in the long run. The WMO and IOC shall continue working on improved monitoring practices which incorporate the special needs of tsunami services, and in particular, to ensure to get the information from the GTS end point in any country to the relevant recipients. In doing so, I would like to gently remind of the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) that is widely used for warning services for extreme meteorological and hydrological events like Tropical Cyclones, and for which I encourage all Member States to consider for the operation of automatic warning systems.

3.2.2 Renewal of the JCOMMOPS Hosting Agreement

Australia

Thank you Mr Chairman, and my particular thanks also to Dr Pinardi, JCOMM co-president, for her excellent presentation of this item. At the outset, I must express a personal interest in JCOMMOPS, since in another life I contributed to the process to establish, in 1987, a Technical Coordinator position for the Data Buoy Cooperation Panel within CLS/Service Argos in Toulouse. I well remember the difficulties we had at the time in convincing Member States participating in the DBCP to provide the voluntary funding needed for this position. Fortunately, we were successful in this, and the facility has subsequently prospered and grown over the past 25 years and more, thanks very much to the great work undertaken by successive staff members, from the original DBCP technical coordinator, Mr, now Professor, David Meldrum, to the current head of the facility, Mr Mathieu Belbeoc. I would also like to record here my appreciation for the tremendous support and contributions made to JCOMMOPS over these years by its former host Organization, CLS/Service Argos.

Mr Chairman, such has been the success of JCOMMOPS, as a substantial contribution of JCOMM itself to in situ surface and sub-surface observing platform networks of global GOOS, that it would be difficult to imagine these networks continuing to prosper to the same extent without its support. JCOMMOPS has always benefitted from the close and mutually supportive cooperation of both IOC and WMO, and Australia is very pleased to note the continuation and strengthening of this cooperation in the current difficult financial situation. Australia is also pleased to have been a contributor of funding support to JCOMMOPS and its components from the very beginning, and will continue this contribution for the foreseeable future.

Australia supports the proposed decision, but suggests the inclusion of one additional paragraph, to express the appreciation of the Executive Council for the considerable contribution of CLS/Service Argos in hosting and supporting JCOMMOPS over so many years. We have prepared some text to this effect that I'll pass to the Secretariat.

Canada

In Canada, a similar initiative to the global JCOMMSOPS through a Canadian national initiative called the "Canadian Operation Network Coupled Environment Prediction Systems (CONCEPTS)" Agreement between Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Environment Canada (EC) and in partnership with the Canadian Department of National Defence (DND); we have been developing collaborative knowledge, understanding, oceanographic observations, tools, applications and running an ice-ocean prediction model which benefits several clients including the Canadian Coast Guard. Operational in-situ ocean data feed service is essential to permit operation of a model for ocean, ocean- ice, and ocean-ice-atmospheric forecast systems supporting operations and emergency response at sea that supports/complement JCOMMOPS objectives.

Canada thanks French agencies for their increased commitments to supporting JCOMMOPS. Such increased sustainability is helpful in solidifying global standardization of ocean data and products which will support all IOC Members States.

World Meteorological Organization

One of the keys to successful implementation of the global metocean observing platforms, and associate data management for service provision, is to enhance data sharing and data-flow including those in real time, and application of commonly agreed quality control procedure. In this context, the JCOMMOPS has proven its usefulness for all Member countries conducting the metocean observations and services. The benefit from JCOMMOPS implementation also coincides with the WMO Expected Results on improved services, support by the WMO Information System (WIS).

In this context, WMO provides both programmatic and institutional framework and guidance jointly with IOC to ensure long term sustainability of the JCOMMOPS function - including the employment of technical coordinators under JCOMMOPS.

Appreciating continuous efforts of Member countries, particularly the government of France to contribute to the institutional arrangement for JCOMMOPS, WMO reaffirms its continuing support, and expresses its readiness to further deliberate on sustainable and transparent arrangement for JCOMMOPS in the spirit of joint sponsorship.

4. The Future of the IOC

Brazil

Brazil congratulates to Dr. Peter Haugan, Capt. Javier Valladares and all the participants of the Working Group for the excellent work done so far. Anyway, we recognize that still much work is to be done. This is the reason Brazil supports the continuation of the work by reconvening this intersessional Working Group, manifests its intention to participate on it and will nominate a representative as soon as requested for.

China

China would like to thank Mr. Peter Haugan for leading the working group on the Future of IOC in the past years, and express our appreciation to all member states as well as IOC officers who have provided valuable contributions to promoting the development of IOC.

However, we would also like to express our concerns regarding the current condition of IOC, who is now facing even more severe challenges in delivering its mandates. And the importance of IOC has not been improved within the system of UNESCO.

Many people say that the twenty-first century is the century of ocean. And if you look out at the world, you can find that the ocean issue is attracting more and more attention globally and regionally. Therefore, it is quite unreasonable that IOC, as the competent international organization for ocean science with 147 member states, is suffering such difficulties and problems.

We all know that the majority of IOC programs and activities are covered by extra-budget donations, which demonstrates the valuable supports of the member states to IOC. But we also know that without sustainable financial and institutional arrangement, an organization could not enjoy a healthy development. Thus, we believe it is time for us to start considering and discussing some solid actions to improve the condition of IOC, through the platform of the working group on Future of IOC. We know it's not easy to make progress in this regard, but at least it is an opportunity to express our willingness that we would like to promote the vitality of IOC.

Kenya

Kenya underscores the importance of active participation of youth in the work of the IOC. The future of IOC cannot be dissociated from youth participation. The youth are important stakeholders for sustainable development. Kenya therefore welcomes efforts to increase youth participation at all levels, that is, local, national, regional and international levels.

Republic of Korea

The future of IOC has been discussed as very significant agenda since 2008. The last 27th IOC Assembly made three suggestions: 1) Rationalizing cooperation and communication among IOC and the other organizations; 2) sharpening and clarifying IOC's identity; and 3) enhancing flexibility and adaptability of IOC's governance. Considering recent UNESCO's financial difficulties and restructuring, this agenda has become more important to IOC. However, a number of experts have expressed their opinions that the future of IOC might not hold a bright prospect through several forums under the theme of the future of IOC. As indicated in the draft decision, the Republic of Korea wish to underline again that this agenda has to be discussed as one of main agendas continuously in order to collect and reflect member states' opinions and also to develop more specific strategy and concrete solutions towards the more hopeful future of IOC. Finally, we wish to share this information with MS that the future of IOC forum for IOC regional group V (Africa) will be held in Africa this year with the support of the Republic of Korea.

South Africa

Having listened to the report of the ES and participating in the Working Group on the Future of IOC, the delegation of South Africa wishes to thank the secretariat and officers involved in the process as well as the ES having to navigate some difficult waters. We appreciate the work done by the chair and member states of the working group, certainly a hard task under the circumstances. We fully support the continuation of the WG.

However Mr Chair, following the debate around the report of the ES and the WG on the Future of IOC, the delegation of South Africa have a few concerns that make reconciling the future of IOC, which also looks at the priorities of the commission, and the structure, functions and institutional arrangements of the Secretariat, problematic.

Firstly, Surely the Executive Council as a governing body must be given all the relevant information, including the restructured secretariat information document, in order to play its guiding role prior to the Assembly in 2015. So priority setting should be reflected by the structure or restructured secretariat and associated functions and as a delegation of the Executive Council we are unable to make that connection, especially in light of the impacts on the work of the commission. By no means do we want to dictate to the ES how to run the secretariat, but we feel somewhat uncomfortable as a member of the Executive Council. For example, was the restructuring process used to reinforce the regions itself, as opposed to the head quarters because it does not appear to be the case. All SubCommissions have a regular staff member funded by the commission and yet IOCARIBE is still without such. The regions and its strengthening was always at the core of our modus operandii.

Secondly, as so eloquently stated and as a reminded to us by the distinguished delegate of Portugal - we are in a state of transition, but not only the world, but this commission. We are in the process of recruiting a new ES and yet we are considering a restructured secretariat that could possibly impact on the effectiveness of the new appointee. This delegation did not support a previous decision when the current DG post was being filled because based on the principle that it is not advisable to make significant change to the secretariat and its functions when appointing a critical post like the Executive Secretary.

We do not understand how the future of IOC including improved visibility, priorities, strategic planning, budgeting processes and then institutional arrangements and mechanisms speak to each other.

Therefore we feel these structural changes should be considered as a proposal or transitional measures and should be finalised in consultation with the new appointee and presented to the Assembly next year in order for the Member States to be assured that the priorities will be addressed in a suitably structured and responding secretariat as SA does not see the future and the secretariat response as mutually exclusive.

Thailand

Statement: On behalf of the Thai Delegation as well as in my personal capacity as the current Chair of WESTPAC, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Dr. Peter Haugan for his

able leadership and to all members of the Inter-sessional working group and sessional working group for their hard work contributed to the future of IOC.

While noting the future of IOC involves in various complicated aspects, ranging from its setting with UNESCO, its governance structure, and program development and implementation, etc., Thailand and WESTPAC consider the progressive approach as one pragmatic way to address the challenges of the future of IOC. In this regard, we would suggest the IWG to continue its efforts in further defining all key challenges and possible actions, setting goals of accomplishing these challenges either in short term, medium term and long term, and clearly indicating on who shall do what.

Considering the concerns over the visibility of IOC at global, regional, and national level, as many members expressed, Thailand and WESTPAC believe that IOC Regional Subsidiary Bodies could serve as one of the most effective and efficient vehicle. Thailand and the WESTPAC have been working very hard to make IOC visible to marine science community and countries in the region as we can see from the participation and contribution of member countries to the project and program of WESTPAC, especially on the recent WESTPAC 9th International Scientific Symposium in Nha Trang, Vietnam, April 2014, in which there were almost 600 participants and 500 presentations. We believe IOC subsidiary body could play an important role for the future of the IOC as it has been demonstrated by WESTPAC.

Among its other tremendous efforts, WESTPAC has strengthened and enhanced cooperation among member countries, and other IOC Regional Subsidiary Bodies, particularly those developing and less developed countries. We recently established the Indo-Pacific Ocean Observations and Services Network (IPON), during the WESTPAC 9th International Scientific Symposium, with 18 directors of Marine Science Institutes in Indo-Pacific region expressing their willingness, through one joint statement of research directors, to support and work together under the Indo-Pacific Ocean Observations and services Network (IPON).

On this occasion, WESTPAC is pleased to welcome Vanuatu and Palau as new members of IOC. WESTPAC is also gratified to inform the Executive Council that Sri Lanka recently submitted an official note to IOC in May 2014, expressing its willingness to join WESTPAC, and its membership in WESTPAC has taken into effect immediately.

In conclusion, Thailand, and WESTPAC will continue our efforts to work closely with countries in the region, and all IOC subsidiary bodies to serve the Future of the IOC.

United Kingdom

The UK delegation is grateful for the hard work by Professor Peter Haugan in preparing this document, which has taken on board many of the concerns raised by member states. We very much agree with the comments already made by the US & Chinese delegations. Perhaps it would be helpful to emphasise that IOC is a 'hidden gem' within the UNESCO family, a real asset able to provide science that assists UNESCO is meeting their own challenges. IOC receives only a tiny portion of UNESCO funding but we hit well above our weight. As member states we must all be aware that our role lasts all year, not just during these meetings in Paris, and my delegation will be engaging further with our country's UNESCO national commission & UN GA delegation to ensure that the people in those groups are much better informed about the role of IOC. This will help raise our visibility, especially as regards UN-Ocean activity in New York.

Perhaps to facilitate raising our profile it would be helpful if all delegations, particularly those of executive council states, received some basic level of induction training, to ensure that we are well informed and able to collectively raise our game, helping IOC be revitalised within the UN and the wider marine science community.

Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)

The IMarEST supports a number of the points raised under this item and in particular those which pertain to improvements in the engagement with other UN agencies, Intergovernmental organisations and those which mention the importance of engaging youth and, in particular, young scientists. We would encourage member states and the IOC secretariat to seek to improve their interaction with national, regional and global Non-Governmental organisations in order to achieve

these objectives. The IMarEST, provide just one example, of how NGOS are well connected in respect to IGO involvement- in our case we provide expert input to the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea through being an NGO in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), we provide expert input to the discussions held on ocean Fertilisation and marine geoengineering at consultative meetings of the London convention and have members on GESAMP working groups. More formally we have special consultative status at the IMO and observer status at the IPCC as well of course our observer status here at IOC. In addition we have an application for observer status under consideration by the IHO. The point being, of course, is that this provides us with an opportunity (shared with a number of other NGOs) to promote any relevant work being undertaken by the IOC and the significant importance of ocean science at a wide variety of Inter-governmental fora and, more importantly, we are hugely supportive of doing so.

In addition, most NGOs, in particular learned societies and professional bodies, have invested significant time and resources into engaging young people and in particular young professionals through dedicated activities. Again we are more than happy to collaborate in this area.

6.1 Development of an IOC Capacity Development Strategic Plan

Australia

Australia congratulates the Intersessional Working Group and the IOC Secretariat for producing an improved Draft Strategy. Australia was pleased to participate in this work. We thank all Member States for the collegial and constructive discussions that have occurred through the intersessional working group meetings/communications, and must apologise that we were unable to participate in the sessional group, due to parallel commitments to other sessional groups.

The Draft Strategic Plan's vision and mission provide a clear direction for the IOC to follow in Capacity Development programs and activities. Australia is supportive of the IOC's proposed emphasis upon promoting 'partnerships' for Capacity Building activities, however remains cautious of the IOC's ability to effectively implement some of the proposed actions under the 4 pillars of the draft CD Strategy given the current budgetary situation. In this context, Australia encourages the IOC to develop and clearly prioritise CD actions that can adapt to fluctuating budgetary resources, as well clearly articulating appropriate milestones and benchmarks for the measurement of success and progress.

Australia encourages the Secretariat to take full advantage of and consult closely with the IOC's regional subsidiary bodies and decentralised offices in the development of the CD actions, and assign actions to these entities as appropriate to maintain a local IOC presence in CD.

Mr Chairman, Australia in principle supports the draft decision as outlined just now, and to be further addressed tomorrow. We welcome continued engagement and participation in this process through membership on the Intersessional Working Group.

Brazil

Brazil agrees with Republic of Korea and the United States of America in the feeling that Capacity Development is a basic function of IOC. IOC, along his lifetime has played a key role in this subject. It is for this reason that our delegation congratulates to Prof. Adoté Blim Blivi, Dr. Mitrasen Bhikajee, Dr. Peter Pissierssens and all the participants of the Working Group for the excellent work done so far. Despite this hard effort, it was a consensus, at the first meeting of the Intrasectional Working Group dealing with Capacity Development, today, in lunch time, that the document can be improved. Then much work is still left to be done. Brazil supports the continuation of this important, work by reconvening this intersessional Working Group, and states its intention to participate on it.

India

We appreciate the capacity development plan drafted by the intersessional working group under the chairmanship of Prof. Blivi and the proposal to continue the work of intersessional working group to finalise the document on capacity development.

Though the draft document captures and records most of the avenues to promote the capacity development, our delegation is of the view that the plan should also stress on taking advantage of the existing training or capacity development centers in the member states and plan to leverage them to the advantage of IOC's overall plan for capacity development.

Mr. Chairman, India will continue to promote the capacity development and will share the available expertise and facilities to promote the goals of IOC through the International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography at INCOIS, Hyderabad.

Iran, Islamic Republic of

Islamic Republic of Iran appreciates the efforts made by the Chairman and other members of Capacity Development Strategy Group and the excellent report presented by the Chairman and the Secretary. Due to this fact that the establishment of the Regional Education and Research Center on Oceanography for West Asia was finalized in the last general assembly of UNESCO, Iran is interested to join this group and develops activities and programs in this regard.

Japan

Je remercie le secrétariat de la COI pour la préparation du futur plan de développement des capacités des sciences de la mer.

J'ai participé, en tant que chargé, à la réunion du groupe de travail intersession pour l'élaboration du plan stratégique de la COI pour le développement des capacités, le 10 et le 11 décembre 2013.

Mais, le document IOC-ECXLVII/2 Annexe 7 ne prenait pas suffisamment en compte nos discussions effectuées au mois de décembre dernier. Nous avons tenu une réunion dans l'après-midi du 2 juillet 2014 sur l'aspect stratégique du développement des capacités des sciences de la mer et nous sommes tombés d'accord sur le fait de ne pas adopter le document de l'Annexe 7 comme projet de stratégie de développement des capacités pour 2014-2021.

La délégation japonaise est très satisfaite de cette décision et de la discussion riche et constructive de cette réunion. Je remercie le président de la réunion, le Professeur Adoté Blim Blivi ainsi que tous les participants à cette réunion. Je souhaite que la prochaine réunion sur le plan stratégique soit tout aussi productive, afin que soit finalisé le futur plan stratégique du développement des capacités de la COI. Le Japon s'engage à continuer de contribuer au développement des capacités des sciences de la mer au sein du WESTPAC et de la COI, sur le futur plan stratégique des capacités.

Republic of Korea

Republic of Korea expresses appreciation to the Capacity Development Strategy Working Group for its hard work and achievement. As distinguished delegation of Kenya mentioned ahead, we consider capacity building is one of the core functions of IOC. Republic of Korea supports capacity building development strategy for 2014-2021.

Two years ago, Republic of Korea promised Yeosu Project in Yeosu Expo 2012. The main theme of Yeosu Project is capacity building related to ocean, especially of the countries facing critical issues such as sea level rising, ocean pollution, and food shortage. We want to share an information that Yeosu International Forum will held in this October in Yeosu, inviting distinguished ocean experts and political leaders to develop the concept and mechanism, which will be implemented in Yeosu Project. Republic of Korea will continue to supporting capacity building activities of IOC in various ways.

South Africa

The South African delegation, together with other delegations, would like to thank Prof Blivi and the secretariat for a good report on the Capacity Development Strategy. We too recognize the importance and priority this commission places on the subject. The delegation is also pleased that regional considerations are taken into account although that should also be at the forefront of implementation of the strategy because many capacity development efforts are already taking

place at the regional and national levels. We should also consider a strategy that is focused on some specific areas and priorities.

But this delegation, again together with Portugal would like to know how the restructured secretariat will implement this, as SA as a member state has heard that there is a new secretariat structure but we are unaware whether these priorities are adequately addressed by the institutional arrangements especially since there is no central coordination post for this activity.

Thailand

Thailand would like to express our appreciation to the Inter-sessional Working Group for the development of an action plan for the implementation of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy of their efforts during the past year. We also look forward to working with the Inter-sessional Working Group (IWG) in every other way through the WESTPAC Sub-commission. We look forward to seeing the synergy work and close cooperation among the IOC and its Subsidiary bodies.

6.2 Report of the Chair of the Open-Ended Intersessional Working Group on an IOC Global Ocean Science Report

Australia

Australia congratulates the Secretariat for producing an improved Global Ocean Science Report proposal based upon the input of the open-ended Intersessional Working Group, which Australia was pleased to participate in. We thank all Member States for the collegial and constructive discussions that have occurred through the intersessional working group meetings and communications.

Australia is generally supportive of the draft decision to approve the proposal for the GOSR. However, it remains cautious of its ability to sufficiently provide a global overview of the level of human capacity, technology, investments and needs of Member States in ocean and coastal science, observations and services, given the scale of this task, its dependencies on the differing individual inputs of Member States as well as the significant extra-budgetary and Member State resources required to complete it every 4-5 years.

In this context, we remain particularly concerned at the effort and resources which will be required of Member States to complete the proposed questionnaire in the detail suggested. In a country like Australia, with its very diverse governance structure and marine and ocean communities, this will be a particularly difficult task. One way of approaching this might be through the re-invigoration of national committees for the IOC, in itself not a simple process.

Mr Chairman, Australia will contribute to the GOSR process within the context of its current contributions to the IOC and invites the Secretariat to consult with Member States in the development of the first GOSR work plan, particularly in the context of prioritising the proposal's scope to align with extra-budgetary funds secured for this task if they do not match the budget requirements outlined in the draft decision.

Canada

Canada continues to be supportive of the proposal to develop this important foundational piece for the future of global ocean sciences and management. It is critical to have a baseline and to better understand the global capacity in ocean science before it can be harnessed more effectively to address the major challenges we face in the ocean. We also compliment the work of the intersessional working group and Canada is happy that we could contribute to its deliberations.

As noted in the proposal, Canada has completed its own attempt to inventory oceans science capacity in Canada that was published last year by the Council of Canadian Academies. This was a very important and useful undertaking and will provide a foundation for the future evolution of ocean sciences in Canada. However, one finding from that report was that the state of human capacity in ocean science cannot be determined because of data limitations, mainly due to the distributed nature of ocean expertise in government and academic organizations. As is proposed here, the Canadian effort relied largely on publically available data sources and bibliometric research. However, in an attempt to fill gaps, the Canadian panel sent out a survey comparable to

the one being proposed here. The effective response rate was 25%. It is hoped that our Canadian experience with the limitations of using a survey as a data gathering tool will be taken into account in moving forward with this initiative, particularly in setting expectations and developing the methodology further.

In that vein, Canada did not see in the proposal reference to the experience in other branches of UNESCO in conducting similar exercises, for ex. the UNESCO World Water Report, the World Social Science Report and the World Science Report. If not done already, consultation within the UNESCO family would probably be beneficial in shaping this exercise and possibly leveraging capacity and expertise. Also, since this exercise is roughly aligned with the World Ocean Assessment, possible efficiencies in delivering both efforts should be explored.

Canada understands that the GOSR would be funded through extra-budgetary funds and we therefore support the call in the proposal for member states to contribute to this important project.

Iran, Islamic Republic of

Islamic Republic of Iran acknowledges the importance of the IOC Global Ocean Science Report and appreciates the Chair and other members IWG who have provided the report, as well as the Secretariat.

Iran was a member of this group and recommends that the results and outcomes of this survey be used in the future programs of IOC.

Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of

Nuestra Delegación desea expresar su agradecimiento al Prof. Palazov y al Prof. Valdez por el encomiable trabajo realizado y la presentación de este tema tan sensible para la COI.

Visto de esta forma, y según lo expresado en el informe, este viene a sintetizar lo que se siente a lo interior de nuestros países, como lo es, conocer las potencialidades e identificar las deficiencias para avanzar de forma ordenada y precisa hacia el futuro.

Recientemente, a lo interno de mi país Venezuela se suscitó una duda y es que cuando hablamos de las ciencias oceánicas, al llevarlas a su forma más amplia tratamos con las cuatro disciplinas (oceanografía física, química, biología marina y geología marina) y así no queda nada por fuera, pero al señalar ramas de esas disciplinas siempre queda alguna rama o muchas ramas quedan por fuera.

Por otra parte, en el párrafo 13 del informe:

¿Sólo serán consideradas las publicaciones científicas generadas en inglés?

¿No se considerarán las investigaciones generadas por ONG's?

6.3 IOC Proposal for the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition (50th Anniversary Initiative)

India

India firmly supports the proposal of IOC on 2nd International Indian Ocean Expedition and the plans to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of IIOE in 2015. Mr. Chairman, as you are aware that, the IIOE laid the foundation for modern multidisciplinary oceanographic research in India and culminated in the establishment of National Institute of Oceanography in Goa. Hence, India has an emotional attachment to IIOE in addition to the scientific progress on the Indian Ocean oceanography.

Considering the importance of commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of IIOE and the proposal for conducting another multi-national, multi-disciplinary expedition in the Indian Ocean under the banner of IIOE-2, India has already appointed a high level National Organizing Committee (NOC) under the Chairmanship, Secretary, MoES. That committee will guide and coordinate the contributions of India to IIOE-2 and towards the activities to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of IIOE.

Mr. Chairman, India will continue the support to the proposal of IOC to launch IIOE-2 during 2015-2020 and will contribute to the science plan and implementation plan based on the current knowledge of Indian Ocean. India will also actively participate in the field programme of IIOE-2 by deploying the research vessels at her disposal. In addition, Government of India is willing to host the IIOE-2 Programme Office in India and to organize an International Symposium, to commemorate the 50th Anniversaries of IIOE and NIO, together with IOC and SCOR in November/December 2015 in Goa. In addition, India also has plans to organize Summer Schools/Training Workshops in India as part of her contributions to capacity building.

Iran, Islamic Republic of

Regarding the importance of the Indian Ocean for the adjacent countries and the necessity for continuing the expedition for ocean observation, Islamic Republic of Iran fully supports IIOE-2 using Iran's research vessel, facilities, instruments and ocean experts.

South Africa

Firstly we too thank, Dr Fischer, Dr D'Adamo, Dr Shennoi and SCOR and the respective teams for spearheading this very important planned expedition. The progress to date has been good and we are tracking the unfolding of this initiative very carefully. South Africa has been involved in the SW Indian Ocean for many years in order to improve our understanding of the greater Agulhas Current region and beyond and we do so through the use of two of our research vessels, moorings and other infrastructure.

However, this delegation not only sees its involvement as a country but also how best to involve the African member states along the east coast of Africa as this is a wonderful vehicle for capacity development, raising public awareness and real and meaningful involvement of African and adjacent island state scientists in the IIOE2. South Africa is committed to play its part in this expedition and to maximize the outputs and outcomes to the benefit of the world as well as countries within the Sub-Commission for Africa and Adjacent Island States of the Indian Ocean.

We feel it important that developing countries be fully involved in the IIOE2 and as the current chair of the SubCommission, South Africa is planning its involvement and looking at innovative ways of making its research vessels, scientists, equipment and other infrastructure available for this very important scientific endeavour as a natural extension of our own research priorities.

South Africa also supports India's proposals during their intervention and appreciate their leadership in this process and we will work closely with all Indian ocean countries to ensure a coordinated planning and implementation process.

Tanzania, United Republic of

The United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania) strongly supports the proposal for Second IIOE. Noting that during the first IIOE most of the countries in the region could not actively participate due to lack of capacity, Tanzania considers this as a great opportunity for these countries to actively do so now. This initiative will enable countries in the region to understand the science as well as the resources of the ocean around them. Furthermore, IIOE-2 will contribute to the global understanding of the Indian Ocean and its role regionally and globally. Tanzania therefore strongly supports the proposal for IIOE-2.

Thailand

Thailand appreciates an effort of the Reference Group to help developing the initiative of International Indian Ocean Expedition-2. Our appreciations also extend to India, China, and Mauritius to host the reference group meetings.

However, if we do consider the number of countries participating in the reference group meeting, it had too few numbers of participants from the Indian Ocean rim countries. We understand that this might cause by lacking of financial support to attend the meeting.

IOC has an IOCINDIO in the Central part of the Indian Ocean, which compose of numerous IOC member states, but during the past 9 years, IOCINDIO has not been active. As IOCINDIO is the

regional committee of the IOC, we therefore would like to take this opportunity to request IOC to help to reactivate and support the IOCINDIO, to be active and able to participate in IIOE-2.

United Kingdom

The UK strongly supports IOC's involvement in the proposed activity - it is exactly the kind of programme that IOC should be carrying out. Working closely with the UK SCOR and IOC Committees, members of the UK Marine Science Community across research centres, universities and NGOs are already working together to formulate science proposals for consideration by our funding agencies.

We would like to take this opportunity to make the following points:

1. The UK suggests that the IIOE-2 IPC will need a member who is familiar with operating and deployment of multi-national large research infrastructure such as ships and multiple marine autonomous systems. This type of person would normally have recognised professional maritime qualifications and be familiar with operating research vessels out of third party ports and in Coastal States Waters and High Seas. The person will require knowledge of Port State control and the use of ship agents.
2. The UK suggests that the IIOE-2 IPC will need to monitor the development of marine protected areas within ABNJ/BBNJ in the proposed IIOE-2 science programme area as it is essential that the freedom to carry out marine scientific research in the High Seas and The Area is maintained.

Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of

Los estados miembros de otras regiones y entre ellos Venezuela, estarían interesados en la participación en la Segunda Expedición Internacional al Océano Índico. Por ejemplo, uno de los mayores recursos pesqueros del mar Caribe es la *Sardinella aurita*, cuya distribución alcanza precisamente al océano Índico. Asimismo una de las principales amenazas biológicas de la región lo constituye el pez león (*Pterois volitans*) originario precisamente del Índico.

Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)

The IMarEST is happy to support the IOC in planning and implementation of the IIOE-2 through in-kind contributions coordinated by our regional offices in Singapore and the Australian/Pacific regions with particular focus on outreach, training and capacity development. With nearly 2000 members working in the Indian Ocean region the IMarEST recognise the importance of the Indian Ocean and the need to understand more about science of the region. This commitment has already been demonstrated by direct financial support for a workshop held in Perth in 2013 and support for a symposium session at the Australian Marine Science Association Annual Conference in 2014 and by outreach to the marine science community via editorials published in the Journal of Operational Oceanography and the Marine Scientist. We look forward to working with the IOC member states and secretariat to progress the IIOE-2.

Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System (IOGOOS)

Mr Chair thank you for taking IOGOOS input through proxy at this meeting. On behalf of IOGOOS's Chair and its membership, I am delighted to report that IOGOOS has been both pleased and proud to have participated in and supported the planning process for IIOE-2 in the region. It appreciates the facilitating and partnering role that it has enjoyed in this phase with SCOR and IOC through its headquarters and regional network including the Perth Programme Office. IOGOOS, in its capacity as a GOOS Regional Alliance, connecting the spectrum of scientific endeavor right through to end usage and societal benefit at the human coalface across its constituency, has an ongoing commitment to partner with IOC and SCOR and other related regional and global entities to realize the transition of IIOE-2 from concept to reality. Its own activities, including those of its Indian Ocean Observing System related project and programmatic portfolio, will embrace the spirit of the IIOE-2 energetically and collaboratively.

Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)

SCOR has been pleased to participate with IOC in the initial development of plans for a second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2). As with the first expedition in the early 1960s, this activity will be most successful through the cooperative efforts of IOC and SCOR, with our different capabilities and strengths, SCOR's experience in research planning and IOC's experience in implementation. In accordance with SCOR's agreement with IOC, SCOR has set up an international committee of scientists to develop a Research Plan for the IIOE-2. This draft plan will be presented at an open workshop in Bremen, Germany on 12-13 September 2014. The purpose of this meeting will be to revise the draft plan through input from a broader group of scientists from nations that wish to participate in the IIOE-2. SCOR will provide some support for scientists from developing countries in the Indian Ocean region to participate in the Bremen meeting. The SCOR committee will revise the draft plan following the Bremen meeting and will provide the draft report to the IOC for input from Member States, Subsidiary Bodies, and IOC programs. SCOR accepts the invitation from IOC to participate in the Interim Planning Committee that will be set up by IOC after the Executive Council and will support the participation of the two SCOR-appointed members of this committee.

6.4 International Polar Partnership Initiative

Australia

As noted by Dr Ryabinin in his excellent presentation, the IPPI seeks to maintain the legacy of the International Polar Year (IPY) and has evolved successively from an 'International Polar Decade' concept, to an 'International Polar Initiative' to its latest incarnation. As we understand it, the initiative is focused to a large extent on the very worthy desire to put in place a mechanism to maintain the international investment in polar infrastructure that was seen in the IPY. We note, however, that although it aspires to many worthy goals, the concept still lacks clear definition or concrete outcomes that would differentiate it from the wide range of polar activities already in train.

Accordingly, Mr Chairman, Australia supports the draft Decision 6.4, for the IOC to effectively maintain a "watching brief" on the development of the IPPI, within the context of existing and ongoing IOC research, observation, data management and services programmes. For its part, Australia will continue to participate in the many polar region activities already underway, such as the Global Cryosphere Watch and the Global Integrated Polar Prediction System, through our involvement with both IOC and WMO.

Canada

Canada is supportive of increased work in the North and the Arctic. Understanding that IPPI includes the 2 Poles, Canada's interest is in the Arctic and there are already a multitude of programs and players involved in this Northern Frontier. The IPPI proposal already mentions a number of partners but there are many more from the Canadian perspective, such as:

1. The Canadian Network Centres of Expertise ArcticNet + other such as Ocean Network Canada and Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response Network (MEOPAR) are currently investing or interested to invest in the Arctic
2. The Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SOAN)
3. The Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS)
4. The Canadian Polar Commission
5. The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) - Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action on Arctic Observing and Research for Sustainability

The question is; does IPPI only one more player or a key integrator of all the other interested and involved parties? It will be critical to define the scope, the objectives and expected outcomes of IPPI.

One aspect that is extremely important from a Canadian perspective is the engagement of northerners' people from the beginning and its sustained relationship, the northerners mobilization

has demonstrated to be a very high challenge, and if not adequately addressed might be a serious impediment to effectively proceed with the need of data and observations acquisition, make the data and observations discoverable and accessible for future applications, as well as commercial shipping and natural resources exploitation opportunities in the Arctic. Canada expects that there are many other groups to engage, than the list mentioned here, the number is likely multipliable by the number of Northern countries and the interests of many other countries.

Canada is committed to the Arctic territory and is willing to be a key player in initiatives related to this challenging part of our world ocean.

(French version)

Le Canada est favorable à un travail accru dans le Nord et l'Arctique. Nous comprenons que l'*IPPI* comprend les 2 pôles, l'intérêt particulier du Canada est cependant pour la région de l'Arctique. Il faut considérer qu'il existe déjà une multitude de programmes et de joueurs impliqués dans cette frontière Nordique. La proposition de l'*IPPI* mentionne déjà un certain nombre de partenaires, mais il y a beaucoup plus d'intervenants selon la perspective canadienne, tels que :

1. les Centres canadiens de réseau d'Expertise « *ArcticNet* » + d'autres tels que : « *Ocean Network Canada* » et « *Marine Environmental Observation Prediction And Response* » (MEOPAR) qui investissent déjà ou sont intéressés à investir dans l'Arctique
2. le réseau d'observations durables arctiques (SOAM)
3. la Station de recherche canadienne dans l'Arctique haute (CHARS)
4. la Commission polaire canadienne
5. le Conseil de recherche en sciences naturelles et de génie du Canada (CRSNG) – par l'intermédiaire du Forum coopératif de recherche Belmont sur l'observation de l'Arctique et la recherche pour le développement durable

La question à se poser ici est ; est-ce que l'*IPPI* est un joueur de plus ou un intégrateur principal parmi toutes les autres parties intéressées et impliquées? Il sera essentiel de définir la portée, les objectifs et les résultats attendus de l'*IPPI*.

Un aspect qui est extrêmement important d'un point de vue canadien est l'engagement initial des gens résidant dans le Nord, et le maintien d'une relation cordiale et soutenue. La mobilisation des gens du nord est un défi très important, et si ceci n'est pas fait de manière adéquate, ceci pourrait être un sérieux obstacle avant de procéder efficacement avec l'importance d'acquisition de données et observations, rendre ces données et observations détectables et accessibles pour de futures applications, ainsi que les opportunités de navigation commerciale et de l'exploitation des ressources naturelles dans l'Arctique.

Comme le Canada anticipe à ce qu'il ait beaucoup de groupes à impliquer, la liste mentionnée précédemment est fort probablement multipliable par le nombre de pays du Nord et de l'intérêt de nombreux autres pays.

En conclusion - Le Canada considère le territoire arctique comme très important et est prêt à être un acteur clé dans les initiatives liées à cette partie importante et méconnue de l'océan de notre monde.

India

India joins with other delegations in complementing for excellent presentation on International Polar initiative

India having sustained scientific presence in Antarctica for the past three decades and in the Arctic for over eight years, would like to underscore the need for intense co-operation among the scientists of the different countries active in the polar research.

It is well recognized that such collaboration will have a multi-fold benefit; specifically, a common scientific agenda that would minimise the duplication of efforts, sharing of logistics resources and scientific data, and will also help in ensuring the pristine nature of the polar environment.

IOC can place a greater role for participating in various polar forums such as the ATCM, SCAR, SSF and the Arctic Council to be able to play a more pro-active role in the polar affairs.

Secondly, the system of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) being pursued in the CCAMLR Convention Areas is useful for the protection and conservation of Antarctic marine environment.

Recognising the importance of augmentation of met-ocean data, India's is planning to deploy a multi-sensor polar mooring system in Kongsfjorden fjord in Arctic region in the coming weeks in co-ordination and co-operation with Norway.

Iran, Islamic Republic of

Iran appreciates the informative report presented by the Chair of International Polar Partnership Initiative. Iranian National Institute for Oceanography and Atmospheric Science (INIOAS) on the behalf of Islamic Republic of Iran has prepared a plan to establish a year-round research station to conduct research projects in Antarctica and its surrounding ocean and to organize the relevant scientific attempts to a scientific approach in agreement with SCAR concerns for the development of international collaboration in Antarctic science. As the first step of this plan, the Iranian National Center for Antarctic Research (INCAR) was established under the umbrella of INIOAS at the beginning of 2014 to coordinate all Antarctic related activities in the country. INCAR is trying to select motivated young scientists in different scientific disciplines to develop an active new generation of polar scientists, engineers and leaders, and to capture the interest of the public and decision-makers in Iran.

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea welcomes this concept document and commends the efforts to develop this paper as well as the wills and endeavors shown so far by many organizations and programs to institute and maintain the observing systems in polar region. We, however, cannot but concede that our monitoring efforts are inadequate to understand the current changes that are just exceedingly high paced. Korea is already a member of many of these partner organizations to this IPPI, just to name a few, SCAR (Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research) and IASC (International Arctic Science Committee). Our research ice breaker is also sailing back and forth between the Arctic and Antarctic, where we run our research stations. We will not only increase our observational capacity in both poles but also sustain it, as well. We are more than willing to support the IPPI concept and hope that all our partners could join in developing it even further.

6.5 Contribution to United Nations Initiatives (UN-OCEANS, SDG PROCESS, UN SIDS Conference)

France

La France n'intervient pas pour contester en quoi que ce soit la présentation faite par le Secrétaire technique sur le point 6.5. Juste pour faire une remarque et exprimer un souhait. La remarque : il nous semble que la COI a une implication différenciée au sein des différentes instances interinstitutions des Nations Unies, du fait de leur nature plus ou moins scientifique. Le souhait : que la COI, chaque fois que c'est possible, s'implique encore davantage dans ces instances.

7.2 Self-Assessment of the IOC Governing Bodies in Follow-Up to the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit's (Jiu) Recommendations Concerning the Methods of Work of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Bodies

Republic of Korea

The Republic of Korea would like to appreciate the efforts for more efficient management of UNESCO including IOC. The JIU's recommendations concerning the methods of work for UNESCO's intergovernmental bodies, pointed out many problems and suggested viable options in order to achieve the more bright future of UNESCO.

Particularly, IOC needs to examine those recommendations very carefully since IOC itself was informed to perform a self-assessment of the overall relevance of their work. Considering current financial difficulties, IOC requires reducing unnecessary expenditure through improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the IOC meetings.

We hope all possible measures should be examined for the efficiency of IOC management from trivial effort such as downsizing documentation to the overall review of IOC programs and activities.

ANNEX VI

THE ROGER REVELLE LECTURES, 2014

The CARIACO Ocean Time-Series Project:
a window into oceanography in Venezuela

Prof. José Marín Baumar Marín Espinoza,
Biologist, Associate Professor, University of Oriente (Venezuela)
and

Ms Máyida El Souki,
National Director of Research at La Salle Foundation for Natural Sciences

Abstract: The Cariaco Basin is one of the largest anoxic basins in the world's ocean located on the continental shelf of Venezuela in the South-eastern Caribbean Sea. It has a unique oceanography as it experiences strong seasonal upwelling driven by intense Trade Winds during December-April every year; during September and October, high precipitation increases riverine inputs. The upwelling leads to high primary productivity ($\sim 450 \text{ g of carbon/m}^{-2} \text{ y}^{-1}$) which supports local fisheries and leads to large fluxes of organic matter to the bottom of the Basin. The magnitude of this flux and the reduced exchange of water with the Caribbean Sea, due to its unique geography, lead to anoxic conditions in the basin from $\sim 250 \text{ m}$ to the bottom.

These characteristics make the Cariaco Basin an important location for studies of ocean chemistry, physical processes, biodiversity and climate change. Variations of marine and atmospheric conditions are stored in the basin's sediments, which contain one of the most important and detailed records of past climate change.

The Cariaco Basin offers the international community a unique environment in which to study past and present changes, and predict future conditions. Since 1995, the CARIACO Ocean Time-Series Project has been collecting monthly time-series measurements of hydrographic, meteorological, geological, chemical and biological data critical to quantify and interpret the changing ocean and climate conditions. This includes assessments on important resources such as fisheries and cycling of carbon between the atmosphere and the ocean. Important shifts, such as ocean acidification and warmer ocean temperatures have already been observed at this location.

Venezuela leads this international programme in collaboration with a broad range of international partners. We discuss the programme, highlighting 20 years of research findings, and emphasize the importance and value of biogeochemical ocean time series programs around the world to understand and better predict global changes.

Dr Baumar Marín is a biologist graduated from the University of Oriente (Venezuela), and Master in Fisheries Biology and Ph.D. at Laval University (Canada). He joined in 1987 the Marine Biology Department of the Oceanographic Institute of Venezuela (IOV) and is currently Associate Professor at the same institution. He is member of the Study Group on Shellfish and Plankton Ecological Studies (CINS-UDO), and is developing projects and services in marine ecology. He currently coordinates the Ichthyoplankton Laboratory of IOV and his speciality is research in Ecology and Taxonomy of fish larvae. He currently coordinates the Ichthyoplankton Laboratory of IOV and his specialty is research in Ecology and Taxonomy of fish larvae.

Biólogo graduado en la Universidad de Oriente con Maestría en Biología Pesquera y Ph.D. en la Universidad Laval (Canadá). Ingresó en 1987 al Departamento de Biología Marina del Instituto Oceanográfico de Venezuela (IOV) y en la actualidad es profesor Asociado en la misma institución. Perteneció al Grupo de Estudios de Moluscos y al de Estudios Ecológicos del Plancton (CINS-UDO), desarrollando proyectos y servicios aplicados en ecología marina.

Actualmente coordina el Laboratorio de Ictioplancton del IOV y su especialidad es la investigación en Ecología y Taxonomía de larvas de peces.

Dr Máyida El Souki, Biologist and Doctor in Ecological Sciences, participated in several research projects that focused on ecology, biodiversity, preservation, and statistical analysis of environmental and time series data related to the climate change. She is the author of seven publications. She participated in numerous meetings and conferences at national and international level.

Ms El Souki is the National Director of Research at La Salle Foundation for Natural Sciences, a 56 year-old scientific-educational institution at the service of the communities. Nowadays, the Foundation has offices in at least 12 communities of Venezuela.

Her main activities are planning of strategies, establishment of guidelines, and formulation of policies in the five research stations of the Foundation whose main lines of research involve: anthropology, ecology, biodiversity, preservation, marine and coastal studies, and agriculture, among others. The Foundation is one of the main supports of the Cariaco project with INTECMAR (Instituto de Tecnología y Ciencias Marinas) and the Oceanographic Institute of Venezuela (IOV).

Discussion: Tunisia asked about the methodology and statistics to calculate the average temperatures presented in the slides and Dr Baumar José Marín Espinoza answered that the data are obtained for the entire water column using a CTD and that the data used to calculate the time series trend correspond to 7 m depth.

Japan made a double question on the funding strategy to guarantee the continuation of the time series and also about the number of years that they consider as a goal. Dr Máyida El souki responded that actually they have to apply for funding every other year and therefore the continuation of this time series depends very much on the capacity of the team to raise funds, finally she added that they want the time series continuing forever, but the first minimum and immediate goal is to get 20 years of sampling.

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/ioc-oceans/about-us/governing-bodies/executive-council/47th-session-of-ioc-executive-council/2014-ioc-roger-revelle-memorial-lecture>

ANNEX VII

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document Code	Title	Agenda Items	Languages available
WORKING DOCUMENTS			
IOC/EC-XLVII/1 Prov. Rev.	Revised Provisional Agenda	2.1	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/1 Add. Prov. Rev.	Revised Provisional Timetable	2.4	E only
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Prov.	Provisional Action Paper	2.1	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/4 Prov.	Provisional List of Documents	2.4	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 1	Report of the IOC Executive Secretary on the work accomplished since the previous session (June 2013–May 2014)	3.1	E only
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 2	Report on Budget Execution, 2012–2013	3.1 & 7.1	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3	Programme and Budget for 2014–2017 and Workplans 2014–2015	3.1 & 7.1	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 3 Add.	Complementary Additional Programme of Extrabudgetary Resources (Proposals for 2014-15)	3.1 & 7.1	E only
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 4 Rev.2	Revision of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for Joint IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee. Second revision	3.1	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 5	Renewal of the Hosting Agreement for the JCOMM in-situ Observations Programme Support Centre (JCOMMOPS)	3.2.2	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 6	Report of the Chair of the Intersessional Working Group on 'The Future of the IOC'	4.	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 7	Draft Capacity Development Strategy	6.1	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 8	Reviewed Proposal of a Global Ocean Science Report	6.2	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 9	Proposal for IOC involvement in the second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2)	6.3	E F R S
IOC/EC-XLVII/2 Annex 10	Concept: International Polar Partnership Initiative (IPPI)	6.4	E only
REPORTS OF IOC AND COOPERATIVE BODIES REQUIRING ACTION			
IOC/2014/AR/18	IOC Bi-annual Report, 2012–2013	3.1	E only
IOC/ICG/PTWS-XXV/3 Rev.	Twenty-fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS), Vladivostok, Russian Federation, 9–11 September 2013	3.2.1.1	E (Ex. Sum. In E F R S)
IOC/ICG/NEAMTWS-X/3s	Executive Summary Report of the 10th Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the	3.2.1.2	E F R S

Document Code	Title	Agenda Items	Languages available
	North Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS-X), Rome, Italy, 19–21 November 2013		
ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX/3s	Executive Summary Report of the 9th Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS-IX), US Virgin Islands, 13-15 May 2014	3.2.1.3	E (Ex. Sum. In E F R S)
IOC/TOWS-WG-VII/3	Seventh Meeting of the Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems, UNESCO, Paris, 12–13 February 2014	3.2.1.4	E (Ex. Sum. In E F R S)
IOC/EC-XLVII/3 prov.	Draft Summary Report of the 47 th Session of the Executive Council, 1–4 July 2014 (<i>published in 3 parts during the session</i>)	8.	E F R S

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.1	Working Arrangements for the session	2.4	E only
IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.1 Add.	Template for submission of written records to the Executive Council summary report	2.4	E only
IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.2	Presentation and Abstracts of the R. Revelle Memorial Lecture, 2014: “The CARIACO Ocean Time-Series Project: A window into oceanography in Venezuela”	2.5	E only
IOC Manuals and Guides, 37 (2 nd Edition)	International Tsunami Survey Team (ITST) Post-Tsunami Survey Field Guide, 2013 (<i>Advance copy</i>)	3.2.1	E only
ICG/PTWS-WG-SCS-III/3	Third Meeting of the Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System for the South China Sea Region (SCS-WG), Hong-Kong, China, 6–7 April 2014	3.2.1.1	E only
IOC Workshop Report, 250	The Future of IOC toward next 10 years and its implication for Member, Varna, Bulgaria, 19 March 2012	4.	E only
IOC Workshop Report, 254	Consultation on Scientific and Technical Aspects of Sustained Ocean Observations and Services, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 5 March 2013	4.	E only
IOC Workshop Report, 261	Indo-Pacific Ocean Forum on Charting the Future of Sustained Ocean Observations and Services, Bangkok, Thailand, 25–28 November 2013	4.	E only
Future-13-14/Inf.1	“Electoral Group 1 Consultation on the Future of the IOC, Utrecht, The Netherlands, 26–27 May 2014”. Report. IOC Electoral Group 1. 18 June 2014. Electronic document. (<i>unpublished work</i>)	4.	E only
IOC/INF-1316	Consultation for the appointment of the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO: process for the establishment of a short list of applicants for submission to the Director-General of UNESCO	5.	E F R S

Document Code	Title	Agenda Items	Languages available
IMBER Report #8 (Reference Group report, 1)	International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative (IIOE-2) – Reference Group meeting N° 1, Hyderabad, India, 14–15 May 2013	6.3	E only
<i>Not referenced</i> (Reference Group report, 2)	International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative (IIOE-2) – Reference Group meeting N° 2, Qingdao, China, 20–21 November 2013 (meeting notes)	6.3	E only
<i>Not referenced</i> (Reference Group report, 3)	Report of the Western Indian Ocean Regional Focus Group Meeting to help plan the International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative (IIOE-2), Quatre Bornes, Mauritius, 6–7 March 2014	6.3	E only
IOC/INF-1317	Update on IOC contribution to United Nations initiatives (2014)	6.5	E only
IOC/EC-XLVII/Inf.3	Audit of the Governance of UNESCO and dependent funds, programmes, and entities – compilation of documents	7.2	E only

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

IOC-XXVII/3	Report of the Twenty-seventh Session of the IOC Assembly, Paris, 26 June–5 July 2013 and Forty-sixth Session of the IOC Executive Council, Paris, 25 June 2013	--	E
IOC/EC-XLV/3	Report of the 45 th Session of the IOC Executive Council, Paris, 26–28 June 2012	--	E (Ex. Sum. In E F R S)
IOC/INF-1314	IOC Medium-term Strategy, 2014–2021	3.1	E/F/S/R
IOC/INF-1308	GOOS Regional Policy 2013	3.1	E only
IOC circular letter 2513	Consultation process for the designation of applicants in the context of the appointment of the Executive Secretary of the IOC of UNESCO	5.	E F R S
IOC-XXVII/2 Annex 11	Proposal for a Global Ocean Science Report, 2013	6.2	E F R S
191 EX/16 part IV	Follow-up to the independent external evaluation of UNESCO. Part IV: Follow-up to the report of the joint Inspection Unit on the management and administration of UNESCO	7.2	E F R S

ANNEX VIII

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ANNEX IX

ACRONYMS

Acronym	Title
ATCM	Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting
C/5	UNESCO's two-year Programme and Budget
CAP	Common Alerting Protocol
CAP	Complementary Additional Programme
CARIACO	Carbon Retention In A Coloured Ocean" Project
CARIBE WAVE	Tsunami Exercise in the Caribbean region
CARIBE-EWS	Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
CCAMLR	Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
CD	Capacity Development (IOC programmatic section)
CHARS	Canadian High Arctic Research Station
CIFDP	Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Project
CLS	Collect-Localization-Satellites [service Argos]
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTE	Tsunami Communication Test Exercise
CTIC	Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre
CTWP	Caribbean Tsunami Warning Programme
DBCP	Data Buoy Cooperation Panel
DG	Director-General [UNESCO]
DOALOS	Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
DR	Draft Resolutions
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ER	Expected Results
ETMSS	JCOMM Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services
FUST	Flanders-UNESCO Science Trust Fund
FVCOM	Finite Volume Coastal Ocean Model
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GDACS	Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System [UN, European Commission]
GEBCO	General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans [IHO, IOC]
GEF	Global Environment Facility [World Bank-UNEP-UNDP]
GEOMAR	Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel [Germany]
GESAMP	Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection [IMO-FAO-UNESCO-WMO-WHO-IAEA-UN-UNEP-UNIDO]
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services
GLOSS	Global Sea-Level Observing System
GOA-ON	Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network
GOOS	Global Ocean Observing System
GOSR	Global Ocean Science Report
GRA	GOOS Regional Alliance
IASC	International Arctic Science Committee
ICG	Intergovernmental Coordination Group [tsunami governance – IOC]
ICP	UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea
ICSPRO	Inter-secretariat Committee on Scientific Programmes Relating to Oceanography
IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
IIOE	International Indian Ocean Expedition
IMarEST	Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IMOS	Australian Integrated Marine Observing System
INCAR	Iranian National Center for Antarctic Research
IOC/INF-	Information Document reference [IOC]

INCOIS	Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services
INTECMAR	Instituto de Tecnología y Ciencias Marinas
IOCAFRICA	IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States
IOCARIBE	IOC Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IOCINDIO	IOC Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean
IODE	International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange
IOGOOS	Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System
IOP	Indian Ocean Panel
IOV	Instituto Oceanográfico de Venezuela
IPC	Interim Planning Committee
IPD	International Polar Decade
IPPI	International Polar Partnership Initiative
ITCOOcean	International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography
IWG	Intersessional Working Group
JCOMM	Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology [WMO-IOC]
JCOMMOPS	JCOMM in-situ Observations Programme Support Centre
JGOFS	Joint Global Ocean Flux Study
JIU	UNITED NATIONS JOINT INSPECTION UNIT'S
JMA	Japan Meteorological Agency
KMA	Korea Meteorological Administration
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MSR	Marine Scientific Research
NEAMTWS	Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas
NEAMWave	Tsunami Exercise in the North-Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas
NEAR-GOOS	North-East Asian Regional Global Ocean Observing System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIO	National Institute of Oceanography
NOC	National Organizing Committee
NTWC	National Tsunami Warning Centre
NWPTAC	Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Center
OBIS	Ocean Biogeographic Information System
ODP	IODE Ocean Data Portal
PTWC	Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre
PTWS	Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System
SCAR	Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research
SCOR	Scientific Committee for Oceanic Research
SCS	South China Sea
SCSTAC	South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Centre
SCSTAC	South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Centre
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIBER	Sustained Indian Ocean Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SMS	Short Messaging Service
SOAN	Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SSF	Svalbard Science Forum
TIC	Tsunami Information Centre
ToR	Terms of Reference
TOWS-WG	Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems [IOC]
TST	UN Ocean Task Support Team
TWAP	Transboundary Waters Assessment Programme
TWFP	Tsunami Warning Focal Point
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-OCEANS	United Nations Oceans and Coastal Areas Network
WCRP	World Climate Research Programme
WESTPAC	IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific
WG	Working Group
WIS	WMO Information System
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WOA	UN World Ocean Assessment (First Global Integrated Marine Assessment of the Regular Process)
WOCE	World Ocean Circulation Experiment

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28. Third Session of the Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, Caracas, 1989	E, S
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54. Second Session of the IOC-FAO Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms, Paris, 1993	E, F, S
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56. First Planning Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System, Melbourne, 1994	E, F, S, R
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78.	Sixteenth Session of the International Co-ordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific, Lima, 1997	E, F, S, R
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99.	Fifth Session of the IOC Regional Committee for the Co-operative Investigation in the North and Central Western Indian Ocean, Kenya, 2002 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
100.	Sixth Session of the IOC Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms, St. Petersburg (USA), 2002 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
101.	Seventeenth Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange, Paris, 2003 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
102.	Sixth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System, Paris, 2003 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
103.	Nineteenth Session of the International Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific, Wellington, New Zealand, 2003 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
104.	Third Session of the IOC Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 21-23 February 2000	E only
105.	Thirty-seventh Session of the Executive Council, Paris, 2004	E, F, S, R
106.	Seventh Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System, Paris, 2005 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R); and Extraordinary Session, Paris, 20 June 2005	E*
107.	First Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS), Perth, Australia, 3-5 August 2005	E only
108.	Twentieth Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific, Viña del Mar, Chile, 3-7 October 2005 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
109.	Twenty-Third Session of the Assembly, Paris, 21-30 June 2005	E, F, S, R
110.	First Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS), Rome, Italy, 21-22 November 2005	E only
111.	Eighth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE), Recife, Brazil, 14-17 April 2004 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
112.	First Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE-EWS), Bridgetown, Barbados, 10-12 January 2006	E only
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114.	Second Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS), Hyderabad, India, 14–16 December 2005	E only
115.	Second Session of the WMO-IOC Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, Halifax, Canada, 19–27 September 2005 (Abridged final report with resolutions and recommendations)	E, F, R, S
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119.	Thirty-ninth Session of the Executive Council, Paris, 21–28 June 2006	E, F, R, S
120.	Third Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS), Bali, Indonesia, 31 July–2 August 2006 (*Executive Summary available separately in E,F,S & R)	E*
121.	Second Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas (ICG/NEAMTWS), Nice, France, 22–24 May 2006	E only
122.	Seventh Session of the IOC Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms, Paris, France, 16–18 March 2005 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
123.	Fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWS-IV), Mombasa, Kenya, 30 February-2 March 2007 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
124.	Nineteenth Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange, Trieste, Italy, 12–16 March 2007 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
125.	Third Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System in the North Eastern Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Connected Seas, Bonn, Germany, 7–9 February 2007 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
126.	Second Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions, Cumaná, Venezuela, 15–19 January 2007 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
127.	Twenty-first Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, Melbourne, Australia, 3–5 May 2006 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
128.	Twenty-fourth Session of the Assembly, Paris, 19–28 June 2007	E, F, S, R
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130.	Twenty-second Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, Guayaquil, Ecuador, 17–21 September 2007 (* Executive Summary available in E, F, S & R included)	E*
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132.	Third Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions, Panama City, Panama, 12–14 March 2008 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
133.	Eighth Session of the IOC Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms, Paris, France, 17–20 April 2007 (* Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
134.	Twenty-third Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, Apia, Samoa, 16–18 February 2009 (*Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
135.	Twentieth Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange, Beijing, China, 4–8 May 2009 (*Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
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150.	Sixth Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 26–29 April 2011 (* Executive Summary available in E, F, S & R)	E*

151.	Twenty-fourth Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, Beijing, China, 24–27 May 2011 (*Executive Summary in E, F, S & R included)	E*
152.	Twenty-first Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange, Liège, Belgium, 23–26 March 2011 (*Executive Summary available separately in E, F, S & R)	E*
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