



IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management (GE-MIM)

Eighth Session

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UNESCO

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(English)

Abstract

The Eighth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management (GEMIM) was held at CSIRO, Hobart, Australia on 2, 3 and 10 September 2004. The Session reviewed the implementation of its 7th Session and prepared a comprehensive work plan for the next inter sessional period. This focuses on (i) the further development of OceanPortal; (ii) the redevelopment of OceanExpert; (iii) the strengthening of the MIM component of ODIN networks, with special attention to the Pacific Islands; (iv) an analysis of available ILMS software; and (v) strengthening of cooperation with IAMS LIC, EURAS LIC and FAO.

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1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Chair of the Group, Dr. Murari Tapaswi, welcomed the participants to the Eighth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management and thanked IOC for their assistance in organizing the meeting.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

The Chair invited comments on the Provisional Agenda. The Group adopted the Agenda ([Annex I](#)). The Group designated Mr. Peter Pissierssens as Rapporteur for the Session.

3. REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Chairman introduced this item referring to **Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/5** (Report on the implementation of the GE-MIM-VII Work Plan). He noted the extensive list of actions that had been adopted by the Seventh Session but noted that despite the long list, most items of the work plan had been implemented during the intersessional period.

Acti on	Age nda Item	ACTION	Date due	Cost	Responsibility
1	3	GEMIM-VI. Action 1: Directory of Training Opportunities Clearing House: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - canvass IAMS LIC & EURAS LIC with the terms of reference for hosts. - set up online 'database' as part of IAMS LIC (and/or EURAS LIC web site) where candidates can apply. Hosts should also investigate means to sponsor interns through national/international funding agencies 	Dec. '02		J.Beattie
			ASAP		J.Beattie

The Group decided to close this action item, noting that such peer-to-peer training could better be managed by IAMS LIC and its regional groups. The Group also noted that UNESCO's Webworld portal (http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=6513&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&P_HPSSESSIONID=c330e479503ba84b5182bd2a551829f0) includes a section on librarian training.

2	3	GEMIM-VI Action 2: IOC Catalogue of Online Publications : Retrospective digitisation of IOC documents	Cont.	To be identified	IOC
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The Technical Secretary reported that all IOC publications are now made available through the UNESDOC system (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/index.html>). As part of the UNESCO Documents and Publications system retroactive optical scanning will be undertaken to the extent possible. This will be limited to photographic pagescans but not OCR.

The Group decided to close this action item.

3	3	GEMIM-VI Action 3: Request Publishers to ask Authors to Define Keywords using ASFIS Thesaurus : - contact marine science publishers. Need to indicate how the ASFIS Thesaurus is available - contact research institutions that publish journals on marine science	Dec. '02		P. Simpson
			Mar. '03		S. Goulala

Ms. Goulala reported that a letter was sent to 110 editors of scientific publishers (Spring 2004). **The Group noted** that the ASFA Thesaurus is available online in searchable as well as Word document format.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group requested the IOC Secretariat to post the file on the IODE web site (as well as link to the searchable version) with source acknowledgement. **The Group requested** Ms Goulala to email (or mail) the URL for the Thesaurus (on the IODE web site) to the Publishers (Deadline: December 2004).

4	3	GEMIM-VI Action 4: Monitoring of Electronic Copyright Legislation in Relation to Electronic Document Delivery: - distribute the RoMEO report to GEMIM & to IAMSILIC/EURASILIC & ODIN networks - finalize document for publishing on the IODE web site	Mar. '03		P.Simpson
			Oct. '03		S. Goulala

Ms Simpson reported that the RoMEO database URL on “Publisher copyright transfer policies” (www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php) had been distributed to IAMS LIC, EURAS LIC and ODINAFRICA (information managers).

Ms Goulala had prepared Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/6. She reported that the document includes an extensive list of existing copyright legislation. **The Group noted** that this paper had been prepared in 2003. It was unclear whether any changes had taken place since then.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group recommended that the content of Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/6 be posted on the IODE web site (deadline: immediately). The page should be called “An introduction to electronic copyright legislation for use by librarians – a selective review as of March 2003”. There should also be a link to the UNESCO Collection of National Copyright Laws (http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=14076&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html) (deadline: immediately). The updated “page” should also be reported to Ms. Linda Pikula to be included in OceanTeacher (deadline: end of October 2004).

5	3	GEMIM-VI Action 5: Meeting of ICSPRO & other UN Agencies on Co-ordination of MIM Activities: IODE Secretariat to send letter to UN agencies to inquire about their MIM activities	Jan. '03		IODE Secretariat
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FURTHER ACTION: The Group called for closer collaboration intra-UNESCO, especially with the Communication and Information (CI) Sector and **tasked** the Chair and IOC Secretariat to establish this collaboration (deadline: immediately) **The Group instructed** its members to study the UNESCO Libraries Portal (http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=6513&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&HPSESSID=c330e479503ba84b5182bd2a551829f0) and identify concrete possibilities for cooperation between IODE/MIM and UNESCO CI. (Deadline: December 2004)

6	3	GEMIM-VI Action 6: Development of IOC Web page Template for Member States Web sites: data & information centres that are part of the IODE network include the IODE logo on their homepage	Mar. '03		IODE NCs
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The Technical Secretary reported that such a template had been prepared for Member States and made available. He reported that links to the IODE web site from other sites are still very few:

Links to <http://www.iode.org> : 19; Links to <http://ioc.unesco.org/iode> : 25

(Analysis through Google.com on 23 August 2004)

Links to the IODE web site <http://ioc.unesco.org/iode> are provided by only 7 NODCs

Discussion on this subject were referred to Action 14 (GEMIM-VIII)

7	3	GEMIM-VI Action 9: Support to IAMSLIC/EURASLIC Conference Participants: continued financial allocation by IOC/IODE	On-going	US\$ 10,000/yr	IOC
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The Technical Secretary reported that support for IAMSLIC and EURASLIC had continued during the inter-sessional period. In 2004 an MOU was established between IOC and IAMSLIC. Further discussion on this subject was referred to Agenda Item 6.2.

8	3	GEMIM-VI Action 12: ILL Software: recommend Prospero as a freeware alternative to Ariel	Nov. '02		P. Simpson
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Ms. Simpson reported that Prospero does not seem to be available for download anymore. It is unclear whether the development of Prospero is continuing.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group considered the possibility to take over the further development and maintenance of Prospero as an alternative for the commercial (and relatively expensive Ariel). The Group requested the Chair and IOC Secretariat to inquire from the Prospero Project leader (Eric Schnell) about future plans with Prospero. If the project can no longer be continued by the original developers then it could be investigated whether IODE/GE-MIM (possibly in cooperation with IAMSLIC and ASFA) could take over the maintenance and distribution of Prospero.(Deadline: immediately).

9	3	GEMIM-VI Action 13: Paper on Hardware/software Requirements for Marine LIC: circulate the document to the GEMIM members. After revision the document may be included in OceanTeacher	Mar. '03		M. Tapaswi
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Dr. Murari Tapaswi introduced this item referring to **Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/7**. He informed the Group that he had not been able to find any specifically marine library software so all software is applicable to libraries in general.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group requested the Secretariat to forward the document to the OceanTeacher Chief Editors for inclusion in OceanTeacher (Deadline: immediately).

10	3	GEMIM-VI Action 14: Detailed ILMS Module Description: circulate the document to the GEMIM members. After revision the document may be included in OceanTeacher	Mar. '03		P. Simpson
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Ms Pauline Simpson referred to the comparison of available commercial and non-commercial products as available in 2000. Discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 5.4.

11	3	GEMIM-VI Action 17: Send Recommendations on MEDI to AODC: SG-MEDI to ensure that MEDI could include bibliographic citations.	ASAP		P. Simpson to G. Reed
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Ms. Simpson reported that the recommendation to include a bibliographic citation in MEDI was sent to Greg Reed. **The Group closed this item.**

12	3	GEMIM-VI Action 22: Development of Promotional Material, Promotion of OceanExpert: presenting a paper during major marine science conferences or have an exhibit. It may be possible to team up with others to share an exhibit	As appropriate	Travel	As appropriate
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Discussion on this item was referred to Agenda Item 4.2

13	3	GEMIM-VI Action 23: Identification and Detailed Description of MIM Training Modules: - review OceanTeacher & report to OceanTeacher Steering Group - circulate module definitions to GEMIM members	Dec. '02 Apr. '03		P. Simpson Members
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Ms. Simpson informed the Group that OceanTeacher is now funded under the ODIMeX project. Prof. Paul Nieuwenhuysen is Chief Editor for Information Management, and Ms Linda Pikula is Managing Editor Information Management. A full outline for OceanTeacher (combined Data Management and Information Management) is provided in **Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII /8.**

Discussions on this subject were referred to Agenda Item 4.2.

14	3	GEMIM-VI Action 25: MIM web site Development: - expand the GEMIM section to include links to products	Jan.		
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		& services and projects developed by or with GEMIM	'03		Chair + members
		- contact IAMS LIC President & IAMS LIC exec to jointly review OceanPortal.	Dec. '02		IOC
		- recommend categories in OceanPortal (see also Action 17)	Jan. '03		M. Goovaerts + members

14.1: The Chair noted that no action had been taken. **The Group noted** that the GE-MIM section of the IODE web site was of relevance and interest to members of the Group only. There is currently no MIM section.

The Group decided to establish a sessional group to (i) decide on the positioning of the MIM section in the IODE web site; and (ii) recommend content under the heading defined under (i).

The Group recommended the following modifications to the General Info section of the IODE web site:

Under "General Info:"

Rename FINDING DATA to ABOUT OCEAN DATA

Add: ABOUT OCEAN LITERATURE

Under "How to..."

Add: Establish and manage a library/information centre

The Group decided to establish an inter-sessional working group that will study the MIM elements of the IODE web site and recommend necessary modifications. The Group will be composed of the Chair, Pauline Simpson, Jan Haspeslagh and Jane Barnwell (deadline: December 2004)

14.2: **The Group noted** that this action item should be implemented within the framework of the MOU Further discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 4.1

14.3: Discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 4.1

15	4.1	GE-MIM-VII: Content Details for MIM Module of OceanTeacher/Follow-up Co-ordinator ODINAFRICA:			
		- See Action 13			J. Beattie
		- draft job description for ODINAFRICA MIM follow-up co-ordinator	Dec. '02		(L. Pikula)
		- consult with IAMS LIC for the possible hiring of a marine information follow-up co-ordinator for ODINAFRICA	Jan. '03		J. Beattie
					(L. Pikula)

This item has been overtaken by OceanTeacher and ODINAFRICA-III. **The Group decided to close this item.**

16	4.2	GE-MIM-VII: Integrated Library Management System Software: 'user survey' amongst the ODINAFRICA librarians to evaluate their experience with INMAGIC	Next TC 2003	-	M. Tapaswi (L. Pikula)
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Dr. Tapaswi informed the Group that the reports, submitted by Ms Arame Keita and Josette Confait on the work done by different ODINAFRICA centers before the ODINAFRICA-III Training programme, fairly indicate the experience of the participants with INMAGIC. In general, two basic problems were faced:

1. Not all participants could understand well the cataloguing procedures;
2. A number of participants had difficulty in understanding the English language and therefore could not make full use the software.

Most ODINAFRICA librarians are now using INMAGIC only for the cataloguing but very few have reporting using it for circulation, acquisitions and/or serials control. Overall, INMAGIC is considered as a good application.

The Group closed this item.

17	4.3	GE-MIM-VII: IOC Gateway to Electronic Ocean Information Resources (OceanPortal): (i) define scope; (ii) re-define categories; (iii) re-categorize content & re-describe descriptions; (iv) remove irrelevant content; (v) add new content	Jan. 03 Jan. 03 Jun. 03 Jul. 03 >Jun.03	\$10,000	(i),(ii),(iii): M. Goovaerts (iv),(v): Contractor
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Discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 4.1

18	4.4	GE-MIM-VII: OceanExpert: - review & evaluate the new system - in co-operation with IASLIC & EURASLIC, promote OceanExpert - in co-operation with	Feb. '03 Cont. Mar.	-	S. Davies & members S. Davies
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		IAMSLIC & EURASLIC, recruit editors	'03	-	
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Discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 4.2.

19	5	GE-MIM-VII: ODINCARSA: investigate possible donors for ODINCARSA (networking in information management).	Aug. '03		J. Beattie
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Discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 5.2

20	5	GE-MIM-VII: ODIN Other Regions: - survey of marine libraries & information centres in IOCINDIO & WESTPAC regions & Southern Pacific - discuss with the MAMA Group the possibility to include a more extensive information management programme with emphasis on resource sharing	Sep. '03 Dec. '02	- -	IOC/ S. Davies S. Goulala
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Discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 5.2

21	6.1	IODE-XVI para. 221 (Marine Pollution): <i>the documenting of experience within the IODE community in managing and archiving pollution data and in increasing the visibility in the community of this expertise. The collected information should be posted on the IODE web site':</i> finalize document & add searching results for GCMD	Feb. '03		M. Tapaswi & members
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Dr. Tapaswi introduced this item referring to Document **IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/11**. He reported that this document had been submitted at IODE-XVII. IODE National Coordinators had been requested to comments at that time. No comments had been received.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group decided to post the information contained in the Document on the IODE web site and to close this action item. (deadline: immediately)

22		IODE-XVI para. 278 : <i>the Committee tasked the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange and the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management to develop a comprehensive inventory of (i) data and information products; and (ii) data and information management software and related tools. The Committee further decided that these inventories should be disseminated through the IODE web site and should be included in the IODE Resource Kit: circulate the (software) list to the IAMSLIC membership (through the IAMSLIC exec) for input. The list will be included in the MIM module of the OceanTeacher/ResourceKit.</i>	Jan. '03		P. Simpson; J. Beattie
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The Group noted that the follow-up of this item has been completed as part of OceanPortal (item i) and Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/7 (item ii). **The Group closed** this item.

23	6.3	GE-MIM-VII: Co-operation with ASFA: consult with ASFA Partners & prepare a proposal on "The acquisition of data set citations for inclusion in ASFA (probably) using automated methodology" for discussion at the 2003 ASFA Board Meeting	Nov. '02		J. Beattie
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The Group noted with regret that Ms. Beattie could not attend the Meeting. Mr. Richard Pepe (FAO) informed the Group that there is no principal problem with including information on data sets in an ASFA record. This could be included in the notes field. **The Group re-iterated** that Publishers should make the inclusion of data source information mandatory.

FURTHER ACTION: **The Group decided** to prepare a short paper on this issue for submission to IODE-XVIII for approval and subsequently to the 2005 ASFA Advisory Board. **The Group tasked** Pauline Simpson in consultation with the Chair GE-MIM and ASFA Secretariat to prepare this paper (Deadline: December 2004).

24	6.4	GE-MIM-VII: Co-operation with Science Programmes: take measures to ensure that project documents be archived permanently by a designated	Cont.		IODE/Science programmes
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		library/information centre that commits itself to be a permanent archive			
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The Technical Secretary reported that no action was taken on this item but noted that the practise of archiving project documents in permanent archives is now becoming commonplace through the institutional e-repositories. **The Group closed** this item.

25	7	GE-MIM-VII: MIM Subject Categorization The Group agreed to discuss further details on the scheme by email & complete the scheme by December 2002.	Dec. '02		Group
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The Chair reported that a categorization exercise was undertaken for OceanExpert. Further discussions on this item were referred to Agenda Item 4.2.

26	8.1	GE-MIM-VII: Access to E-Journals: ODINAFRICA & ODINCARSA co-ordinators should contact Publishers to identify conditions to obtain e-journals	Cont.		M. Goovaerts
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Mr. Goovaerts reported that, for ODINAFRICA, he contacted some publishers. They reported that they participate in some programmes already (Agora, HINARI, INASP,...) and do not wish to embark on specific agreements for marine science projects. Regrettably the use of the journals under these projects (eg ODINAFRICA) has remained surprisingly low. Mr. Goovaerts further reported that EBSCO has started an A-Z list initiative (<http://www.ebsco.com/home/ejournals/default.asp>) where institutions can combine information on journals relevant to their fields of interest. These lists can then link to the journal sites where the documents can be accessed (if the institution is subscribed to them). The service, provided by EBSCO, costs about US\$ 1000/year.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group called on EBSCO and other similar service providers to provide such a service to developing countries (possibly for ODIN projects) free of charge or at substantially reduced price and **tasked** the Chair GE-MIM, in close collaboration with Marc Goovaerts to investigate this matter further (deadline: December 2004).

The Group tasked the Chair GE-MIM to establish closer contacts with INASP (<http://www.inasp.info/>), EIFL (<http://www.eifl.net/>), HINARI (<http://www.healthinternetwork.org/>), AGORA (<http://www.aginternetwork.org/en/>) to improve access by marine librarians in developing countries (eg within the framework of ODIN networks) to marine related journals (deadline: end 2004).

The Group requested Mr Mika Odido, ODINAFRICA project coordinator, to actively promote programmes such as INASP, EIFL, AGORA and HINARI within the ODINAFRICA community, for example through the ODINAFRICA web site (deadline: immediately).

27	8.2	GE-MIM-VII: e-Print repositories: Cross-search Service for Marine Science: establish a search engine that will search archives of marine libraries	Cont.		IAMSLIC/ P. Simpson
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Ms. Simpson reported that she had presented a few papers at IAMSLIC conferences. It had been suggested that, once critical mass is achieved in terms of institutional repositories, a harvester can be set up. Progress has been made within the IAMSLIC community in this regard. Ms. Simpson also welcomed the establishment of the African e-repository project, funded by the Government of Flanders (see Agenda Item 4.4).

The Group urged IOC Member States to establish institutional e-repositories and requested the Secretariat to issue a Circular Letter in this regard.

The Group requested Ms. Simpson, in collaboration with IAMSLIC to provide a list of examples of institutional repositories that will be referred to in the Circular Letter. (deadline: November 2004) . Further discussions on this subject were referred to Agenda Item 4.4.

28	8.3	GE-MIM-VII: z39.50 and Distributed Libraries: - identify the resources required for developing custom made Z39.50 middleware for non-Z39.50 compliant library catalogue databases. These would be of specific interest to developing countries - strongly promote the IAMSLIC Z39.50 project as an excellent example of resource networking & resource sharing for the benefit of the marine science community.	Jul . '03		IOC
			Cont		Members

The Group congratulated IAMSLIC with the development of an excellent Z39.50 based system involving about 44 libraries. The Group recalled that there had been some concern a few years ago that Z39.50 would be replaced by another standard, but noted that this had not happened. The Group concluded that the development of Z39.50 middleware is still relevant and should be implemented.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group recommended that a study be undertaken of existing middleware. In addition the issue of non-compliance of INMAGIC should be addressed and possibly middleware should be developed with priority by INMAGIC. The Group decided to request Steve Watkins to assist with this matter. (deadline: early 2005)

29	8.4	GE-MIM-VII: Semantic Networks/web: investigate the possibility to identify a colleague at the NOAA Library to monitor the progress of the W3C Semantic Web Initiative	Dec. '03		J. Beattie/ M.Goovaerts
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The Group noted that the concept of “semantic webs”, ontologies and concept maps is still at early stages of development. It deserves monitoring as it will relate to OceanPortal, e-Repositories and OceanExpert. However at this time the technologies are not yet sufficiently mature to implement. The Group closed this item.

30	8.5	GE-MIM-VII: Digital Video Archiving: include a chapter in OceanTeacher on the development of digital image libraries.	Apr. '03		J. Beattie
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Due to the inability of Ms. Beattie to attend the meeting no information was available on progress with this item.

FURTHER ACTION: The Group decided to request Ms Beattie to provide the Chapter to the OceanTeacher Editors for inclusion in OceanTeacher.

31	8.6	GE-MIM-VII: Dynamic Content Management Systems: BeeBox: add BeeBox in the software list of OceanTeacher (MIM)	Jan. '03		IOC
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The Technical Secretary informed the Group that this task had been completed.

4. GEMIM PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

4.1 OCEANPORTAL

4.1.1 Classification

This Agenda Item was introduced by Ms Pauline Simpson. Reference was made to **Document IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/9** (OceanPortal Directory Categories).

The Group recalled the scope of OceanPortal: “*Ocean Portal is a high-level directory of Ocean Data and Information related web sites. Its objective is to help scientists and other ocean experts in locating such data & information.*”

The Group noted with appreciation the considerable development work on OceanPortal since GE-MIM-VII. **The Group welcomed** the possibility to classify sites in multiple categories.

The Group identified the following additional requirements:

- Subset searching (eg first search aquaculture, then search within that set, search for India);
- Boolean searching (and better description of possibilities);
- Full logging of queries (through search box or tree browsing)

The Group requested the Secretariat to develop the above features (deadline: early 2005).

The Group decided to remove the sub-levels. This will result in 17 sub-categories under “Information resources”. The top level category “Information resources” should have the following scope note: “Where to find out about libraries, literature, documents, repositories, directories, tools for and training of librarians”.

The Group defined the following categories required under “Information Resources” (and replacing the current categories):

New	Old
1. Bibliographic databases (descriptions of literature including catalogues)	Abstract/bibliographies (general-scientific-Marine)
2. Library catalogues	Libraries/Library catalogues
3. Journals (and Newsletters)	Publications and News/Journals Publications and News/Newsletters
4. Discussion groups, newsgroups, listservers	Publications and News/Bulletin boards – discussion groups Publications and News/Newsgroups - Listservers
5. E-repositories (e-print archives)	Libraries/E-Print Archives
6. Multimedia collections (photo/image, video, audio, maps/charts..)	Libraries/E-maps – charts Libraries/Photo libraries
7. Expert Directories (scientists, librarians, ...)	<i>(Part of or New)</i> Scientist & Ships/Expertise (P or N)
8. Reference sources (dictionaries, acronyms, ...)	Information tools/Acronyms – abbreviations Information tools/Dictionaries - glossaries
9. Public information/awareness	<i>New</i>
1.10. Libraries 10.1 Marine libraries 10.2 Other libraries (interdisciplinary)	Libraries
11. Publishers and agents	Publications and News/ Journal intermed. Publications and News/Publishers - sellers
12. Marine professional assoc.	<i>Part of or Double</i> Organizations, associations, societies
13. Funding sources	<i>New- should double in Miscellaneous</i>
14. Software for library/Information management	Information tools/Software Information tools
15. Information Management related tech development	<i>New</i>
16. Training and education	<i>New</i>
17. Guides and practices (incl copyright, ILL, (manuals, guides, etc)	<i>New but:</i> Administration, conservation, policy: Conventions – treaties - laws

The top-level category “Organizations, Associations, Societies” should be sub-divided with at least the sub-category “Library Associations”. This should also be visible under “Information Resources” as the sub-category “Library Associations”

The Group decided :

- to move the content under sub-category “Expertise” from top-level category Scientists & Ships to Information Resources sub-category “Expert Directories” (to be created).
- A new subcategory should be created under Information Resources called “Funding sources”. This should be copied under the top-level category “Miscellaneous”.
- Move “Language Translator” under Miscellaneous.

The Group requested the Secretariat to re-categorize URLs inventoried in OceanPortal under “Information Resources” using the above new categorization scheme (deadline: early 2005).

The Group considered it important to feature “data inventories” and “data centres” also under the top level category “information resources” as queries on data sources are received by the information professional, and requested the Secretariat to undertake the necessary re-categorization of relevant URLs (deadline: early 2005).

The Group noted that, as a next step the above category scheme will need to be mapped onto the current category scheme to assess the implications to OceanPortal. The Group established a sessional Group (Suzie, Marc, Pauline) to complete the mapping. (see Annex ...).

In the search result the category should be displayed:

OCEAN EXPERT: Global Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals (GLODIR) *Hot Top Rated*

[Write a Review!](#) - [Rate It!](#)

GLODIR is a database, developed and maintained by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC), containing information on individuals involved in all aspects of Marine or Freshwater Research and Management. It is intended to be a tool for scientists, policy makers and anyone who needs to contact a marine or freshwater professional. A 'Professional' is defined as a person who, through his/her job, has expertise related to the research and management of the aquatic environment.
 - [Visit Homepage](#) **In category SCIENTISTS & SHIPS > Expertise**

The Group recommended that financial resources should be allocated to ensure the maintenance of information management categories in OceanPortal.

The Group recommended that the data management resources section should be defined by data managers. IODE-XVIII may need to identify the relevant subsidiary body that will take on this responsibility.

4.1.2 OAI-PMH compliance

OAI-PMH (Open Archive Initiative – Protocol for Metadata Harvesting) compliance will enable another service provider to “include” a selection of OceanPortal records in their web page.

The Group recommended to make OceanPortal OAI-PMH compliant and tasked the IOC/ODE Secretariat to identify the required actions to achieve this (Deadline: early 2005).

4.1.3 Metadata format

The current metadata structure is as follows (example record):

infolibrarian.com	
Link ID	4833
Title	infolibrarian.com
Url	http://www.infolibrarian.com/
Description	We are a group of professionals working in the area of library and computer fields. Our objective behind this project is to give maximum information to working library and information science professionals, teachers and students at one place. Here, we have made an attempt to collect information from different sources and given brief description, wherever possible.
Category	INFORMATION RESOURCES > General INFORMATION RESOURCES > Information Tools INFORMATION RESOURCES > Libraries
Date	19-Jan-2004
Contact Name	
Email	

The Group recommended to add the field “Submitted by” indicating the identity of the person who created the record in OceanPortal (this is not a standard Dublin Core element). **The Group requested** Mr. Goovaerts to study this matter and advise the Secretariat accordingly (October 2004).

4.1.4 Analysis of Use of OceanPortal

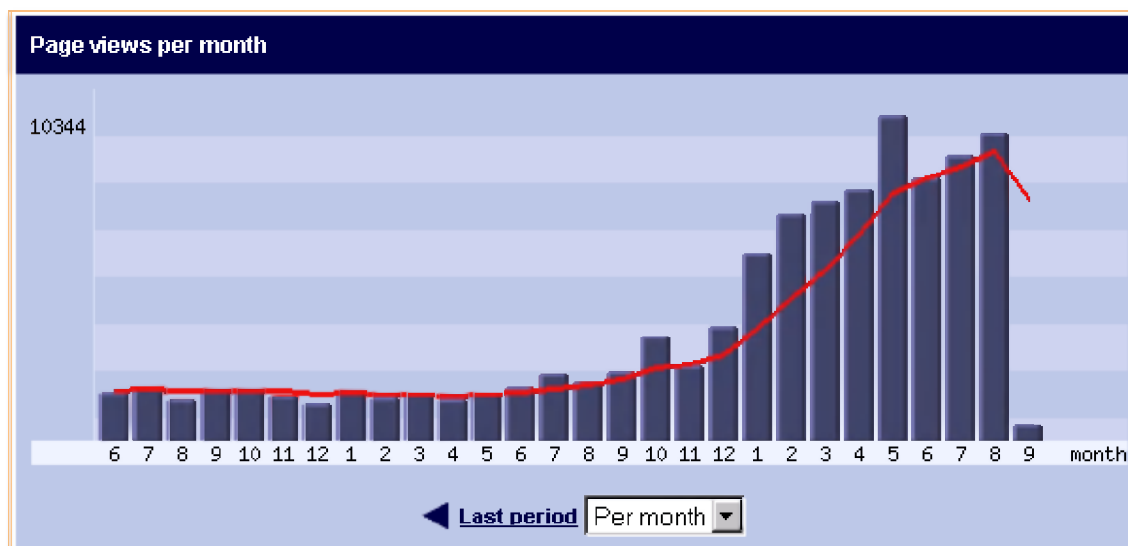


Figure 1: OceanPortal Visit statistics June 2003 – September 2004

Visits to the OceanPortal site grew rapidly as from December 2003 and number now (August 2004) approximately 10,000 visits/month. This number represents the number of visits to the homepage and does not represent the total number of queries.

1.	Europe	44404	35.8 %
2.	North-America	43144	34.8 %
3.	Asia	14579	11.8 %
4.	South America	7918	6.4 %
5.	Australia	4842	3.9 %
6.	Central America	3105	2.5 %
7.	Africa	2705	2.2 %
8.	None (.net, .org)	89	0.1 %
	Unknown	3091	2.5 %
	Total	123877	100.0 %

Figure 2: Geographic distribution of OceanPortal visitors

About 70% of all visits originate from Europe and North America. Asia is underrepresented despite good Internet access.

The Group recommended more active promotion of OceanPortal in Asia and South/Central America. This may be achieved through relevant journals and newsletters. **The Group requested** the Chair to implement this action for Asia and to coordinate this action with Ms. Muñoz for Central America (deadline: as from December 2004).

4.1.5 Cooperation with IAMSILIC on OceanPortal

Ms. Jane Barnwell (IAMSILIC President 2004-2005) and Mr Steve Watkins (IAMSILIC President 2003-2004) informed the Group about the IAMSILIC portal “Aqua Terra”. Aqua Terra is a web portal being created by the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSILIC). Its purpose is to capture metadata related to electronic resources of interest to the clientele and managers of marine and aquatic science libraries and information centers.

URL: <http://cwis.fcla.edu/iamslic/>

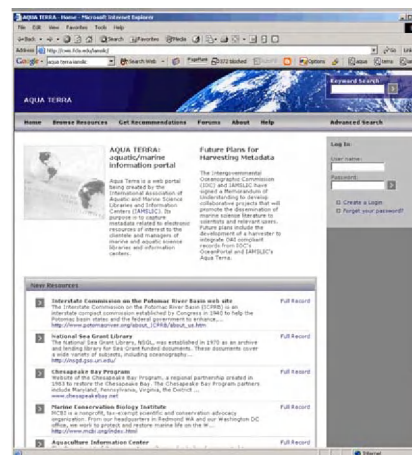


Fig. 3: The Aqua terra home page

The Group noted with appreciation the development of the “Aqua Terra” portal (<http://cwis.fcla.edu/iamslic/>) and **noted in particular** that Aqua Terra will focus on subject-specific web-based content (down to the document level), whereas OceanPortal focuses on web-based resources (more at the meta-level).

The Group and IAMS LIC, represented by its President **agreed** that IAMS LIC and IOC will define, in detail, a description of the scope of Aqua Terra and OceanPortal respectively (for inclusion in the home page of the respective portals). It was further agreed that IAMS LIC and IOC will agree on a common metadata structure that will be based upon the Dublin Core and contain, as a minimum, the Dublin Core mandatory fields. It was further agreed that a working group will be established with the following membership:

- For OceanPortal: Ms. Suzie Davies, Mr. Marc Goovaerts, Ms. Pauline Simpson, Mr. Benjaim Sims, Mr. Peter Pissierssens;
- For Aqua Terra: Mr. Steve Watkins, Ms. Jane Barnwell, Ms. Stephanie Haas, Mr. Dan Belich, Ms. Janet Webster, Ms. Brit Skotheim

The working group will coordinate the further development of OceanPortal and Aqua Terra to ensure complementarity and avoid unnecessary duplication. It will also define the scope of both portals as mentioned above. (deadline: end October 2004)

4.2 OCEANEXPERT

This Agenda Item was introduced by the Technical Secretary. He reported that, as already reported at GEMIM-VII, OceanExpert had been fully re-engineered, moving to an object-oriented architecture (php/mySQL based) with several changes to the functioning of the system. The most significant effects of this rewrite are:

- Increased maintainability and flexibility: the code is now much more simple to understand and alter, making the implementation of new features much easier.
- Permissions system: members of OceanExpert can now be given permission to edit other people's records. This enables a user to take responsibility for editing a group of records, using only their own login.
- Groups system: members can be specified as members of multiple 'groups', allowing specialised views on the system which appear to be separate sites but operate from the same underlying database.

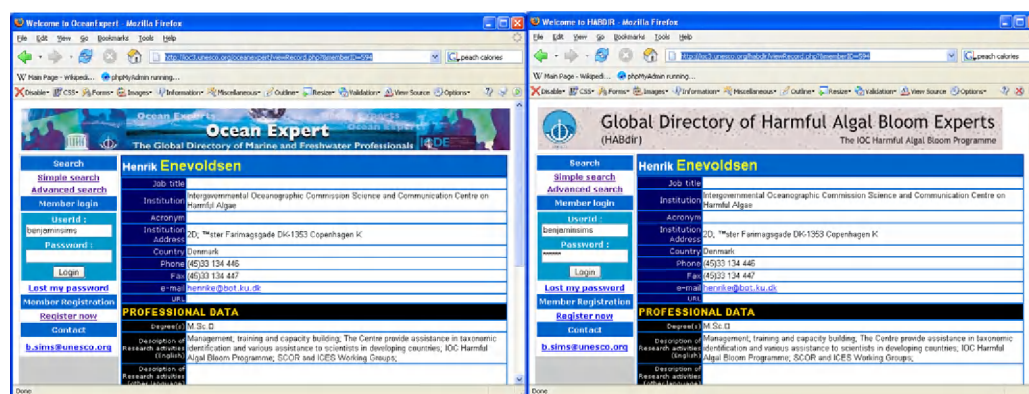


Fig 4: OceanExpert community views (example OceanExpert Global and HABDIR)

Recently, the application had furthermore been migrated to a new Linux server, significantly improving search speed.

Several methods of searching the database are currently available. From the “Simple Search” page, users can run a quick query querying the database by Surname or Country. In addition users can browse by country or by Subject (area).

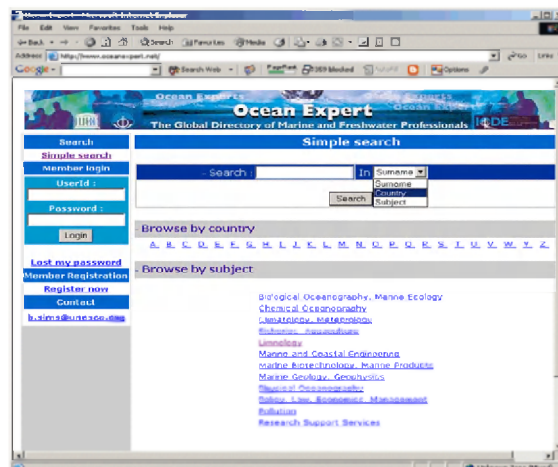


Fig 5: OceanExpert browsing

The Advanced Search page provides more options and allows the user to combine criteria in order to achieve more specific results:

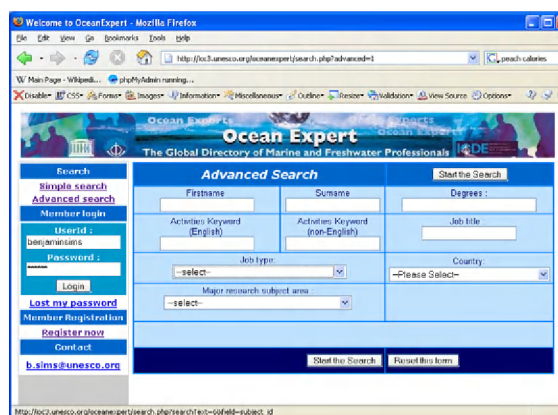


Fig 6: OceanExpert advanced search

There are currently more than 10,000 records in OceanExpert.

Discussions at IAMSILIC 2003 did not lead to volunteers offering to coordinate data entry and editing for individual institutions. As such data entry remained limited to voluntary entries by individual professionals. There is a considerable need for updating and validating of records.



Fig 7: OceanExpert poster

In September 2002 a poster has been produced for OceanExpert (see left). This poster has been distributed at all appropriate occasions and copies have been sent to IODE national coordinators..

The Head of the new TEMA & regions section at the IOC Secretariat, Mr. Ehrlich Desa, has shown interest to use the OceanExpert system for the maintenance of information on ocean experts from developing countries.

Ms. Suzie Davies reported 381 records for Australia. Many are out of date. Ms Davies has been promoting the product but the number of records remains unsatisfactory. There are a few marine related associations in Australia that jointly represent about 1500 experts. Few of the members are included in OceanExpert.

The Group noted that the system has not sent out update requests for the past five years and this probably made people lose track of OceanExpert.

The Group had extensive discussions on the need of OceanExpert. It was observed that today's Internet enables people to easily find full address information of fellow experts, whereas such information, in the near to distant past, was only partially available from journal articles. In addition experts have access to electronic discussion lists that cover a wide variety of scientific subjects. It was observed that these new technologies have made a global directory, from the individual expert point of view, rather obsolete.

The Group noted however, that from the national science manager point of view, a directory is still very valuable as it will enable national scientific committees to monitor the number of experts in a given subject area. The Directory could also be useful for employers to identify available expertise. **In this regard the Group recommended the addition of field "skills and expertise".(deadline: October 2004)**

The Group summarized OceanExpert's current and required features as follows:

OceanExpert provides:

- personal/contact information;
- information on job carried out by individual
- information on papers published by individual
- organizational contact information
- list of national organizations
- list of experts at country or regions level
- list of experts at subject level
- searchability by language

OceanExpert also needs to provide:

- information on individual expertise and skills
- possibility to search by region (draw a box? List of countries)
- facility to advertise job opportunities
- list of experts sorted by organizations
- general: set of standard reports, nicely formatted
- search and report on publications
- unique and universal expert identifier

The Group noted with regret that only the sub-directories (such as AFRIDIR, CARSADIR, HABDIR,...) had been maintained and updated regularly. **The Group concluded** that management of records can only be manageable if the directory is sub-divided in smaller groups by subject area or country, and that each of these groups is managed by individual managers.

The Group expressed its disappointment that the administrative function that allowed individuals to manage groups of records (institutional, national, regional) was no longer available in the new version of the software, and **instructed** the Secretariat to re-instate this function (deadline: immediately)

The Group further instructed the Secretariat to enable searching OceanExpert by every field (deadline: immediately).

The Group stated that it should also be able to generate a variety of reports (eg list of organizations in country x). **The Group instructed** its Chair, in consultation with members, to identify necessary reports and send instructions to the Secretariat (deadline: end of 2004).

The Group noted that OceanExpert should also provide a “job opportunities” service on its web site and instructed the Secretariat to develop this feature (deadline end 2004).

The Group recommended that a link is added in OceanExpert to ASFA in each individual results page) (deadline immediately). Users can then manually search ASFA, if they are subscribing to it.

The Group considered that it would be useful to have unique identifiers for individual authors in ASFA as this would enable a link in OceanExpert to ASFA to generate a list of publications by that person.

The Group considered that OceanExpert could become an authority list for ocean experts providing each author with a unique and universal identifier. This identifier could then link to any content created by that author (eg data sets, publications, projects etc). The databases of such content could be created and maintained by any external content provider but the personal/contact information would be maintained in OceanExpert. MathSciNet can be used as an example of an authority list.

A similar approach may need to be applied for organizations.

With regard to subject categorization in OceanExpert, **the Group recommended** to add scope notes for the 12 top level categories. This could be done by a link to a document that provides the full list or as a mouseover for each category that then displays the scope notes (=sub-levels). (deadline: end of 2004)

The Group further recommended to add a field “suggested category” on the record entry form to enable users to point out gaps in the top-level categories.

The Group established an inter-sessional working group, composed of Ms. Suzie Davies, Ms. Pauline Simpson, Mr. Peter Pissierssens and Mr. Benjamin Sims to (i) follow-up the implementation of the technical recommendations; (ii) prepare a brief management plan that will describe the terms of reference of OceanExpert, as well as a more detailed plan for future development. The inter-sessional group was tasked to complete its technical work (i) by April 2005. The document on future developments will be prepared early 2005 for submission to IODE-XVIII.

The Group recommended to proceed with OceanExpert as described above and to evaluate the product at its next Session. **The Group further recommended** that financial resources be made available to maintain OceanExpert.

4.3 OCEANTEACHER

This Agenda Item was introduced by Mrs Pauline Simpson. Reference was made to “[ODIMeX Project Proposal for Submission to the Government of Flanders](#)” and “[ODIMEX Meeting 1 - Final report](#)”. Reference was also made to Document IOC/ODE-MIM-VIII/8 (Combined Data Management and Information Management Outlines for OceanTeacher) prepared by Dr. Murray Brown.

Ms Simpson recalled that OceanTeacher is an online training tool for marine data and information management which is offered online <http://oceanteacher.org> and as CDROM. It was prepared for new and experienced data and information managers within ODINAFRICA but has been extended to be a learning tool for projects and individual scientists, data managers and information managers globally.

The innovative character of OceanTeacher is first of all the use of a “binary” structure: rather than simply building a set of courses that include content and courses together, OceanTeacher has two components: The Resource Kit (now called digital library) and the Training Modules. The Resource

Kit should be seen as a comprehensive reference system. It can be used by experienced users to refresh their knowledge, or it can be used within the Training Modules by linking to it.

In terms of subject areas OceanTeacher covers marine data management and marine information management. The module on **Data Management** was started some 6 years ago by Dr. Murray Brown, Greg Reed and Peter Pissierssens as a teaching tool within the ODINEA project. It provides, *inter alia*, the latest versions of popular public-domain software, documentation for global and regional datasets, documentation for major formats and links to data sources, annual training manuals and specially produced regional datasets.. The module on **Information Management** was commenced three years ago and is currently less well developed. It provides a foundation for the professional education essential for the modern information worker. As well as specific information handling techniques, particularly in the electronic environment, students examine the political, economic and social context of the formation of an information centre. Teaching is underpinned by relevant research and utilises web-based learning modules as well as practical exercises. The module is divided into three training sessions and is based on incremental learning with progressively more complex topics:

- Understand information concepts
- Information audit within organisation
- Project manage the creation of an information centre
- Understand the software and hardware requirements
- Apply efficient information seeking techniques
- Build and document a library collection
- Use defined integrated library management system to support all activities
- Set up and maintain research support services
- Identify the major electronic resources in marine science and organise access
- Oversee the production of internal publications and e-Publishing
- Introduce the concept of knowledge management to the organisation
- Network with marine science professional organisations
- Identify opportunities for continued professional education
- Provide information skills training to users

It had become evident that it was necessary to tailor training courses to the level of experience of students and the final course now on the website was a review of basic cataloguing techniques and practical exercises in the application of the integrated library catalogue software. Topics included information retrieval and resources; use and evaluation of web search engines with practical application in the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts.

Developed initially for the ODINEA project and later also applied to the ODINAFRICA project, OceanTeacher successfully applied for funding from the Government of Flanders to be re-developed into a comprehensive course-based and e-learning tool with a full management structure. The ODIMeX project received support of US\$ 382,800 for the period 2004-2007.

The Group recommended to seek expertise amongst the IAMSLIC and EURASLIC community but also look beyond this group (eg IFLA) for topics of a general library and IT nature. It is important however to remain focused on marine library professionals as target audience.

The Group noted that items 3.2.7 to 3.2.18 appear to be repeated under 3.6 (See Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/8).

The Group requested Dr. Tapaswi to discuss this matter with Dr. Nieuwenhuysen and Ms. Pikula in order to finalize the Outline as presented in Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/8 (deadline: October 2004).

Taking into consideration the observation made above, **the Group agreed with the proposed outline as related to marine information management.**

The IAMSLIC and EURASLIC Presidents agreed to promote OceanTeacher in their communities and would invite their membership to participate in the development of OceanTeacher as content provider. They expressed their concern about the single-language approach of OceanTeacher at this time and called for the studying of the possibility to translate OceanTeacher in other languages. Alternatively content providers could submit their content in their own language. The project would then need to take care of translation into eg English. The content could then be offered in at least two languages. The EURASLIC President mentioned that the need for training in Eastern Europe is substantial and the working language of these countries is often Russian. The Group recommended that OceanTeacher content should be available in at least the languages used in ODIN project regions.

The Group recommended that OceanTeacher considers the possibility to have particular lecture modules be accredited so they can be distance-learning courses accredited by particular academic institutions to obtain a diploma/degree or course credit. Courses organized using OceanTeacher should be able to issue certificates.

The Group expressed its concern about the need for resources for the continued updating of material beyond the duration of the current project (four years 2004-2007) and called on IOC to ensure the long-term support of OceanTeacher, especially in view of its possible accreditation.

4.4 OTHER PRODUCTS

4.4.1 Development of an African repository for electronic publications

Under this Agenda Item, Mr Marc Goovaerts reported on the Project “Development of an African repository for electronic publications” and he referred to the Document “[PROJECT DOCUMENT: Development of an African repository for electronic publications \(Project Proposal for Submission to the Government of Flanders\)](#)”. He reported that the Proposal, requesting an amount of US\$ 101,000 for the years 2004-2005, had been approved and implementation had started. He then referred to Document IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-12 ([Setting up of a repository server for Odinafrica](#)” [OdinPUBafrica](#)).

He recalled that the creation of an African repository will have the following immediate and direct advantages:

- (i) make documents more easily accessible to the African Ocean (and coastal area) research and management community, which will enhance the internal scientific communication;
- (ii) facilitate publishing of research findings by African scientists (e-journal as well as e-archive) thereby promoting African research and increasing access by African scientists to the international research forum.

The project will have the following objectives:

- **Development of an OAI-compliant e-repository providing access to full-text publications created by scientists affiliated to ODINAFRICA member institutions and managed by their libraries and information centres.** These may include scientific articles, theses, reports and other published or unpublished (grey literature) materials, available in full-text electronic form.

Rationale: During the ODINAFRICA-II project all participating ocean libraries were provided with the INMAGIC Integrated Library Management System (ILMS) software. All libraries built their in-house library catalogue using this software (and using a standard format). After quality control the records of all libraries were merged into the AFRILIB library catalogue available on the IOC/ODINAFRICA web site. This data base includes records on all (paper)

publications (monographs, reprints, photocopies of articles, journals, theses, etc) available in the libraries. The system does not provide full-text access to these objects. Accordingly to obtain the full-text version of the objects interlibrary loan requests need to be sent to the holding library.

- **Provide a platform facilitating the development of Africa e-Journals**
Rationale: on many occasions African scientists have expressed their concern about their difficulty in publishing their research findings in international journals. Several attempts have been made by various institutions and organizations to start the publishing of African ocean journals in print form. Most have failed due to the lack of interested publishers, limited market potential and other business related reasons. E-journals are able to bypass the need for commercial publishers. This model has proved itself for various disciplines (eg physics, mathematics, etc).

Types of documents that can be included:

- Articles: an article evolves from the author's version (preprint) to a journal version (refereed) to a postprint version (adapted author's version). The journal version may not be available because of copyright limitations. The pre- or postprint can be archived in the repository;
- Scientific reports (annual, regular) – project reports
- Theses
- Technical progress notes (unrefereed)
- Conference papers

In addition there is a substantial amount of legacy material that is worth of converting to electronic format. This will be an important component in the project. New publications will also be included as these represent the actual scientific research in Africa. Not yet published articles, African Journals with their articles, new reports, conference papers etc. will all be welcome in the OdinPubAfrica repository.

Software solution selection

Two solutions were considered: ePrints and Dspace. Both are well-developed products for the setting up of repositories. The main difference between the two products is that ePrints is a tool to create one large collection of documents with different views (search and browse functionality), whereas Dspace offers the possibility to create a substructure in the collection (community-collection) besides the general views.

Mr Goovaerts reported to the Group that he had installed both products on his institution's server. Dspace proved to be easy to install. EPrints had been more difficult to install due to technical reasons related to the existence of different versions of Perl.

While Dspace stresses the importance of administration and specifically the users access administration, ePrints has a less controlled approach on the access rights for users. EPrints is also more adapted to librarians taste. For already published documents ePrints has a more precise way to handle the citation of the original work.

On-line demonstrations were provided for both products:

EPrint: <http://eprints.soton.ac.uk>

Mrs Simpson gave the demonstration for Eprints.

Eprints can generate a subject tree from which the user can browse the collection. Eprints provides a proper citation which is useful when the need arises to export a record for use in a reference list, project document etc. The Eprints input screen provides extensive help and examples so scientists can

enter records themselves. For each document type there is a different input form. The number of input screens is quite substantial. It is a bit difficult to assess progress in the process of adding a record. Additional development will take place to continue improving the software. Currently the language of the document is not a field. EPrint has been developed and is being maintained by University of Southampton, UK.

Dspace: <http://doclib.luc.ac.be/odin/>

Mr. Goovaerts gave the demonstration for Dspace.

Dspace allows for sub-collections (Communities and Collections). It is not possible currently to search by year of publication. The number of fields that can be used for a search is relatively limited. Dspace has a progress bar when entering a new record. The citation does not consist of separate fields but LUC has developed a way to enable separate entry of citation elements. These are then merged into the standard Dspace citation field. Dspace allows the selection of keywords from a list of already used keywords. The same applies to authors. At the level of document upload Dspace does not require the definition of the file type as Dspace will recognize it. Dspace uses only one input form regardless of the document type. The admin functions of Dspace are quite extensive. Dspace has been developed by MIT and Hewlett-Packard. Its future maintenance is currently unclear as the current version was developed under a grant and this is ending in 2004.

Conclusion: the Dspace data entry interface is very user-friendly and minimizes the number of form to be used for data entry. The progress bar is very useful. Search possibilities appear not to be as extensive as those of EPrint. The possibility to create “communities and collections” has interesting potential. EPrint appears to be more comprehensive and is being maintained so it can add new functions if necessary. EPrint is being maintained by a government organization whereas the maintenance of Dspace may depend on an open source community.

The Group agreed to use Dspace as the software solution for the e-repository, taking into consideration that LUC is hosting the OdinPUBAfrica project and has experience with Dspace. **The Group requested** Marc Goovaerts to inquire from the product developers about their future plans with Dspace. (Deadline: September 2004)

The Group recommended that a detailed analysis of both products be made based upon terms of reference of ODINPUBAfrica. The analysis will be drafted by Marc Goovaerts and Pauline Simpson (Deadline: end of 2005)

The Group recommended that financial resources be allocated to implement a similar project in other regions, and to ensure the continuation of the African e-repository beyond the current project (ie beyond 2006)

5. PROGRESS AND FURTHER NEEDS IN THE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT (ODINAFRICA, OTHER REGIONS)

5.1 ODINAFRICA

This agenda item was introduced by Ms. Arame Keita, referring to document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/14 (ODINAFRICA-III – Marine Information Management (MIM) activities). She explained that the Ocean Data and Information Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA) was established by 20 Member States in Africa (Benin, Cameroon, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, and Tunisia). The main objective was to enable the member states to get access to data available in other data centres, develop skills for manipulation of data and preparation of data and information products, and develop infrastructure for archival, analysis and dissemination of the data and information products. The focus was on preparing databases, and data and information products for integrated management of the coastal environments and resources.

Substantial investments were made in education of marine librarians, provision of basic computer equipment and integrated library management system (ILMS) software (INMAGIC) during ODINAFRICA-II (2001-2003). Most ODINAFRICA-II partner libraries have thus developed an electronic library catalogue. In addition, a Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals (AFRIDIR) was developed and access to information about scientific publications provided through the bibliographic tool ASFA, and subscription to over 30 marine related journals.

The goal of the current phase (ODINAFRICA-III) is to improve data flows into the national oceanographic data and information centres in the participating countries, develop data and information products required for integrated management of the coastal areas of Africa, and increase the delivery of services to end users. Five additional countries (Algeria, Angola, Congo, Egypt and Namibia) have joined in implementation of ODINAFRICA-III. The government of Flanders, Belgium will provide US\$2.5 million to support the implementation of ODINAFRICA-III during the period June 2004- December 2007.

Ms Keita explained that in marine information management, ODINAFRICA-III will focus on using facilities and expertise developed in earlier phases to generate products for effective management of the coastal and marine areas of Africa. Considering the growing importance of electronic resources, the equipment and software in the information centres will be upgraded so that the services and products already developed can be provided on-line at institutional (intranet) and national/regional (internet) levels. The information managers from institutions in the five countries that have recently joined the network will be provided with the training and facilities to enable them participate effectively. ODINAFRICA-III will involve 25 countries, whereas ODINAFRICA-II only 20.

She informed the Group that full information on ODINAFRICA-III was available from the web site <http://ioc.unesco.org/odinafrica3>.

Reference was made also to Agenda Item 4.4.1 (Development of an African repository for electronic publications).

She informed the Group that the African union catalogue AFRILIB now contains close to 5000 records. The search interface is available on line from the IOC server in Paris on <http://ioc.unesco.org/inmagic/odinafrica-db/search.htm> but requires some finetuning to make it easy to use. The AFRILIB workflow arrangements also need some more work to ensure a sustained flow of records to the union catalogue.

The Group noted with appreciation that a few ODINAFRICA member institutions (KMFRI, Kenya; IMROP, Mauritania, IMS, Tanzania) had joined ASFA as input centres. **The Group considered** that ODINAFRICA could assist ASFA by identifying additional potential partners, based upon an assessment of available expertise.

The Group, referring to the presentation by the INMAGIC dealer, requested the Secretariat to inquire from INMAGIC about the planned phasing out of the Libraries module of DBTextWorks. The Group expressed its concern about this decision. **The Group also expressed its concern** about the inability of DB/Textworks databases to be Z39.50 servers.

The representative of FAO (ASFA) inquired whether records could be exported from DB/Textworks into ASFISIS. The Group was informed that the format used by ODINAFRICA libraries was much simpler than the ASFA field structure. AFRILIB was designed to be a comprehensive catalogue of African marine libraries as a tool for ILLs within Africa.

The Group noted that the e-repository project might be a more appropriate source for ASFA records than AFRILIB as it focuses on African papers. In addition it will provide links to the full-text

document. However, this issue required studying whether the field structures of the e-repository and ASFA are compatible.

The Group requested the e-repository project team and the ASFA Secretariat to investigate the possible use of the e-repository as a source for ASFA. The use of AFRILIB should also be studied. The Group requested that Mr James Macharia (KMFRI, Kenya) should also be involved in the study.

With regard to cooperation between ODINAFRICA and IAMSILIC **the Group noted** that all ODINAFRICA member institutions are also members of the African IAMSILIC group. **The Group regretted** that the ODINAFRICA-III budget did not include any collaborative activities with the African IAMSILIC group (AFRIAMSILIC).

The Group recalled the objectives of the African IAMSILIC meeting that had been planned to take place in 2004 but could not take place due to lack of funds:

- developing of a working document on the constitution and operation
- design of a web site
- establishment of a resource centre
- operationalize African IAMSILIC (incl. ILL)
- discuss linkages with other projects (eg ODINAFRICA)
- discuss sources of funding

The Group noted that IAMSILIC is a professional organization that attempts to network existing marine libraries and information centres without specific resources for capacity building. ODINAFRICA is a capacity building project with a limited duration and specific objectives. The group stressed however that AFRIAMSILIC and ODINAFRICA share the common goal of sharing information resources and expertise through regional collaboration, and implementing complementary initiatives.

The Group noted further that ODINAFRICA operates in the participating coastal IOC Member States through one focal point (one data centres and one information centre) which focuses the support but limits the impact at the national level. AFRIAMSILIC aims at reaching the widest possible group of libraries in Africa (not limiting itself to coastal countries).

The Group urged ODINAFRICA institutions to make available their services, products and expertise to all AFRIAMSILIC members, and to establish links with other marine information related projects in Africa (eg Aquaculture and Fisheries Information Network for Africa (FAO/SAIAB project)). [SAIAB: South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity].

The Group instructed the ODINAFRICA project manager to send a request to the ODINAFRICA information managers.

5.2 ODINCARSA

Ms Patricia Muñoz informed the Group about ODINCARSA referring to **Document IOC/ODE-MIM-VIII/13** (ODINCARSA Marine Information Management Activities) and the additional document “ODINCARSA Marine Information Management General Overview and Suggestions for Future Development”.

She informed the Group that the pilot phase of ODINCARSA has accomplished the following results that relate to marine information management:

- network of more than 60 institutions in 19 Latin American and Caribbean countries;
- establishment of the ODINCARSA web site;
- organization of a training workshop in marine information management;

- creation of the IAMSLIC Latin American Group with a membership of 27 libraries and information centres in the region;
- improvement of coverage by ASFA of the Caribbean and Latin American regions through the joining of libraries from the region as ASFA input centres;
- feasibility study of a regional union catalogue of marine science libraries;
- development of the Regional Directory of Marine Experts (CARDIR);

She reported that it is proposed to develop a “Digital Archive for Latin America and the Caribbean (e-repository)”, as a way to preserve and disseminate the research carried out in the region.

In addition the following recommendations have been formulated:

- **training:** it is recommended to develop a regional training plan that takes into account the technical and professional differences amongst the personnel in the region. This should include:
 - o Promotion of recruitment of staff, specialized in librarianship and information science, in ODINCARSA member institutions;
 - o Assess training needs in the region and organize actions to respond to the needs;
 - o Support internships/visits to marine libraries in developed countries to achieve technology transfer;
 - o Support participation in relevant conferences and other professional events.
- **provision of bibliographic information and other information resources through the ODINCARSA web site:** it is recommended to improve provision of products and services through the ODINCARSA web site, as it now only includes information on the implementation of project activities. Additional content should include:
 - o Information about ODINCARSA libraries and links to their online catalogues;
 - o Access to e-documents (eg magazines, professional journals, technical documents, etc);
 - o Links to other sources of e-documents ;
- **dissemination and communication:** evaluation of the web site

The Group welcomed the progress made by the ODINCARSA project with regard to marine information management.

The Group noted that regional coordinators have been identified for the Caribbean Islands (Ms Donna Spencer, Trinidad and Tobago) and for Latin America (Ms Clara Ramirez). A feasibility study for the regional catalogue of marine libraries is being undertaken this year. The Group noted that an OAI application may assist in sharing this variety of catalogues. Mr Goovaerts offered to provide more information on this matter.

Ms. Muñoz recommended the development of a “Digital archive for Latin America and the Caribbean” (e-repository) as a way to preserve and disseminate the findings of research carried out in the region. This could be part of the ODINCARSA project. **The Group welcomed this suggestion and requested the ODINCARSA project team to consider it for inclusion in the ODINCARSA work plan.**

The Group was informed that the assessment of training needs is a top priority. **The Group offered** its expertise to assist with the assessment and its analysis. **The Chair was tasked** to contact the two ODINCARSA regional coordinators for MIM (Clara Ramirez and Donna Spencer) to jointly undertake the analysis and to prepare a training plan for ODINCARSA in consultation with the membership of the Latin America IAMSLIC group and IAMSLIC’s SAIL group.(Deadline: November 2004)

Mr. Richard Pepe (FAO, ASFA) reported that, during the last ASFA Board, it had been noted that ASFA technical meetings (staff meetings) had been cancelled. The Board had suggested to bring these meetings back and to regionalize them. The Board had invited IOC to co-sponsor these meetings

that will have strong training element. **The Group supported this initiative and called on IOC to provide assistance.**

It had also been suggested to establish document repositories (for grey literature). **The Group noted** that a variety of institutions, as well as some national/regional organizations/projects are already or will soon establish their own repositories. These can be jointly queried through harvesting technology. IAMSILIC is considering establishing such a harvester. **The Group strongly supported this initiative. The Group therefore considered** that there is no need for a centralized repository.

The Group noted that a request had been formulated for provision of ARIEL software and scanners to assist with an ODINCARSA ILL programme. **The Group recommended that this request be given high priority and reference was made to item 8 of Agenda Item 3.**

The Group strongly supported the recommendations and suggestions included in the submitted documents and urged the ODINCARSA marine information managers to develop a detailed project proposal for submission to donors.(Deadline: March 2005)

The Group recommended that financial resources be identified to ensure the further development of ODINCARSA.

5.3 OTHER REGIONS

5.3.1 Pacific Islands region

This item was introduced by Ms Suzie Davies referring to **Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/10** (Further needs in the network development in other regions). She reported that a survey had been prepared (Capacity Survey of Marine Libraries and Information Centres in the (South) Pacific Region) and mailed to 50 libraries in the South Pacific region (including Australia and New Zealand). The surveys were mailed on 22 July 2004 and responses were invited by 1 September 2004. Ms. Davies reported that so far 15 surveys have been received. The responses indicate a wide variation in capacity, resources and funding. Many of the Pacific Island libraries seem to be rather isolated and under-resourced, with little access to resource-sharing regional networks. By contrast, most Australian marine libraries offer sophisticated services and have access to advanced library-related and ICTs. Most Australian libraries participate in FISHNET, a national informal interlibrary loan (ILL) network. Some are also IAMSILIC members.

Ms Davies informed the Group of comments provided by Chris Nelson (PIMRIS coordinator) within the response to the capacity survey mentioned above. Mr Nelson noted the following "A major issue in the Pacific region is the lack of recognition by governments of the strategic importance of information and the need for trained information workers (librarians, archivists, etc.). Symptoms of this include lack of sponsorships for people wishing to study in these fields, low rates of pay for these occupations, and indifference to the state of regional libraries and information centres. Regional libraries are largely staffed by people with nor or only very basic qualifications. Training, if any, is usually restricted to short, sectoral-based workshops with narrow curricula. For participants lacking a solid grounding in information concepts (ie the majority) these generally prove ineffective as long-term methods of skills transfer and sustainable development. Other factors affecting information management capabilities in the region include climate, geography, politics, economics, and the diversity of languages, currencies and legal systems. Rapid advances in ICTs over the past decade have brought new technologies to urban areas and created the potential for better information management across the region. However, most regional libraries remain unable to take full advantage of the changes because of the lack of policy and resources (human, financial & technological). Under these circumstances development has been sporadic at best. IOC could assist through (i) supporting lobbying efforts of information professionals in the region; (ii) sponsoring scholarships for students wishing to study information management courses; (iii) encouraging the adoption of common

standards so that efforts are not diminished by each country or sector adopting a different one; and (iv) utilize existing networks in the region rather than create a new competitor for the limited resources.”

Mr. Ganeshan Rao (former PIMRIS Coordinator) informed the Group that PIMRIS is a formal marine information networking system (of regional institutions and Pacific Island countries) devoted to the collection, storage, retrieval and dissemination of information on fisheries and other living and non-living marine resources (including geosciences) in the tropical Pacific. The regional organisations cooperating in this network are: Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and University of the South Pacific (USP). The PIMRIS Coordination Unit is based at the USP Library. The network is mandated to cooperate in information service; document delivery/ILL; development of a regional marine resources database; production of information material; reference services, and assistance to countries in marine information management and capacity building. PIMRIS started in 1989 with donor funding. In recent years due to lack of funding capacity building activities at country level (marine resources/fisheries departments) has been greatly affected and also the work done previously has not been sustained nationally.

PIMRIS is also closely involved with the Pacific Islands Regional Group of the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres (IAMSLIC. PIMRIS-USP is furthermore an input partner in the Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA).

The PIMRIS Steering Committee, comprising of representatives from the participating regional organisations and national Fisheries/Marine Resources departments, provides guidance to the network and reviews the activities periodically. A series of recommendations and needs were formulated at the PIMRIS Steering Committee in November 2003.

The Group was informed that there is a lack of a structured oceanographic data management facility in this region. Work is carried out by SPREP under EU funding to strengthen environmental information management and national capacity building network under SPREP's Pacific Environment Information Network programme. It was noted that a Pacific Regional Aquaculture Information Service for Education (PRAISE) has been operational out of University of Hawaii.

A meeting of the IAMSLIC Pacific Islands Regional Group (PIRG) on 5 September 2004 which had also invited the IODE Technical Secretary and Chair GE-MIM (Ms. Suzie Davies) resolved that PIRG will work together with PIMRIS to prepare a concept paper (in consultation with other stake holders/networks in marine information amongst Pacific islands) to identify needs, priorities, possible strategies, etc. to facilitate a coordinated effort in marine information management in this region. This document would be developed through extensive consultation with all partners in the region. A mailing list will be established shortly to contact all marine libraries/information centres in the region in order to create the discussion forum. At this stage IOC will be formally informed by the Chair of the Pacific Islands Regional Group (PIRG) of IAMSLIC of the initiative and invited to inform its IOC Action Addresses in the region to promote the initiative and to ensure participation of national libraries/information centres (Deadline: end of October 2004). Out of the full group of contacted experts in the region, volunteers will be sought to draft the concept paper.

The concept paper will subsequently be submitted to IOC and other organizations involved in the region for possible support.

The Group requested Ms Davies to continue collecting the surveys and prepare an analysis for the Group and for the initiative mentioned above (deadline: 1 November 2004).

The Group requested Ms Jane Barnwell to prepare a document that details existing national institutions, regional organizations and their relationships as relevant to marine information management (deadline: 31 December 2004).

The Group requested the Technical Secretary to issue the Circular when informed by the PIRG Chair (approx. March 2005).

The Group requested PIRG to ensure submission of a proposal by March 2005 in order to submit it to IODE-XVIII for funding.

5.3.2 Eastern Europe

Mr. Jan Haspeslagh introduced this item. He informed the Group that EURASLIC is an effective network for exchanging documents and expertise but there are considerable differences in capacity between Eastern and Western Europe. EURASLIC as an organization has tried to assist Eastern European members but resources have been insufficient. He noted that the establishment of an ODIN for Eastern Europe could be a possibility. The enhancement of capacity of the libraries in these countries would enable them to effectively participate in EURASLIC.

The Technical Secretary explained that there is no IOC regional subsidiary body for Europe but that support for Eastern European marine libraries could be recommended during IODE-XVIII on the basis of a detailed proposal.

Mr Jan Haspeslagh (EURASLIC President 2004-2005) summarized the needs of “European Countries in Economic Transition”:

- IT-infrastructure
 - i. current situation : no IT-infrastructure or insufficient, especially in aquatic libraries
 - ii. current national/institutional policy: largely focused on data management, and not on supporting information management
 - iii. current and future allocated budgets: are directed to the projects, related to data management
- Status of information manager profession
 - i. curriculum, job opportunities, remuneration level: in most cases no official job description of ‘librarian’ or ‘information manager’; in 2/3 of ECET-countries no university curriculum available in library and information sciences; underpaid job opportunities, and tendency to allocate information jobs to underqualified personnel
 - ii. training and continuous professional development: is very dependent on international networking, but due to ‘nationalistic’ policies in many ECET-countries, this networking is not supported by authorities
- Information network-building (ILL, Group cataloguing, distributed information services)

Apart from the Euraslic-network, and several projects evolving out of this network, there are to date no transnational initiatives focused on aquatic information management.

The Group welcomed the proposed establishment of an ODIN for Eastern Europe to strengthen the capacity of marine libraries in Eastern Europe with the view of increasing their capacity to underpin marine scientific research and to enable these libraries to fully participate in library network activities organized in Europe by, for example, EURASLIC.

The Group recommended that national and regional needs assessments be undertaken in cooperation with EURASLIC (deadline: February 2005).. **The Group further requested** the Eastern European IOC Member States, in collaboration with EURASLIC, to prepare a proposal for submission to IODE-XVIII (deadline: February 2005).

5.3.3 Mediterranean region

Ms Goulala provided a short report on this matter. She informed the Group that she had discussed the possibility to establish a Mediterranean network at EURASLIC in Kiel. Further action has been made by both partners (HCMR, Greece and UNEP/MAP). A letter to interested libraries has been sent by UNEP accompanied by a questionnaire.

5.3.4 South-East Asia region

During the 30th IAMSILIC Conference, Ms. Amelia Arisola (SEAFDEC, The Philippines) called for the establishment of a South-East Asian IAMSILIC regional group and she volunteered to coordinate the activities that could lead to the establishment of this group. She had further called for IOC support in this regard.

The Group welcomed the initiative and called on IOC to consider providing advice and seed funding for the establishment of a South-East Asian IAMSILIC regional group taking into consideration the relevance of this proposal to WESTPAC. It requested the WESTPAC Secretariat to act on this matter.

5.3.5 Central Indian Ocean Region (ODINCINDIO)

The Technical Secretary introduced this item briefly. He informed the Group that the first ODINCINDIO Planning Meeting on the development of an Ocean Data and Information Network for the IOCINDIO region will be held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran between 2 and 5 October 2004. This meeting will finalize a proposal for submission to IODE-XVIII.

The Group welcomed this initiative and called on this new network to take into consideration the considerable experience in MIM gathered by ODINAFRICA and ODINCARSA.

5.4 INTEGRATED LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (ILMS) SOFTWARE

This item was introduced by Mrs Pauline Simpson. The Group recalled that the decision to recommend INMAGIC as the ILMS software for the ODINAFRICA project had been based upon a comparative analysis of available commercial and open source applications in 2000.

The Group noted that several new ILMS packages are now available: NewGenLib (developed in India); and Koha (developed in New Zealand).

The Group decided that a new analysis will be made taking into consideration ILMS solutions available today both as commercial as open source applications. The Group stressed the importance of such a study in view of the possible requirement for such software for ODINCARSA and the ODINs possibly developed in the Pacific and Eastern Europe regions.

Dr Tapaswi agreed to undertake the analysis [deadline: June 2005]. The analysis should consider NewGenLib; Koha, Inmagic DB/Textworks for Libraries & WebPublisher Pro; IMIS (VLIZ, Belgium); CDS/ISIS-derived ILMS solutions; Athena and ALICE for Windows. The analysis will seek to identify ILMS applications for small libraries, easy to use and low-cost.

6. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

6.1 WITHIN IODE

The Group re-iterated Recommendation IODE-MIM-VII.1 (Nomination of IODE National Co-ordinators) and requested IODE-XVIII to review its structure to include a “IODE National Coordinator for Data Management” and a “IODE National Coordinator for (Marine) Information Management” so that marine information management is treated equally within the IODE Programme. **The Group requested** the Secretariat to issue a Circular letter in this regard.

The Group further urged Member States to promote the development of integrated oceanographic data and information facilities that provide information, metadata and data within a unified technology framework.

The Group, noting the launching of new activities related to biodiversity within IODE, **stressed the need** to involve marine information professionals in such activities. This could involve development of e-repositories, support the efforts to manage and standardize taxonomic tools (eg uBio <http://www.ubio.org>), identification of resources from published literature.

6.2 CO-OPERATION WITH IAMSLIC, EURASLIC AND RELATED MARINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

The Group welcomed the Memorandum of Understanding established between IOC and IAMSLIC in April 2004 and endorsed by the IAMSLIC members at the thirtieth IAMSLIC Conference (5-9 September 2004, Hobart, Australia). **The Group stated** that the MOU will create an appropriate framework to develop and implement collaborative activities. **The Group also considered** that IAMSLIC should be considered as a competent group of international experts who can provide guidance to GE-MIM and IODE on developments in marine information management as well as needs of marine libraries and information centres, complementing the requirements formulated by Member States through the above-mentioned “IODE National Coordinator for (Marine) Information Management”.

The Group invited IAMSLIC members (and members of its regional groups) to liaise with the “IODE National Coordinator for (Marine) Information Management”, when nominated, to ensure the best possible national coordination and involvement.

The Group instructed its Chair and the IODE Technical Secretary to establish, in close consultation with the IAMSLIC President, an appropriate mechanism to communicate, develop and implement joint activities.

The EURASLIC President requested IOC to collaborate with EURASLIC to improve marine information management capacity in Eastern Europe, possibly through the establishment of an ODIN in that region (see 5.3.2).

The Group invited IAMSLIC, EURASLIC and possibly other IAMSLIC regional groups to (continue) participat(e)ing in GE-MIM Sessions.

The Group requested the IOC Executive Secretary to consider the possibility of recognizing IAMSLIC as a “standing member” in view of the MOU established with IAMSLIC.

The Group noted the request of EURASLIC to continue its participation in GE-MIM meetings, and **instructed** the Technical Secretary to further study and consider this request (also see Agenda Item 5.3.2).

The Group urged IOC to continue its support to IAMS LIC and its regional groups by providing US\$ 10,000/year to sponsor participants from developing countries in IAMS LIC annual conferences.

Cooperation between IAMS LIC and IOC is also discussed under Agenda Item 4.1.5.

6.3 CO-OPERATION WITH ASFA

The Group noted with appreciation the participation of FAO (ASFA Secretariat) in the meeting. Interactions with ASFA are included in several other Agenda Items.

6.4 CO-OPERATION WITH FAO

The Group noted that FAO is implementing a number of fisheries information related projects in developing countries that are quite relevant and similar to the ODIN projects of IODE (see also Agenda Item 5.1).

The Group urged FAO and IOC to establish collaboration and **requested** the IODE Technical Secretary to send a letter to the ADG of Fisheries at FAO in this regard.

7. DEVELOPMENT OF AN IODE MIM STRATEGIC PLAN

The Group decided that the IODE MIM programme requires a strategic plan (eg 5 years) to define the medium to long term objectives and goals. The Chair offered to provide her organization's corporate strategic work plan as a starting point for the development of an IODE MIM strategic plan. A discussion forum will be established on the IOC server for further discussions. **The Group decided** to prepare a draft strategic plan for submission to IODE-XVIII (April 2005).

8. PREPARATION OF MIM ACTION PLAN FOR THE NEXT INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD

The Group adopted Recommendation MIM-VIII-??? which includes actions to be taken in the next intersessional period with identified priorities and responsibilities.

The Group tasked the Chair and the Secretariat to monitor the progress of implementation of the Action Plan in consultation with the Group members, and to report the proceedings of this Session and its Action Plan to the Eighteenth Session of the IODE Committee in April 2005.

9. ELECTION OF THE GE-MIM CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Pissierssens informed the meeting of the IOC procedure for the election of a Chair of subsidiary bodies and invited the Group to provide names of candidates.

The Group unanimously elected Ms. Suzie Davies as Chair of the Group.

10. DATES AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

The Group considered the impact of organizing its 8th Session around (enveloping) IAMS LIC and felt it had been a positive experience enabling input from the IAMS LIC community into GE-

MIM. The Group requested that the total duration should be 4 days (3 before and 1 after IAMSLIC) to ensure the full agenda can be dealt with effectively.

The Group recommended that the next Session of the Group should be held in Portland, Oregon, organized around the 32nd IAMSLIC Conference, mid-October 2006.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

12. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT

The Group adopted the draft summary report of its Eighth Session. **The Group instructed** the Secretariat and the Group's Chair to carry out the necessary editing and corrections when processing the final version.

13. CLOSURE

The Chair thanked the Members of the Group for their active participation in this Session and for electing her as Chair. She thanked Dr. Murari Tapaswi for his skilful chairmanship during the past two inter-sessional periods.

The Chair also thanked the local host CSIRO, and Mr Denis Abbott in particular, for the excellent facilities provided.

The Group expressed its gratitude and appreciation to Mr Steve Watkins, IAMSLIC Past-President for his instrumental role in the establishment of the MOU between IOC and IAMSLIC. The Group expressed its gratitude to all observers for their active participation.

The Chair closed the meeting on Friday, 10 September 2004 at 15h15.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION
2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
3. REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
4. GEMIM PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
 - 4.1 OCEANPORTAL
 - 4.1.1 Classification
 - 4.1.2 OAI-PMH compliance
 - 4.1.3 Metadata format
 - 4.1.4 Analysis of Use of OceanPortal
 - 4.1.5 Cooperation with IAMS LIC on OceanPortal
 - 4.2 OCEANEXPERT
 - 4.3 OCEANTEACHER
 - 4.4 OTHER PRODUCTS
 - 4.4.1 Development of an African repository for electronic publications
5. PROGRESS AND FURTHER NEEDS IN THE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT (ODINAFRICA, OTHER REGIONS)
 - 5.1 ODINAFRICA
 - 5.2 ODINCARSA
 - 5.3 OTHER REGIONS
 - 5.3.1 Pacific Islands region
 - 5.3.2 Eastern Europe
 - 5.3.3 Mediterranean region
 - 5.3.4 South-East Asia region
 - 5.3.5 Central Indian Ocean Region (ODINCINDIO)
 - 5.4 INTEGRATED LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (ILMS) SOFTWARE
6. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS
 - 6.1 WITHIN IODE
 - 6.2 CO-OPERATION WITH IAMS LIC, EURAS LIC AND RELATED MARINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS
 - 6.3 CO-OPERATION WITH ASFA
 - 6.4 CO-OPERATION WITH FAO
7. DEVELOPMENT OF AN IODE MIM STRATEGIC PLAN
8. PREPARATION OF MIM ACTION PLAN FOR THE NEXT INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD
9. ELECTION OF THE GE-MIM CHAIRPERSON
10. DATES AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION
11. OTHER BUSINESS
12. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT
13. CLOSURE

ANNEX II
RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation MIM-VII.1: ACTION PLAN OF THE GROUP FOR 2003-2004

Recommendation MIM-VII.1

ACTION PLAN OF THE GROUP FOR 2005-2006

The IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management,

Having reviewed its completed and on-going activities,

Being aware of the resource constraints (staff and funding) under which IOC and its IODE are operating,

Stressing the importance of Marine Information Management (MIM) as an important activity of IODE towards improving access to marine information,

Adopts a plan of action for the intersessional period 2003-2004, as given in the Annex to this Recommendation.

Annex to Recommendation MIM-VIII.1

MIM ACTION PLAN FOR 2005-2007

		Responsibility	Deadline
1	GEMIM-VI Action 3: Request Publishers to ask Authors to Define Keywords using ASFIS Thesaurus: - The Group requested the IOC Secretariat to post the file on the IODE web site (as well as link to the searchable version) with source acknowledgement. - The Group requested the Mrs Goulala to email (or mail) the URL for the Thesaurus (on the IODE web site) to the Publishers (Deadline: October 2004).	Secretariat S. Goulala	Sep 04 Oct 04
2	GEMIM-VI Action 4: Monitoring of Electronic Copyright Legislation in Relation to Electronic Document Delivery: - The Group recommended that the content of Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/6 be posted on the IODE web site (deadline: immediately). The page should be called "An introduction to electronic copyright legislation for use by librarians – a selective review as of March 2003". There should also be a link to the UNESCO Collection of National Copyright) - The updated "page" should also be reported to Ms. Linda Pikula to be included in OceanTeacher	Secretariat Secretariat	Sep 04 Oct 04
3	GEMIM-VI Action 5: Meeting of ICSPRO & other UN Agencies on Co-ordination of MIM Activities: - The Group called for closer collaboration intra-UNESCO, especially with the Communication and Information (CI) Sector and tasked the Chair and IOC Secretariat to establish this collaboration - The Group instructed its members to study the UNESCO Libraries Portal and identify concrete possibilities for cooperation between IODE/MIM and UNESCO CI.	Chair/ Secretariat GEMIM members	Sep 04 Dec 04
4	GEMIM-VI Action 12: ILL Software: The Group requested the Chair and IOC Secretariat to inquire from the Prospero Project leader (Eric Schnell) about future plans with Prospero. If the project can no longer be continued by the original developers then it could be investigated whether IODE/GE-MIM (possibly in cooperation with IAMS LIC and ASFA) could take over the maintenance and	Chair/ Secretariat	Sep 04

	distribution of Prospero.		
5	<p>GEMIM-VI Action 13: Paper on Hardware/software Requirements for Marine LIC:</p> <p>The Group requested the Secretariat to forward the document to the OceanTeacher Chief Editors for inclusion in OceanTeacher (Deadline: immediately).</p>	Secretariat	Sep 04
6	<p>• GEMIM-VI Action 25: MIM web site Development:</p> <p>The Group recommended the following modifications to the General Info section of the IODE web site (see body of report)</p> <p>The Group decided to establish an inter-sessional working group that will <u>study the MIM elements of the IODE web site and recommend necessary modifications</u>. The Group will be composed of the Chair, Pauline Simpson, Jan Haspeslagh and Jane Barnwell</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>Working Group</p>	<p>Sep 04</p> <p>Dec 04</p>
7	<p>IODE-XVI para. 221 (Marine Pollution):</p> <p>The Group decided to post the information contained in the Document on the IODE web site and to close this action item.</p>	Secretariat	Sep 04
8	<p>GE-MIM-VII: Co-operation with ASFA</p> <p>The Group decided to prepare a short paper on this issue for submission to IODE-XVIII for approval and subsequently to the 2005 ASFA Advisory Board. The Group tasked Pauline Simpson in consultation with the Chair GE-MIM and ASFA Secretariat to prepare this paper.</p>	P. Simpson	Dec 04
9	<p>GE-MIM-VII: Access to E-Journals</p> <p>- The Group called on EBSCO and other similar service providers to provide such a service to developing countries (possibly for ODIN projects) free of charge or at substantially reduced price and tasked the Chair GE-MIM, in close collaboration with Marc Goovaerts to investigate this matter further.</p> <p>- The Group tasked the Chair GE-MIM to establish closer contacts with INASP , EIFL , HINARI, AGORA to improve access by marine librarians in developing countries (eg within the framework of ODIN networks) to marine related journals.</p> <p>- The Group requested Mr Mika Odido, ODINAFRICA project coordinator, to actively promote programmes such as INASP, EIFL, AGORA and HINARI within the ODINAFRICA community, for example through the ODINAFRICA web site</p>	<p>Chair/ M. Goovaerts</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>M. Odido</p>	<p>Dec 04</p> <p>Dec 04</p> <p>Sep 04</p>
10	GE-MIM-VII: e-Print repositories: Cross-		

	search Service for Marine Science -The Group urged IOC Member States to establish institutional e-repositories and requested the Secretariat to issue a Circular Letter in this regard. - The Group requested Ms. Simpson, in collaboration with IAMS LIC to provide a list of examples of institutional repositories that will be referred to in the Circular Letter.	Secretariat (Circular Letter) P. Simpson	Nov 04 Nov 04
11	GE-MIM-VII: z39.50 and Distributed Libraries The Group recommended that a study be undertaken of existing middleware. In addition the issue of non-compliance of INMAGIC should be addressed and possibly middleware should be developed with priority by INMAGIC. The Group decided to request Steve Watkins to assist with this matter.	S. Watkins	Early 05
12	GE-MIM-VII: Digital Video Archiving The Group decided to request Ms Beattie to provide the Chapter to the OceanTeacher Editors for inclusion in OceanTeacher	J. Beattie	Oct 04
13	OceanPortal – classification: Modifications and re-categorization of websites in OceanPortal (details in body of report) - OAI-PMH compliance: Make OceanPortal OAI compliant – metadata format: Adding field “submitted by” – Promotion in Asia and South/Central America – Cooperation with IAMS LIC Working group will coordinate the further development of OceanPortal and Aqua Terra to ensure complementarity and avoid unnecessary duplication. It will also define the scope of both portals as mentioned above. - maintenance	Secretariat (Contractor) Cost: USD 1000 Secretariat (Contractor) Cost: USD 1000 Secretariat Chair/ P. Muñoz Working Group Secretariat (contractor) Cost: US\$ 5000/year	Early 05 Early 05 Sep 04 > Dec 04 Oct 04 >05
19	OceanExpert - Technical additions and corrections (details in body of report) - an inter-sessional working group, composed of Ms. Suzie Davies, Ms. Pauline Simpson, Mr. Peter Pissierssens and Mr. Benjamin Sims to (i) follow-up the implementation of the technical recommendations; (ii) prepare a brief management plan that will describe the terms of reference of OceanExpert, as well as a more detailed plan for future development. The inter-sessional group was tasked to complete its technical work (i) by April 2005. The document on future developments will be	Secretariat (contractor) Cost: USD 2000 IS WG	Early 05 Apr 05

	<p>prepared early 2005 for submission to IODE-XVIII.</p> <p>- maintenance</p>	<p>Secretariat (contractor)</p> <p>Cost: US\$ 5000/year</p>	>05
19	<p>OceanTeacher</p> <p>- The Group recommended to seek expertise amongst the IAMSILIC and EURASILIC community but also look beyond this group (eg IFLA) for topics of a general library and IT nature. It is important however to remain focused on marine library professionals as target audience.</p> <p>- The Group requested Dr. Tapaswi to discuss this matter with Dr. Nieuwenhuysen and Ms. Pikula in order to finalize the Outline as presented in Document IOC/IODE-MIM-VIII/8.</p> <p>- The Group expressed its concern about the need for resources for the continued updating of material beyond the duration of the current project (four years 2004-2007) and called on IOC to ensure the long-term support of OceanTeacher, especially in view of its possible accreditation</p>	<p>Chair</p> <p>M.P. Tapaswi</p> <p>IODE</p>	<p>Oct 04</p> <p>Oct 04</p> <p>>2007</p>
20	<p>Development of an African repository for electronic publications</p> <p>- The Group requested Marc Goovaerts to inquire from the product developers about their future plans with Dspace.</p> <p>- The Group recommended that a detailed analysis of both products be made based upon terms of reference of ODINPUBAfrica. The analysis will be drafted by Marc Goovaerts and Pauline Simpson (Deadline: end of 2005)</p>	<p>M. Goovaerts</p> <p>M. Goovaerts/ P. Simpson</p>	<p>Sep 04</p> <p>End 05</p>
21	<p>ODINAFRICA</p> <p>- The Group, referring to the presentation by the INMAGIC dealer, requested the Secretariat to inquire from INMAGIC about the planned phasing out of the Libraries module of DBTextWorks</p> <p>- The Group requested the e-repository project team and the ASFA Secretariat to investigate the possible use of the e-repository as a source for ASFA. The use of AFRILIB should also be studied. The Group requested that Mr James Macharia (KMFRI, Kenya) should also be involved in the study.</p> <p>- The Group urged ODINAFRICA institutions to make available their services, products and expertise to all AFRIAMSILIC members, and to establish links with other marine information related projects in Africa</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>e-repository project team/ASFA Secretariat/ J. Macharia</p> <p>ODINAFRICA project manager</p>	<p>Sep 04</p> <p>Early 05</p> <p>Oct 04</p>

	(eg Aquaculture and Fisheries Information Network for Africa (FAO/SAIAB project)). [SAIAB: South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity]. The Group instructed the ODINAFRICA project manager to send a request to the ODINAFRICA information managers.		
22	<p>ODINCARSA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chair was tasked to contact the two ODINCARSA regional coordinators for MIM (Clara Ramirez and Donna Spencer) to jointly undertake the analysis and to prepare a training plan for ODINCARSA (and to the membership of the Latin America IAMS LIC group and IAMS LIC's SAIL group). - ASFA technical meetings (staff meetings). The ASFA Board 2004 had invited IOC to co-sponsor these meetings that will have strong training element. The Group supported this initiative and called on IOC to provide assistance. - The Group noted that a request had been formulated for provision of ARIEL software and scanners to assist with an ODINCARSA ILL programme. The Group recommended that this request be given high priority and reference was made to item 8 of Agenda Item 3. - The Group ... urged the ODINCARSA marine information managers to develop a detailed project proposal for submission to donors 	<p>C. Ramirez/ D. Spencer</p> <p>IODE-XVIII Cost: USD 10,000/year</p> <p>IODE-XVIII Cost: USD 10,000 (2005)</p> <p>C. Ramirez/ D. Spencer</p>	<p>Oct 04</p> <p>Apr 05</p> <p>Apr 05</p> <p>Mar 05</p>
23	<p>Other regions: Pacific Islands region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Group requested Ms Davies to continue collecting the surveys and prepare an analysis for the Group and for the initiative mentioned above - The Group requested Ms Jane Barnwell to prepare a document that details existing national institutions, regional organizations and their relationships as relevant to marine information management - The Group requested the Technical Secretary to issue the Circular when informed by the PIRG Chair - The Group requested PIRG to ensure submission of a proposal by March 2005 in order to submit it to IODE-XVIII for funding. 	<p>S. Davies</p> <p>J. Barnwell</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>PIRG/ Chair</p>	<p>Nov 04</p> <p>Dec 04</p> <p>Mar 05</p> <p>Mar 05</p>
24	<p>Other regions: Eastern Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Group recommended that national and regional needs assessments be undertaken in cooperation with EURASLIC. - The Group further requested the Eastern European IOC Member States, in collaboration 	<p>P. Simpson/ EURASLIC</p> <p>IODE-XVIII/ Eastern European IOC MS</p>	<p>Feb 05</p> <p>Feb 05</p>

	with EURASLIC, to prepare a proposal for submission to IODE-XVIII (deadline: February 2005).		
25	<p>Other regions: South-East Asia region</p> <p>The Group welcomed the initiative and called on IOC to consider providing advice and seed funding for the establishment of a South-East Asian IAMSILIC regional group taking into consideration the relevance of this proposal to WESTPAC. It requested the WESTPAC Secretariat to act on this matter.</p>	IODC-XVIII/ WESTPAC Secretariat	Apr 05
26	<p>INTEGRATED LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (ILMS) software</p> <p>The Group decided that a new analysis will be made taking into consideration ILMS solutions available today both as commercial as open source applications. The Group stressed the importance of such a study in view of the possible requirement for such software for ODINCARSA and the ODINS possibly developed in the Pacific and Eastern Europe regions</p>	M.P. Tapaswi	Jun 05
27	<p>CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS: Within IODE</p> <p>- The Group re-iterated Recommendation IODE-MIM-VII.1 (Nomination of IODE National Co-ordinators) and requested IODE-XVIII to review its structure to include a "IODC National Coordinator for Data Management" and a "IODC National Coordinator for (Marine) Information Management" so that marine information management is treated equally within the IODE Programme. The Group requested the Secretariat to issue a Circular letter in this regard.</p> <p>- The Group further urged Member States to promote the development of integrated oceanographic data and information facilities that provide information, metadata and data within a unified technology framework.</p> <p>- The Group, noting the launching of new activities related to biodiversity within IODE, stressed the need to involve marine information professionals in such activities. This could involve development of e-repositories, support the efforts to manage and standardize taxonomic tools (eg uBio http://www.ubio.org), identification of resources from published literature.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>IODC-XVIII</p> <p>Chair GE-BICH</p>	<p>Sep 04</p> <p>Apr 05</p> <p>Oct 04</p>

28	<p>CO-OPERATION WITH IAMSLIC, EURASLIC AND RELATED MARINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS</p> <p>- The Group invited IAMSLIC members (and members of its regional groups) to liaise with the “IODE National Coordinator for (Marine) Information Management”, when nominated, to ensure the best possible national coordination and involvement.</p> <p>- The Group instructed its Chair and the IODE Technical Secretary to establish, in close consultation with the IAMSLIC President, an appropriate mechanism to communicate, develop and implement joint activities.</p> <p>- The Group invited IAMSLIC, EURASLIC and possibly other IAMSLIC regional groups to (continue) participat(e)ing in GE-MIM Sessions.</p> <p>- The Group requested the IOC Executive Secretary to consider the possibility of recognizing IAMSLIC as a “standing member “in view of the MOU established with IAMSLIC.</p> <p>- The Group noted the request of EURASLIC to continue its participation in GE-MIM meetings, and instructed the Technical Secretary to further study and consider this request (also see Agenda Item 5.3.2).</p> <p>- annual conference participation support</p>	<p>IAMSLIC members</p> <p>Chair/ Secretariat/ IAMSLIC President</p> <p>IAMSLIC/EURASLIC/...</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>IOC Cost: US\$ 10,000/year</p>	<p>>Oct 04</p> <p>>Oct 04</p> <p>GE-MIM-IX</p> <p>Early 05</p> <p>GE-MIM-IX</p> <p>>05</p>
29	<p>CO-OPERATION WITH FAO</p> <p>The Group urged FAO and IOC to establish collaboration and requested the IODE Technical Secretary to send a letter to the ADG of Fisheries at FAO in this regard.</p>	Secretariat	Oct 04
30	<p>DEVELOPMENT OF AN IODE MIM STRATEGIC PLAN</p> <p>The Group decided to prepare a draft strategic plan for submission to IODE-XVIII</p>	Chair/ group	Apr 05

BUDGET:

	2005	2006	2007
OceanPortal	7000	5000	5000
OceanExpert	5000	5000	5000
e-repositories	5000	5000	5000
ODINCARSA (MIM)	20000	20000	20000
Pacific Islands ODIN	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII
Eastern Europe ODIN	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII
South East Asia ODIN	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII
ODINCINDIO	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII	To be decided at IODE-XVIII
Cooperation with IAMS LIC	10000	10000	10000
TOTALS	47,000 (+tbd)	45,000 (+tbd)	45,000 (+tbd)

ANNEX III

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ANNEX IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document code	Title	Author	Agenda item
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/1	Provisional agenda and time table	Secretariat	1-12
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/2	List of documents	Secretariat	1-12
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/3	Draft summary report	Secretariat	11
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/4	List of Participants	Secretariat	
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/5	Report on the implementation of the GE-MIM-VII Work Plan	Chair (M.P. Tapaswi)	3
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/6	Report on Electronic Copyright Legislation	S. Goulala	3
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/7	Hardware and Software for Library and Information Centres	M.P. Tapaswi	3
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/8	Combined Data Management and Information Management Outlines for OceanTeacher	M. Brown	3/ 4.3
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/9	OceanPortal Directory categories	M. Goovaerts	3/ 4.1
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/10	Further needs in the Network Development in other Regions	S. Davies	3/ 5.3
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/11	Report on Marine Pollution Data	M.P. Tapaswi	3
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/12	Setting up of a repository server for Odinafrica” OdinPUBafrica	M. Goovaerts	3/ 4.4
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/13	Brief report on MIM activities in ODINCARSA	R. Martinez/ D. Spencer/ C. Ramirez	5.2
IOC/IODE/GE-MIM-VIII/14	Brief report on MIM activities in ODINAFRICA	MA. Keita	5.1
Information Documents			
	Memorandum of Understanding between IAMS LIC and IOC	-	6.2
	PROJECT DOCUMENT: Development of an African repository for electronic publications (Project Proposal for Submission to the Government of Flanders)	-	4.4
	ODIMeX Project Proposal for Submission to the Government of Flanders		4.3
	ODIMEX Meeting 1 - Final report		4.3
	Report on Training Provided in Marine Information Management (Kenya, Comores, Madagascar, Mauritius) by Josette Confait (ODINAFRICA-II)	Josette Confait	
	Rapport sur les cours de perfectionnement (Remedial Training) au Togo, Bénin, Mauritanie, Guinée et Maroc par Mme Arame Ndiaye Keita	Arame Keita	

ANNEX V

LIST OF ACRONYMS

Note: (commercial) product names are not included in this list

AFRIAMSLIC	African IAMSLIC Group
AFRIDIR	African Directory of Marine (and Freshwater) Professionals
AGORA	Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (FAO)
AODC	Australian Oceanographic Data Centre
ASFA	Aquatic Sciences & Fisheries Abstracts
ASFIS	Aquatic Sciences & Fisheries Information System
ASLI	Atmospheric Science Librarians International
CARSADIR	South American and Caribbean Directory of Marine (and Freshwater) professionals
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organization
CSA	Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
EIFL	Electronic Information for Libraries
EURASLIC	European Association of Aquatic Sciences Libraries and Information Centres
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFA	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
GCMD	Global Change Master Directory (NASA, USA)
GE-BICH	IODE Group of Experts on Biological and Chemical Data Management and Exchange Practices
GLODIR	Global Directory of Marine (and Freshwater) Professionals (renamed OceanExpert as from 2002) (IODE)
HABDIR	Global Directory of Harmful Algal Blooms Experts
HCMR	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (Greece)
HINARI	Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative
http	HyperText Transfer Protocol
IAMSLIC	International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICLARM	International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (renamed WorldFish Center in 2002)
ILL	Inter Library Loan
ILMS	Integrated Library Management System
IMROP	Institut Mauritanien de Recherches Océanographiques et des Pêches
INASP	International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO
IOCINDIO	IOC Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean
IODE	International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IOC)
LIC	Library & Information Centre
KMFRI	Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute
MAMA	Mediterranean Network to Assess & Upgrade the Monitoring & Forecasting Activity in the Region
MEDI	Marine Environmental Data Information Catalogue (IODE)
MIM	Marine Information Management
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (USA)
NODC	National Oceanographic Data Centre (IODE)
OAI-PMH	Open Archives Initiative - Protocol for Metadata Harvesting
ODIMEX	Expert and Training System for Oceanographic Data and Information Management

ODIN	Ocean Data & Information Network
ODINAFRICA	Ocean Data & Information Network for Africa
ODINCARSA	Ocean Data & Information Network for the Caribbean & South America
ODINCINDIO	Ocean Data & Information Network for the Central Indian Ocean
PDF	Portable Document Format (Adobe)
PIALA	Pacific Islands Association of Libraries & Archives
PIMRIS	Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information System
PIRG	Pacific Islands Regional Group
PRAISE	Pacific Regional Aquaculture Information Service for Education
RECOSCIX-CEA	Regional Co-operation in Scientific Information Exchange in the Central Eastern Atlantic Region (IODE)
RoMEO	Rights MEtadata for Open Archiving
SAIAB	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity
SEAFDEC	South East Asian Fisheries Development Centre (Philippines)
SGML	Standard Generalized Markup Language
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
TEMA	Training & Mutual Assistance in Marine Sciences (IOC)
UNEP/MAP	United Nations Environment Programme/
URI	Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs, aka URLs)
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization
USP	University of the South Pacific
WESTPAC	IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (IOC)
XML	Extensible Markup Language
Z39.50	ANSI/NISO (ISO 23950) information retrieval protocol standard

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