IOC Circular letter No.2414
(Available in English only)

IOC/WWW/WESTPAC/WZ
2 December 2011

To: Member States of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)

Cc: Permanent Delegates to UNESCO of Member States of WESTPAC
National Commissions for UNESCO of Member States of WESTPAC
Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of IOC
Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of WESTPAC
Secretary-General, ASEAN
Directors, UNESCO Offices in Bangkok, Jakarta, Beijing

Subject: Ninth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-IX), Busan, Republic of Korea, 8–12 May 2012

Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in the Ninth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-IX), which will be generously hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea from 8 to 12 May 2012 in Busan, Republic of Korea.

The Session will review the implementation and development of the WESTPAC activities since the last session of the Sub-Commission (Bali, Indonesia, 10-13 May 2010), establish new regional programmes, projects and working groups based on common interests, and formulate a new workplan for the Biennium 2012–2013.

A copy of the Provisional Agenda is attached for your information as Annex I. As this Intergovernmental Session covers four days with quite an extensive agenda, it will be essential for delegations to focus their work on guidance, vision and practical actions for further shaping the future of the Sub-Commission. Therefore, we would like to request that reporting on past activities be done well in advance in writing, and that delegates study working documents and prepare their comments prior to the Session for brief constructive discussions at the meeting.

.../...
I would like to inform you that the Ninth Intergovernmental Session will elect the Officers of the WESTPAC, namely, one Chairperson and two Vice-chairpersons, for the next biennium according to the attached procedure (see Annex 2). Nominations shall be accepted till the end of the first day of proceedings at the WESTPAC-IX. They can also be addressed in advance to ADG/IOC. You may wish to take this into consideration in the selection of your delegation.

Following past practice, all working and information documents of the Session as well as the details of the venue will be forwarded to you via electronic means and posted at the WESTPAC website (http://westpac.unescobkk.org) in due course. Kindly be reminded that participation in the Intergovernmental Session is part of national contribution to the WESTPAC and IOC will be, regretfully, unable to provide financial assistance for the participation of your delegations in the Intergovernmental Sessions.

In order to enable us to make all necessary practical arrangements with the host government, it would be very much appreciated if you could communicate in writing the names, positions and contact addresses of your representatives to the Executive Secretary of the IOC, Ms Wendy Watson-Wright, with a copy to Mr Wenxi Zhu, Head of IOC Regional Office for WESTPAC (e-mail: w.zhu@unesco.org, or tel: +66 2 141 1287, fax: +66 2 143 9245), no later than 10th March 2012.

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Wendy Watson-Wright
Executive Secretary, IOC
Assistant Director-General, UNESCO

Attachments: Annex 1: Provisional Agenda for WESTPAC-IX
Annex 2: Election Procedures and Forms
ANNEX I

Ninth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-IX)
Busan, Republic of Korea, 8–12 May 2012

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. OPENING

2. ADMINISTRATION

2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
2.2 DESIGNATION OF RAPPORTEUR FOR THE SESSION
2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION

3. REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

3.1 REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
   3.1.1 Statement of the Chairperson
   3.1.2 Report by the Regional Office on Intersessional Activities and Budget Overview
   3.1.3 Operation of IOC Regional Office for WESTPAC

3.2 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN IOC/UNESCO, AND ITS RELEVANCE TO WESTPAC

4. POLICY ISSUES

4.1 PERSPECTIVES OF IOC ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-COMMISSION, INCLUDING IOC BIENNIAL PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR 2012 - 2013
4.2 WESTPAC OCEAN RESEARCH PRIORITY PLAN
4.3 THE EIGHTH WESTPAC INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM IN 2011, KOREA, WITH FOCUS ON LESSONS LEARNT
4.4 THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE NINTH WESTPAC INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM 2014, VIETNAM

5. REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF REGIONAL PROGRAMMES, PROJECTS AND WORKING GROUPS FOR MAY 2010 - MAY 2012

5.1 MARINE SCIENCE AND APPLICATIONS
   -- Harmful Algal Blooms
   -- Ocean Remote Sensing
   -- Response of Marine Hazards to Climate Change
   -- Fluvial Sediments to the South China Sea
   -- Marine and Coastal Biodiversity and its Management
   -- Coral Reef under Climate and Anthropogenic Perturbations
   -- Toxic Marine Organisms
   -- DNA Taxonomy and Recruitment Monitoring of the Coral Reef Marine Organisms
5.2 OCEAN OBSERVATIONS AND SERVICES
-- North East Asian Regional-GOOS (NEAR-GOOS)
-- South East Asian Regional-GOOS (SEAGOOS), including Ocean Forecasting Demonstration (OFD), and Monsoon Onset Monitoring and its Social and Ecosystem Impacts (MOMSEI)
-- Marine Hazards Forecasting and Mitigation in the Western Pacific
-- International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Pacific (IBCWP)
-- Ocean Data & Information Network for the Western Pacific (ODINWESTPAC)

5.3 CAPACITY BUILDING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS
-- UNESCO/IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centres on Oceanography in the Western Pacific
-- IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate
-- IOC-WMO Regional Marine Instrument Center for the Asia and Pacific

5.4 WESTPAC WORKING GROUPS
-- Working Group on Asian Dust and its Impact on Ocean Ecosystem
-- Working Group on Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment

6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS

7. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED WESTPAC WORKING GROUPS AND THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE

8. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

9. WESTPAC WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR MAY 2012 - MAY 2014

10. OTHER MATTERS

11. ELECTIONS

12. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

13. ADOPTION OF SUMMARY REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

14. CLOSURE
ANNEX 2

Elections of the Officers of the WESTPAC

The Ninth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-IX), Busan, Republic of Korea, 8-12 May 2012, shall elect the Officers of the WESTPAC, namely, one Chairperson and two Vice-chairpersons, for the term May 2012– May 2014.

The Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each session, direct the discussions and ensure observance of the Rules of Procedure, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairperson shall rule on points of order and, subject to these Rules, shall control the proceedings and maintain order and shall strive to work by consensus (Rule 38).

The Vice-chairpersons assist the Chairperson in his/her functions and substitute him/her where necessary.

The Chairperson and the Vice-chairpersons of an IOC Subsidiary Body shall not remain in his/her mandate more than two successive terms (as this is the limit established for an IOC Chairperson, Rule 17.2. The time limit of a mandate is two years according to Article 7.2 of the IOC Statutes).

Nominations

Nominations of individuals to either the post of Chairperson or the posts of Vice-chairpersons shall be submitted by Member States through the officially designated Head of Delegation to the WESTPAC-IX, or through the IOC Focal Point in the Member State or the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO.

Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary using Form A (Chairperson) or Form B (Vice-chairperson) and must reach the Executive Secretary or his/her representative on the first day of the meeting by close of business.

Each nomination shall contain a declaration from the candidate that he/she is prepared to stand for the post for which he/she has been nominated and is willing to take on the obligations that would devolve upon him/her, should he/she be elected. Each nomination shall also contain a CV with the profile of the candidate (Form C).

Each candidate must be seconded by two Member States of the WESTPAC other than the nominating Member State.

Elections

The IOC general practice is working and deciding by consensus (Rule 38.1).

Should voting be necessary, decisions shall be made by a simple majority of the members present and voting (Rule 43.16), by secret ballot.
IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)

Biennial Elections for Chairperson

Form A – Chairperson

Name of Member State: ………………………………………………………………………………

Name of Nominee: …………………………………………………………………………………

I declare that I am prepared to stand for election to the post of Chairperson of **WESTPAC** and, if elected, to take an active part in the work of it.

Signature of the Nominee: ………………………………………………………………………...

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IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)

Biennial Elections for Vice-chairperson

Form B – Vice-chairperson

Name of Member State: …………………………………………………………………………………... 

Name of Nominee: ………………………………………………………………………………………

I declare that I am prepared to stand for election to the post of Vice-chairperson of the WESTPAC and, if elected, to take an active part in the work of it.

Signature of the Nominee: ………………………………………………………………………………

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Biennial Elections for Chair and Vice-chairpersons

Form C – CV of Nominee

[NAME]

Date of birth:

Languages:

Address:

Phone number:

Fax number:

Email:

CURRENT POSITION

[Please insert text]

EDUCATION

[Please insert text]

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

[Please insert text]