INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

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Reports on Activities of RNODCs

IODE RNODC REPORT FOR SOC (SOUTHERN OCEAN)
1. Name of Data Centre:
   Centro Argentino de Datos Oceanograficos

2. RNODC Coordinator:
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3. Data Center Address:
   Same as above

4. Data Center URL:
   www.hidro.gov.ar/ceado/ceado.asp
   www.conae.gov.ar/~ceado

5. IODE RNODC Designation Date:
   April 1987

6. Brief History:
   The need to have an organization devoted to gathering the oceanographic and environmental data and
   information distributed among several institutions and researchers, led to the establishment in 1969 of
   a DNA. As a result of this earlier effort, the Centro Argentino de Datos Oceanograficos (CEADO) was
   created under an agreement between the Argentine Navy Hydrographic Service (SHN) and the
   National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET), and designated in 1974 as
   NODC. In 1987, IOC credited CEADO with the responsibility of becoming RNDOC-SOC.

7. Roles and responsibilities of the Data Center:
   The terms of reference for the operation of the RNODC-SOC are:
   • Receive the physical and chemical data collected by the international scientific community in
     cruises and research programs carried out in the Southern Oceans, control their quality, and store
     them in standard format, as well as distribute –upon request- the information stored in the files.
   • Cooperate closely with the World Data Centers – Oceanography, by sending regular shipments (at
     least once a year) of complete sets of physical and chemical data, inventories, data summaries and
     other products related to the Southern Oceans.
   • Assist the World Data Centers by sending copies of any ROSCOP forms submitted to the
     RNODC/SOC

8. Description of data and information management coordination:
   The Center regularly requests the delivery of data and information to their producers or holders. Upon
   reception, and according to the Center’s TOR, the data is quality controlled, stored and disseminated,
   as well as forwarded to the World Data Centers - Oceanography.
   The Center generates products and tools to facilitate data accessibility, distribution and exchange.

9. Data Center Projects and Activities during the Intersessional Period:
• Data recovery; efforts made to identify data sources allowed only a slight increase of existing data files.
• Development of an Internet-based metadata search service; as a mean to provide information regarding existence and accessibility of data in the IOCSOC Region. It is expected that this service will contribute to the identification of data and information not yet available to the system.
• Development and hosting of a Sea-Ice Observations information service; the objective is to provide land and mobile stations observations in near real time.
• Modernization of information management section; the objective is to upgrade and update current information management processes.

10. **Data Center Products and Services Developed and/or Made Available during the Intersessional Period:**

- New website with a more user-friendly format to display and access maps, inventories and statistics.
- Internet-based metadata search service; as a mean to provide information regarding existence and accessibility of data in the IOCSOC Region ([www.hidro.gov.ar/Ceado/metadatos/metadatos.asp](http://www.hidro.gov.ar/Ceado/metadatos/metadatos.asp))
- Internet-based Sea-Ice Observations information service (to be released JAN 2003)

11. **List of activities that were undertaken during the Intersessional Period to promote IODE:**

In order to facilitate and promote the exchange of oceanographic data and information, the Center has been in permanent contact with their producers and holders and maintained/developed the mechanisms to achieve it. In this sense, the update of the websites and development of new products and services facilitated the visibility of the Program and favored the exchange and dissemination of data.

It is believed that the recent release of an Internet-based metadata search service for the Regions will also contribute to the promotion of IODE.

12. **Future plans:**

The Center is aimed towards an expansion of the scope of services and products provided as well as a substantial modification of the structure of its information section.

The establishment of a stronger ‘human network’, especially between the IODE National Coordinators involved in the region, is seen as a necessary tool to increase current participation levels and optimize results.

[end]