IOC Circular Letter No. 2263
(Available in English and French)

To: Official National Coordinating Body for liaison with the IOC in Member States of the IOCWIO Region

cc.: IOC Officers
Official National Coordinating Body for liaison with the IOC in IOC Member States
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
Officers of Major Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical, and Regional)

Subject: Seventh Session of the IOC’s Regional Committee for the Western Indian Ocean (IOCWIO), Mombasa, Kenya, 18–22 July 2008

I have the honour to invite you to attend the Seventh Session of the IOC Regional Committee for the Western Indian Ocean (IOCWIO), which will be held from 18-22 July, 2008, in Mombasa, Kenya.

It would be greatly appreciated if the names, official addresses and designations (i.e., Head of Delegation, Alternate, Representative or Adviser) of your delegates could be forwarded to the IOC Secretariat by 2 June 2008 at the latest, in order to allow preparation of a comprehensive list of participants in advance of the Session.

In preparation for the session, we would like to request you to compile a short report on national oceanographic programmes: objectives, priorities, expected outcomes, national infrastructure and related capabilities, requirements etc. This will enable the linkage of such programmes to the ongoing activities of IOC.

The Provisional Agenda (Document IOCWIO-VII/1 Prov.), for the Session is enclosed herewith.

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…/…
Further information and documents will be made available (in English and French) as soon as they are ready. The draft report, to be adopted during the Session, will be available in English only.

Sincerely yours,

[signed]

Patricio Bernal
Assistant Director-General, UNESCO
Executive Secretary, IOC

Enclosures:  IOCWO-VII/1 Prov.
             IOCWO-VII/1 Add. Prov.
PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

2. ORGANISATION AND ARRANGEMENTS OF THE SESSION
   2.1 ADOPTION OF AGENDA
   2.2 DESIGNATION OF RAPPORTEUR
   2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION, TIMETABLE AND DOCUMENTATION

3. REPORT ON INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

4. PROGRAMME MATTERS ON IOC ACTIONS

   MAIN LINE OF ACTION 2: OCEANS AND COASTAL ZONES: IMPROVING
   GOVERNANCE AND FOSTERING INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
   THROUGH OCEAN SCIENCES AND SERVICES

   4.1 ADDRESSING THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND VARIABILITY,
      INCLUDING SEA LEVEL RISE
      4.1.1. Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)
      4.1.2. Integrated marine observations and services
      4.1.3. Sea level science and observations
      4.1.4. Climate change research and assessment

   4.2 Safeguarding marine ecosystem health and integrated management
      4.2.1. Implementation of assessment of assessment phase of Global
              Reporting and Assessment of Marine Environment (GRAME)
      4.2.2. Fostering coastal research, monitoring and modelling
      4.2.3. Developing scientific approaches, tools and methodologies for
              integrated management of coastal areas

   4.3 Capacity-building, data and information services and procedures for marine
      scientific research
      4.3.1. Strengthening self-reliant research and observational capacities in
              marine science
      4.3.2. Developing services for data and information management
      4.3.3. Developing procedures and guidelines for marine scientific research and
              technology transfer, including extension of the continental shelf
MAIN LINE OF ACTION 3: PROMPTING SCIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION, AND ENHANCING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COPING CAPACITIES, INCLUDING THROUGH SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF RISK REDUCTION NETWORKS AND MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT MEASURES, SUCH AS TSUNAMI EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

4.4 MITIGATING IMPACTS FROM TSUNAMI AND OTHER MARINE HAZARDS
   4.4.1. Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWS)
   4.4.2. Educating vulnerable communities
   4.4.3. Guidelines for coastal hazards, Integrated Coastal Area Management and coastal mapping, including COASTMAP-IO

5. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER REGIONAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES, AGENCIES AND REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS

6. STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

7. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

8. STRATEGY OF WORK 2008-2013

9. PROGRAMME OF WORK 2008-2009

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

11. DATE AND PLACE OF IOCWIO-VIII

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY REPORT

14. CLOSURE
## PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

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<td>1. Welcome and Opening</td>
<td>4. Programme Matters on IOC Actions</td>
<td>5. Collaboration with Other Regional Subsidiary Bodies,</td>
<td>10. Election of Officers</td>
<td>11. Date and Place of IOC WIO-VIII</td>
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<td>2. Organisation and Arrangements of the Session</td>
<td>4.2 Ecosystem Health and Integrated Management</td>
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<td>3. Report on Inter-Sessional Activities</td>
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<td>6. Strengthening of National and Regional Coordination</td>
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