Implementation Status of the IODE-XIX work plan (IODE-XIX Action Sheet) as on 16 February 2009

Prepared by the Secretariat

Summary of the document
The attached Action Sheet was extracted from the IODE-XIX Summary Report. A first review of the progress with action items was made during the 2007 IODE Officers Meeting, held between 27 and 30 November 2007 at the IODE Project Office, Ostend. The current report is a revised version of the Action Sheet updated with progress made since December 2007. Actions taken after the publication date of this Document are not taken into consideration.

Appendices:
This Agenda item will be introduced by the Technical Secretary, referring to Document IOC/IODE-XX/7 (Implementation Status of the iODE-XIX Work Plan). He will recall that the IODE-XIX Action Sheet was reviewed during the IODE Officers Meeting that took place at the IOC Project Office for IODE between 27-30 November 2008. The Officers had made a comprehensive review of the status of the implementation of the action plan at that time and had recommended remedial actions for incomplete action items.

Out of the 62 action items the following 5 items remained uncompleted: 11 (investigation of possible intern support by Canada), 12 (Development of model for regional or specialized centres); 39 (cooperation with ROPME on ODINCINDIO); 46 (contacting AAAS regarding translation of OceanTeacher materials); 57 (JCOMM/IODE training course in storm surge modeling). The Technical Secretary will note that the completion rate of 82% is considerably better than the previous completion rate.

The Committee will be invited to review action items that were not completed and decide on follow-up actions, as required.

Reporting on national activities

(51) The Committee established an” inter-sessional working group on the IODE National Report format” that will review and improve the National Report format. The group will comprise Australia, the United States, the ODINCARS A Secretary, IODE Officers, and the JCOMM DMPA Chair. The sessional working group will work by email and will report to the next IODE Officers meeting in November 2008.

(1)

ACTIONS SINCE IODE-XIX: no action taken

STATUS: DONE The inter-sessional group addressed the issue by email and recommended that national reports henceforth be prepared and submitted through an on-line survey. The report should be aimed at collecting information on involvement in IODE projects and national products and services but should also reveal changes in resources, data flow etc. This item will be further discussed under Agenda Item 4.1.

Cooperation with Other Programmes

COOPERATION WITH GOOS

(190) The IODE Committee strongly welcomed closer collaboration with GOOS.

(191) The Committee recommended the organization of joint meetings of the IODE Officers and GOOS Scientific Steering Committee as a mechanism (i) to enable GOOS to benefit from IODE data and information management and exchange services; and (ii) for IODE to better respond to operational oceanography user needs.

(2)

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: the GSSC decided to organize its meeting between 8-10 April 2008, together with the GSSC-XI workshop, PICO-I and GOOS Board IV. As such there would be very little opportunity for a joint meeting with the IODE Officers.

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers re-iterated the importance of closer collaboration between GOOS and IODE. The IODE Co-Chairs were requested to contact GSSC and IGOOS Chairs to agree on participation of IODE in the GOOS meetings planned for April meetings and to request adding item on the Agenda related to cooperation with IODE.

STATUS: IODE invited to attend GSSC-XI. IODE offered to demonstrate Ocean Data Portal to the committee but the offer was declined due to lack of time at the meeting. IODE
provided a written report to the meeting. Co-chairs have been invited to attend GSSC-XII in 2009.

(192) **The Committee stated** that the internal organization of the IOC Secretariat is of no concern of the Committee but it **expressed its concern** about the internal distribution of resources within the new OOS (Ocean Observation and Services) section which was currently unclear with regard to resources available to IODE.

(32) **The Committee recommended** holding the 2008 meeting of the Officers jointly with the GSSC and suggested holding the meeting at the IOC Project Office for IODE in March or April 2008.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** see (2)

(193) **The Committee instructed** the Secretariat to share its views with the 10th Meeting of the GSSC currently ongoing in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The Secretariat transmitted the video recording of the presentation by Mr Robert Keeley, in his capacity as Chair of the sessional working group on IODE-GOOS cooperation, to Korea for presentation during the GSSC meeting taking place there at that time.

[The GSSC Committee instructed GPO to organize next session in 2008 jointly with IODE officers meeting and JCOMM Management Committee in close cooperation with their secretariats. Those bodies might have a joint session, then followed by parallel sessions by each panels/programmes]

(194) **The Committee further instructed** the IODE Co-Chairs to report its recommendation to the upcoming IOC Assembly in June 2007.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** see (2)

**COOPERATION WITH WMO**

(207) **The Committee agreed** with the recommendations by the WMO Representative regarding (i) developing interoperability between the different data management systems being developed in both oceanographic and meteorological communities, and with the WMO Information System (WIS) in particular, (ii) cooperating through JCOMM with the WMO Quality Management Framework, for documenting and updating IODE publications that are of interest to JCOMM, (iii) updating the draft IOC Strategic Plan for Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange in such a way that it is compatible with the JCOMM Data Management Strategy, (iv) collaboration of IODE Members with the META-T Pilot Project if appropriate.

(210) While concerns were expressed about the weaknesses of JCOMM in certain regions, or its lack of visibility, **the Committee reminded** its Members that an efficient way to enhance JCOMM activities at the national level was through the establishment of a JCOMM National Committee. **The Committee therefore encouraged** its Members to work nationally in order to seek establishment of such Committees in cooperation with oceanographic institutes and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS).

(211) **The Committee invited** WMO to make recommendations for a representative from the ETDMP to participate in the Inter Programme Expert Team on Metadata implementation (IPET-
MI) in order to discuss and define common standards with the OceanDataPortal and other IODE data management systems.

(3)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** Greg Reed was nominated by IPET-MI as representative of JCOMM

Mr Reed reported that he had participated in a one-week virtual meeting of IPET-MI in July 2007. The meeting looked at the WMO core profile which was agreed upon by WMO’s CBS in November 2006. The meeting had further looked into some key challenges of further development of the profile: (i) how to create supporting catalogues (ii) development of tools; (iii) how to publicize and further extend the standard. Mr Reed further noted that there are similarities between the WMO and marine profiles. The meeting had further discussed implementation tools and how to import from WIS into the WMO core profile. The meeting had further recommended the GeoNetwork tool, developed by FAO.

Mr Charpentier then briefly introduced the WIGOS initiative of WMO. He reported that the WMO Congress had invited activities /programmes and pilot projects to be implemented under WIGOS. Such a pilot project would be discussed at the JCOMM Management Committee in December 2007. The proposed “Pilot Project on the Integration of Marine Meteorology and other appropriate Oceanic Observations into the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS)” will have as its primary goal to promote interoperability of marine data systems with the WMO Information System (WIS) in close cooperation with the IOC ocean community. One of the key elements will therefore be to work towards ensuring that the Ocean Data Portal and the WIS become interoperable.

(4)

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The IODE Officers welcomed the initiative, and expressed interest in participating in the Pilot Project. They invited WMO and JCOMM to consider IODE representation in the project Steering Team.

**STATUS: DONE:** Joint Steering Group for the IODE Ocean Data Portal and the WIGOS Pilot Project for JCOMM was established. The first meeting was held between 18-19 September 2008 at WMO, Geneva. See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 5.1.3.5

**COOPERATION WITH IOC/HAB**

(234) **The Committee strongly supported** the proposed cooperation with the Harmful Algal Bloom Programme and **adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.1. The Committee decided** to include the provision of seed funds in the 2007 and 2008-2009 work plan, although the source is yet to be defined, and **invited** Member States to identify extra-budgetary funds to enable the full implementation of the Project.
ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:
- Co-Chair GE-BICH (Gwenaelle Moncoiffe) attended The Eighth Session of the IOC Intergovernmental Panel on Harmful Algal Blooms will be held 17-20 April 2007, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France. IPHAB-VIII adopted recommendation….
- Meeting planned on development of HAIS at IOC Project Office for IODE, 8-9 January 2008

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers expressed their appreciation to the USA IOOS Office for the financial support provided for the HAIS project and welcomed the organization of the joint HAB/IODE meeting that will take place at the IOC Project Office for IODE, 8-9 January 2008.

STATUS: ONGOING: the Joint IPHAB/IODE Task Team on the development of the Harmful Algal Information System Design Workshop was held between 8-9 January 2008 at the IODE Project Office. See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 5.1.1

COOPERATION WITH CDIAC (OCEAN CARBON)

The Committee noted with appreciation that there were already many ongoing activities with CDIAC. These include rescue and recovery of historical CO2 measurements. The Committee recommended that further joint activities could include CO2 data and metadata available through the IODE OceanDataPortal.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: no action

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The Officers recommended that the lead for this issue should be taken by GE-BICH and tasked the two GE-BICH Co-Chairs with implementation.

STATUS: possible collaboration with CDIAC was discussed at GE-BICH-IV (see Agenda Item 5.1.1)

COOPERATION WITH IPY

The Committee welcomed the invitation of the IPY Subcommittee on Data Policy and Management and strongly urged IODE National Oceanographic Data Centres to actively participate in, and contribute to the IPY activities as proposed.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING
- Message sent to NODCs on 26/4/07 requesting reports on their activities/holdings related to IPY (deadline 15/5/07)
Responses (with detailed information) received from Japan, United States, China, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation – more info on http://www.iode.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=63&Itemid=106.

DECISIONS OFFICERS 2007: (i) The Officers recommended for IODE NODCs to participate in IPY which could be done by hosting IPY data. The Officers invited the NODCs to contact Dr Mark Parsons, Chair of the IPY Data Management and Policy Subcommittee. (ii) The Officers invited Dr Rickards, in her capacity as IODE Past Chair, to send a letter to IOC Member States inviting them to make all data available that are relevant to IPY.

STATUS: letter, signed by L. Rickards, sent to IODE NCs on 12 December 2007. No responses reported.

See Also IODE-XX Agenda Item 8.5

COOPERATION WITH OBIS

(265) The Committee recommended that ODIN programmes include OBIS activities in their mandate as support to OBIS.

(266) The Committee recommended that the Project Office continues training activities related to biodiversity.

(267) The Committee recommended that the possibility of creating a multidisciplinary data system including physical, chemical, and biodiversity data will be investigated by the ETDMP jointly with OBIS.

(268) The Committee further recommended support for the organization of the OBI 2007 conference.

(8)

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: DONE:
The OBI2007 conference was supported by IOC/IODE with a contribution of US$ 6000. The conference was held at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Halifax, Canada from 2-4 Oct, 2007.

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 5.1.1.2

COOPERATION WITH WCRP

(50) The Committee strongly endorsed cooperation between WCRP and IODE, stating that the science and data managers need to be better connected.

(271) The Committee noted with appreciation the great interest of the WCRP programme for the IODE data management experience and recourses.

(272) The Committee welcomed cooperation between WCRP and IODE and instructed the Officers to investigate ways to collaborate with WCRP.
(9) ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: none

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers requested the IODE Co-Chairs to discuss this matter with WCRP

STATUS: Collaboration with WCRP will occur through the WIGOS project. WCRP will be encouraged provide input to WIGOS and WIS activities.

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 8.6

COOPERATION WITH SOLAS

(276) The Committee noted with appreciation the great interest of the SOLAS project to the IODE data management experience.

(10) DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers requested the Secretariat to send out an email to the IODE national coordinators for data management inviting those data centres that hold SOLAS relevant compounds (Short-lived trace gases and particles, Physical processes controlling air-sea exchange; and Long-lived climatically-active gases), to contact Tom Bell at SOLAS. (see also http://www.bodc.ac.uk/solas_integration/implementation_products/ )

STATUS: DONE (17/11/08): emails sent to all IODE national coordinators for data management

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 8.6

The IOC Project Office for IODE

(61) The Committee noted with appreciation the diversity of the training events provided and planned by the Project Office, and recommended to put more attention on specialized training courses (GIS, etc.).

(66) The Committee, while expressing great appreciation for his management of the Project Office during the start up phase, stressed the need for identifying extra-budgetary support to continue the position of Dr. Vladymyrov and called on Member States to assist in this regard.

(67) The Committee strongly encouraged Member States to second relevant experts on short or long-term basis to the Project Office, following the examples of Australia and United States.
(11)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING**

- (April 2007) Secretariat contacted Z. Willis (USA) and R. Gelfeld to investigate possibilities of secondment. Response: not possible at this time
- No additional support was received to maintain the position of Dr Vladymyrov. He retired from his position on 1 November 2007.
- China has identified an IT expert to work at the IOC project office for IODE for a period of 11 months in 2008. Cost for tickets will be covered by China; local costs will be covered by the Project Office.
- An IT professional will be hired in the spring of 2008 to assist with the implementation of the IODE contribution to SeaDataNet.

**DECISION:** The IODE Officers requested Dr Cesar Toro to provide additional contact information on possible intern support from Canada (CIDA, University of Dalhousie, Bedford Institute of Oceanography) to the IODE Secretariat.

**STATUS:** NOT DONE

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 4.3

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**Follow-up to the abolition of the IODE RNODCs (Responsible National Oceanographic Data Centres)**

(92) the **IODE Committee decided** to establish an inter-sessional working group to propose concrete ways to implement the decision of IODE-XVIII on RNODCs while bearing in mind the IOC strategic plan for oceanographic data and information management. **The Committee tasked** the group to report to the next meeting of the IODE Officers (March/April 2008). The membership will include Canada, Japan, Russia and the IODE Co-Chairs.

(12)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING**

- created groupware site (26/4/07) – invited members of the group to start discussions. Created deadline for report for 1/2/08. Membership: R. Keeley, S. Sato, G. Reed, M. Bel-Hassen Abid, N. Mikhailov
- no action reported by 15/11/07

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The IODE Officers decided that the Advisory Group for the IOC Strategic Plan for Oceanographic Data and Information Management should develop a model for regional or specialized centres. The Officers stressed that there will have to be a clearly defined need before such a centre can be established. There has to be a clear commitment from the country or region that wishes to host a centre. JCOMM should also be involved in this with the view to eventually integrate the SOCs into this structure. Such centres could be joint IODE/JCOMM centres. The Officers also recommended that a new Manuals and Guides be developed (referring to the M&G on RNODCs).

**STATUS:** NOT DONE
(99) the Committee noted that the “Guide for Establishing a National Oceanographic Data Centre” (IOC Manuals and Guides No. 5), published in 1997 was now out of date and needed urgent updating. The Committee tasked Dr Lesley Rickards, Mr Nickolay Michailov and Mr Greg Reed with reviewing “IOC Manuals and Guides No. 5” and start the updating process. With regard to the publishing of the revised Manual the Committee noted that, rather than publishing a printed version of the Manual, it would be more cost-effective to include the Manual in electronic format as part of OceanTeacher.

(13)

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING

- 26/4/07: added milestone in groupware for Lesley Rickards, Greg Reed and Nick Mikhailov. Writeboard file was opened on 19/5/07. Deadline for revision was established by Greg Reed for 20 September 2007
- no further action

DECISION OFFICERS 2007:

(i) The Officers requested that Mr Greg Reed provide the draft revision of IOC Manuals and Guides No. 5 to Dr Lesley Rickards, Dr Nick Mikhailov, Dr Malika Bel Hassen-Abid and Mr Mika Odido for final review by mid-January 2008. The Intersessional Working Group tasked to provide guidelines on provision of metrics by NODCs should also provide input to this revised publication.

STATUS: DONE: IOC M&G 5 was published in May 2008

(14)

(ii) The Officers tasked Mr Bob Keeley and Mr Greg Reed to review the IODE documents listed in the “JCOMM Publication Status” document and identify those documents that require updating, not later than mid-January 2008.

STATUS: JCOMM documentation has been reviewed. A proposed IODE/JCOMM Documentation TOC has been proposed which will provide the framework for the set of documentation that pertains to data management in IODE and in JCOMM. This will be included in Ocean Teacher.

(15)

(iii) The Officers noted with appreciation the Document “Draft Performance Benchmarks for National Oceanographic Data Centers (NODCs) and Designated National Agencies (DNAs) in the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange Program (IODE)” and decided that this document should be included in the revised Manuals and Guides No. 5.

STATUS: DONE

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 9.1
The ICSU World Data Centres

(102) The Committee noted that the different WDCs as well as other programmes or projects hold complementary parts of a “global” data set, and recommended that these entities should consider ways and means to build a “global data set”. The Committee noted further that the “OceanDataPortal” would provide the technological solution to make available these holdings.

(16)

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: none

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The Officers requested the IODE Co-Chairs to send a letter expressing the concerns of the Officers to Prof. J-B Minster, Chair of the ICSU Panel on World Data Centres (Geophysical, Solar and Environmental), with a copy to Mr D.M. Clark. The Officers requested Mr Bob Keeley to co-sign the letter in his capacity as Chair JCOMM DMPA.

STATUS: DONE: email was sent on 16/4/2008.

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 7.3

The IODE network of data centres

(105) The Committee noted that further expansion of the IODE network should be promoted through the ODIN networks as this would enable assisting the new data and information management centres to acquire the necessary skills as part of a long-term integrated framework.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: none

IODE data flow monitoring: Cruise Summary Reports (CSR) and National Oceanographic Programmes (NOP)

(119) The Committee welcomed the initiative of POGO to continue and strengthen the system of NOPs and CSRs and the leading role of the United Kingdom (BODC) and German (DOD) NODCs (as members of SeaDataNet) in this endeavour. The Committee invited POGO and the project leaders to report on progress to IODE-XX with the view of expanding the system to include smaller vessels.

(17)

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: Dr Rickards reported that the cruise programme database was set up for POGO by SeaDataNet which now contains 300 programmes. POGO contributed some funds for this purpose. Dr Rickards also reported that a proposal has been prepared (EuroFleets) for submission to the European Commission. This projects aims at
improving cooperation between European organizations that operate research vessels.

(120) **The Committee stressed** the need for close cooperation with ICES which, together with the US-NODC, is responsible for maintaining the ship code list.

### ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: none

**DECISION:** The Officers stated that this action item has now been superseded by the Standards Forum but called for better coordination between ICES DIM and IODE.

**STATUS:** DONE – NO ACTION NEEDED

(121) **The Committee**, being informed about activities of several marine libraries in linking cruise metadata, data and research publications, **called** on the project to consider including “information linking” in future phases of the project by using the expertise available in marine libraries.

See (17)

### Quality control/ Quality assessment

(138) **The Committee decided** to continue the inter-sessional working group for one more inter-sessional period and charged it with the following tasks:

i. compile a bibliography of all quality control publications (including both quality control procedures and software), building on what is currently available from OceanTeacher DM 209;

ii. compile information on quality control issues of historical, real-time, delayed-mode and modern ocean profile data;

iii. prepare a revised QC manual linking with other QC activities (such as SeaDataNet, DMAC and QARTOD) and building on the results of (i) and (ii) above.

iv. this QC working group should work in collaboration with the JCOMM/IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP).

(139) **The Committee instructed** the inter-sessional working group to submit its work to the March/April 2008 session of the IODE Officers for review, and to the twentieth Session of the IODE Committee for adoption in 2009.

(18)

### DECISION OFFICERS 2007:

- The Officers stressed the need to decide on actions to continue the development of standards to be taken immediately after the January 2008 Forum.
- The Officers recommended that this task be assigned to the JCOMM/IODE ETDMP and requested the JCOMM DMCG for its agreement on this recommendation. The ETDMP will be requested to make the necessary arrangements for documenting and publishing of the recommended standards, as
well as to continue their management, including updating. Regarding the publication of the standards the Officers noted with appreciation the possible opportunity for adopting ISO standards through a proposed WMO/ISO MOU. However the IODE Officers stressed the need to ensure that the published standards should be freely available to the IODE and JCOMM communities. The Officers asked WMO to make sure that the proposed MOU will permit this.

- The Officers recommended that topics of the Forum should be introduced by the experts participating in the Forum. In this regard the Officers decided to meet briefly after the IODE Officers Meeting to identify appropriate experts to introduce the topics.

STATUS: DONE: see IODE-XX Agenda Item 5.1.3.3

(140) The Committee further decided that the inter-sessional working group membership will include Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, France, India, Italy, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, the United States of America, and WMO, and that the group lead will be the United Kingdom. It was further decided that the group will work by correspondence (email).

(141) The Committee instructed the Co-Chairs and Secretariat to investigate the possibility of organizing a QC session as well as plenary presentation during IMDIS-2008.

DECISION: The Officers concluded that follow-up actions beyond the Standards forum will be required.

STATUS: see IODE-XX Agenda Item 5.1.3.3

Restructuring of the IOC and its impact on IODE

(143) The Committee requested the IODE national coordinators to discuss this matter with their IOC action addresses (and Delegates to the forthcoming 24th Session of the IOC Assembly) with the view of ensuring the continuation of the IODE programme as a programme within IOC, and to express the Member States’ strong support for the IODE programme.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: The Officers welcomed that strong support was expressed by Member States for IODE but noted that IODE remains under the Ocean Observation and Services Section.

Strategy and Structure of IODE Groups of Experts

(159) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.2 (Strategy and Structure of IODE Groups of Experts).

Follow-up to the IODE Review: IODE Groups of Experts


(286) The Committee welcomed with satisfaction the achievements of the Group of Experts on Biological and Chemical Data Management and Exchange Practices and stressed the importance of its work.
The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.3

DECISION: The Officers recommended that the next Session of GE-BICH be held late 2008 (see work plan and budget)

STATUS: DONE: the GE-BICH-IV Session will take place 27-30 January 2009 at the IODE Project Office, Oostende.

Role of NODCs at the national level (towards distributed data facilities)

The Committee welcomed the development of national distributed systems including distributed data access systems, but called for close coordination between member states, through IODE, to avoid the development of widely diverging and incompatible systems at the regional and global level.

Projects: Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)

The Committee noted with satisfaction the continued participation of IOC in the ASFA partnership, through the IODE programme, and stressed the importance of improved coverage of the ASFA database, expansion of the ASFA partnership and the expanded dissemination and use of ASFA products. The Committee welcomed the efforts being made to develop an integrated solution to library cataloguing, ASFA input and repositories.

The Committee strongly supported the continued participation of IOC in the ASFA Advisory Board, and its activities.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: IODE participated in the 2007 Session of the ASFA Advisory Board. M. Odido represented IOC/IODE.

DECISIONS OFFICERS 2007:
- The IODE Officers recommended that IAMSLIC and IOC/IODE agree on geographic and subject scope between OceanDocs and Aquatic Commons.

STATUS: GEMIM-X requested the OceanDocs Steering Group to write a strategy to be presented at IODE-XX

- The IODE Officers noted that OceanDocs may also wish to submit a proposal to the ASFA Advisory Board for digitizing historical documents for some of its ODIN proposals.

STATUS: GEMIM-X requested the OceanDocs Steering Group to write a strategy to be presented at IODE-XX
The IODE Officers recommended that OceanDocs should expand its services to include scanning services.  

- **STATUS:** GEMIM-X requested the OceanDocs Steering Group to write a strategy to be presented at IODE-XX

**Projects: Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue (GODAR)**

(316) **The Committee strongly commended** WDC Oceanography, Silver Spring with the work accomplished within GODAR and the WOD and **recommended** the continuation of these projects.

**Projects: Global Temperature and Salinity Profile Programme (GTSPP)**

(323) **The Committee encouraged** additional organizations to participate in the Programme.

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:**

- The IODE Officers expressed their appreciation for the planned production of a GTSPP DVD that will contain all GTSPP data collected since the start of the project in 1990. The IODE Officers requested the IODE Co-Chairs to send a letter to Dr Charles Sun, Chair GTSPP in this regard.

**STATUS:** The National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS) of China offered to produce and distribute the GTSPP DVD at the IODE-XX meeting. The Chair GTSPP advises that, due to personnel changes at NMDIS, he will need to consult with NMDIS and will advise on progress.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:**

(324) **The Committee requested** Member States to consider a replacement for Robert Keeley as the GTSPP chair according to his request to step down from this position.

**DONE:** Charles Sun (US-NOAA) took over as Chair of GTSPP in May 2007.
(325) The Committee requested the Member States to help the Programme in identification of candidates for Science centers that will take over scientific QC of the collected data.

(26)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** none

**Projects: Global Ocean Surface Underway Data Pilot Project (GOSUD)**

(334) The Committee strongly encouraged other organizations to participate in the pilot project.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** none

(335) The Committee endorsed Mr Loic Petit de la Villeon as new Co-Chair of GOSUD and welcomed him to this position.

(27)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** 26/4/07: added Loic Petit de la Villeon to GOSUD page in IODE web site

(336) The Committee requested Member States to consider identifying a replacement for Robert Keeley as the GOSUD Co-Chair after he steps down from this position in 2008.

(28)

**STATUS:** No recommendations for a co-chair for GOSUD have been received. Keeley will step down at IODE-XX and sole responsibility will pass to the other chair, Loic Petit De La Villeon.

**Projects: Development of a marine XML (marineXML)**

(344) The Committee stated that the US MMI (Marine Metadata Interoperability Initiative) is crucial to the development of standardised vocabularies.

(345) The Committee instructed the Secretariat to create a section on best practices, recommended by IODE, on the IODE web site, while noting with appreciation that the ISO19135-compliant registry, planned to be hosted by the IODE Project Office, will provide a robust environment for sharing such information.
DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers noted the site of the DGIWG Feature and Attribute Registry web site (https://www.dgiwg.org/FAD), that provides information on ISO-19135 (Geographic information - Procedures for registration of items of geographic information), and instructed the Secretariat to add this link to the page http://www.iode.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=21&Itemid=60

STATUS: DONE the link https://www.dgiwg.org/FAD has been added

(29)

The Committee invited JCOMM and WMO to continue participating in the deliberations of the SG-MEDI.

Projects: Marine Environmental Data Inventory (MEDI)

The Committee thanked Canada for its kind offer [to provide their metadata authoring tool] and instructed the SG-MEDI to investigate this matter further.

The Committee decided to continue the IODE Steering Group for MEDI during the next inter-sessional period.

The Committee reviewed and adopted the work plan submitted by the Third Session of the IODE Steering Group for MEDI and allocated funds for the implementation of the work plan within the available budget.

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers welcomed the Canadian software as a user-friendly metadata creation tool. In order to make it fully usable by the IODE community the IODE Officers called on Canada to make the tool ISO-19115 compliant.

STATUS: Software is under development using the Marine Community Profile of ISO19115. The Canadian NODC has been liaising with the Australian NODC and schema documentation has been provided. Software is in the beta version with first release expected in early 2009.
Projects: Global Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals (OceanExpert)

(369) The Committee invited cooperation between the International Polar Year (IPY) and OceanExpert for management of experts information. The Committee requested Mr Taco De Bruin to pass on this invitation to the IPY Programme Office.

(31) ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: 26/4/07: The Secretariat contacted Taco de Bruin to inquire if he had extended the invitation – no response received

DECISION: The IODE Officers requested the IODE Secretariat to further pursue this issue

STATUS: email sent to T. De Bruin (April 2008).

(370) The Committee congratulated the Project Office with the continued developments related to OceanExpert.

(371) The Committee reviewed and adopted the 2008-2009 work plan and allocated funds in the 2007-2009 work plan and budget.

(372) The Committee invited Member States to actively promote OceanExpert at the national and regional level.

(32) ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: 26/4/07: contacted IODE NCs MIM to inquire how/if they are promoting OceanExpert and whether they have a poster yet – 4 responses received. Chile responded OE promotion is done 1) through my library's webpage; 2) through a chilean Librarians' listserv; 3) Our national Working Group on Information Management, integrated by five chilean marine sciences libraries, is currently building its webpage, where promotion of OceanExpert is considered.

STATUS: no action
Projects: Development of e-repositories (OceanDocs)

The Committee congratulated the team that developed the OceanDocs Africa repository for their excellent work, and welcomed the initiative to extend the coverage of the repository to other regions.

The Committee noted the close collaboration that has been established between IOC and IAMSLIC and requested the Secretariat to work closely with the IAMSLIC working group that has been set up to explore avenues for further collaboration.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: discussions have been started (November 2007) on the establishment of a new MOU between IAMSLIC and IOC/IODE. Officers are requested to identify scope of the MOU. Ms Pikula informed the Officers that she had attended the September 2007 IAMSLIC Conference. Following up on the request by GE-MIM-IX she had presented the possibility of a new Memorandum of Understanding between IOC and IAMSLIC. This proposal was well received and discussions had now started.

STATUS: Discussions are ongoing with IAMSLIC regarding the establishment of a new MOU between IOC and IAMSLIC (ongoing)

The Committee stressed the importance of ensuring that OceanDocs and the Aquatic Commons complement each other to ensure that resources are utilized optimally.

The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.11 (Establishment of the OceanDocs Project).

Projects: The IODE Regional OceanPortals
(http://www.portaloceanico.net and http://www.africanoceans.net)

The Committee welcomed the success of the regional OceanPortals as information tools to disseminate information on ocean and coastal research to a wide audience. Taking into consideration the termination of the current funding source for these initiatives but bearing in mind the objective of these products, the Committee called on the Chief Editors of the regional OceanPortals to discuss continued funding with relevant national, regional or international organizations with an interest in public information related to coastal and marine environment

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers called on IOC and IODE projects active in Latin America to actively use Portal Oceanico to promote their activities.
Projects: SeaDataNet

(405) The Committee noted with satisfaction the SeaDataNet Project plans and the wide variety of useful standards and procedures that will be available to the IODE community as the SeaDataNet Project progresses.

(406) The Committee welcomed the joint SeaDataNet/IODE organization of the IMDIS-2008 conference.

(35)
DECISION: The Officers recommended support to IMDIS and agreed to identify funding within the 2008 work plan and budget: See Agenda Item 11

STATUS: DONE: support was provided to IMDIS in 2008

Projects: System of Industry Metocean data for the Offshore and Research Communities (SIMORC)

(411) The Committee welcomed the SIMORC system as a valuable initiative and invited Member States to use this new source of data.

(412) The Committee called for more oil and gas companies to make their data available to SIMORC.

Projects: New initiatives: The Ocean Data Portal

(416) The Committee stressed that the OceanDataPortal Project will focus on interoperability and interconnecting of existing national and regional data systems, and not on building a separate top level IODE system.

(417) The Committee instructed the IODE Steering Group for the OceanDataPortal Project to investigate the issue of the name of this new initiative as IODE has developed several other “Portals” (OceanPortal, regional OceanPortals) which could cause confusion for the users.

(36)

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: The Steering Group has not had a meeting.

(418) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.4 (The IODE Ocean Data Portal Project)

See IODE-XX Agenda Item 5.1.3.4
CAPACITY BUILDING: ODIN

Ocean Data and Information Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA)

(426) The Committee noted with satisfaction the progress that has been made in implementation of the ODINAFRICA activities and the impact that these have had on ocean data and information management in Africa.

(427) The Committee called for the preparation of a proposal for the next phase of the project which will cement ODINAFRICA as a sustainable network of African NODC’s addressing the increased demands for data and information products and services required by ocean-based industry and coastal populations in Africa. The proposal should focus on development and dissemination of data and information products to assist in the sustainable management of marine and coastal areas, and include further development of the African Marine Atlas, as well as specialized skills necessary for trend analysis and scenario development.

(37)


DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers noted with appreciation the success of ODINAFRICA-III as well as the excellent outcome of the FUST review and called on the Government of Flanders to continue its support to IODE and its ODINAFRICA project for a fourth phase to be started in 2009.

STATUS: proposal for ODINAFRICA-IV was submitted to FUST SC in September 2008.

See also IODE-XX Agenda Item 6.2.1

(428) The Committee welcomed the close collaboration that ODINAFRICA has developed with other organizations such as WIOMSA, UNEP Regional Seas programme, NEPAD/COSMAR, African LME projects, GOOS Africa, OBIS, ACEP and other organizations and programmes, and called on these organizations and programmes to collaborate in the preparation of the proposal for ODINAFRICA-IV.

(429) The Committee thanked the Government of Flanders, Belgium for their continued support for the ODINAFRICA project and requested that they continue support for the next phase of ODINAFRICA. The Committee also urged other Member States to extend their support to the project.

(430) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.5 (Ocean Data and Information Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA))
Ocean Data and Information Network for the Caribbean and South America regions (ODINCARSA)

(437) The Committee noted with appreciation the success of ODINCARSA and the positive impact of the project in Latin American countries.
(439) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.6

Dr Cesar Toro reported on activities. Reference was made to the Caribbean Marine Atlas workshop (see report and see web site http://www.iode.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=75&Itemid=113).

(38)

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The Officers noted with appreciation the growing collaboration between ODINCARSA (Latin America) and GRASP. The Officers called on the ODINCARSA coordinator, IOCARIBE Secretariat and IODE Secretariat to actively pursue additional sources of funding from other organizations or projects active in the region. The Officers allocated funds for the further development of ODINCARSA in the 2008-2009 work plan and budget (both sub-regions).

STATUS: done

Ocean Data and Information Network for the Central Indian Ocean Region (ODINCINDIO)

(445) Noting the significant progress made in implementation of the ODINCINDIO activities since the IODE-XVIII, the Committee commended Dr Zaker for his efforts in ensuring the implementation of activities, and welcomed the collaboration that has been established with IOGOOS, IOTWS, and ROPME.

(446) The Committee endorsed the ODINCINDIO work plan for 2007-2009 and urged Member States from the region to play an active and supportive role in order to ensure the establishment of a reliable network.

(447) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.7 (Ocean Data and Information Network for the Central Indian Ocean (ODINCINDIO)).

Regrettably Dr Zaker, ODINCINDIO coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting. His progress report is available as http://www.iode.org/index.php?option=com_oe&task=viewDocumentRecord&docID=1628.

(39)

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The Officers noted the lack of progress of the ODINCINDIO project. They recommended that, in view of the success of this approach in other regions, to focus on sub-regions such as countries bordering the Persian Gulf. In this regard reference was made to the initial cooperation of ROPME in the organization of the first ODINCINDIO workshop.

STATUS: Secretariat contacted ROPME Secretariat but no response was received.
**Ocean Data and Information Network for European Countries in Economic Transition (ODINECET)**

(453) **The Committee welcomed with satisfaction** the fast development of the ODINECET project and its achievements.

(454) **The Committee adopted** the ODINECET work plan for 2007 and 2008-2009.

(455) **The Committee adopted** Recommendation IODE-XIX.8 (Establishment of the Ocean Data and Information Network for European Countries in Economic Transition (ODINECET)).

Ms Olga Akimova, ODINECET coordinator reported on progress of the project.

(40)

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The IODE Officers welcomed the progress made by the ODINECET project and allocated funding for ODINECET in the 2008-2009 work plan and budget.

**STATUS:** project ongoing – See IODE-XX Agenda item 6.2.4

**Ocean Data and Information Network for the Western Pacific region (ODIN-WESTPAC)**

(464) **The Committee welcomed** the proposal to establish the ODINWESTPAC Pilot Project and endorsed it.

(465) **The Committee adopted** Recommendation IODE-XIX.9 (Establishment of the ODINWESTPAC Pilot Project).

(466) **The Committee decided** to allocate funds in the 2007 and 2008-2009 work plan and budget.

(41)

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The Officers welcomed the proposal submitted by the Chair GE-MIM and the PIMRIS (Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information System) Coordinator to establish a sub-regional ODIN-Pacific Islands project. Initially this project will focus on marine information management capacity building.

**STATUS:** project ongoing: see IODE-XX Agenda Item 6.2.5

**Black Sea Region**

(474) **The Committee welcomed with satisfaction** the development of the ODINBLACKSEA project and its fast start.

(475) **The Committee adopted** the ODINBLACKSEA work plan for 2007 and for 2008-2009.

(476) **The Committee adopted** Recommendation IODE-XIX.10 on the establishment of Ocean Data and Information Network for the Black Sea (ODINBLACKSEA).
Dr Vladymyrov, on behalf of Dr A. Palazov briefly reported on this item referring to the Document available from http://www.iode.org/index.php?option=com_oe&task=viewDocumentRecord&docID=1633

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: The IODE Officers welcomed the establishment of the ODINBlackSea project.

STATUS: No action taken by A. Palazov. Secretariat requested V. Vladymyrov to take on acting role. See Agenda Item 6.2.6.

Pacific Islands

(480) The Committee agreed on the need to provide practical support to develop standards and build sharing mechanisms between regional and country-based agencies.

(481) The Committee instructed GE-MIM to continue its efforts to assist the Pacific Islands region to develop a proposal for a region-based ODIN which builds on existing networks (e.g. PIMRIS, PEIN). In this regard, the GE-MIM Chair should approach relevant agencies such as SOPAC, PIMRIS and SPC to form a working group to jointly develop the proposal. GE-MIM should also investigate the possible opportunities for the ODIN to be associated with the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Framework for Integrated Strategic Action (PIROF-ISA).

(43) STATUS: done: projects started: see IODE-XX agenda 6.2.7

Caspian Sea

(483) The Committee welcomed the proposal to establish the Distributed Marine Data Management System for the Caspian Sea, and noted the need to take the capacity building needs of the Caspian Sea region into account while developing the work plan for the coming intersessional period.

Dr N. Mikhailov briefly report on this Agenda Item. He reported that an important action item for ODIN-Caspian Sea would be the implementation of the E2EDM technology at the regional level.

(44) STATUS: See Agenda Item 5.1.3
CAPACITY BUILDING: TRAINING

Training activities at the Project Office

(501) The Committee expressed its gratitude to the Government of Flanders, Belgium for its support to the Project Office as well as for the generous support to the ODINAFRICA network. ODINAFRICA advanced substantially due to the participation of ODINAFRICA trainees in the training activities organized at the Project Office.

(502) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.13 (Support for the IOC Project for IODE for Capacity Building)

(45)

STATUS: support from the Government of Flanders has continued in 2008. The Project Office will be assessed in 2009. Some support has been provided by other Member States (eg China provided a secondment to the Project Office that was co-funded). A number of activities have been organized and co-funded in cooperation with other organizations and projects.

OceanTeacher

(292) The Committee requested the Officers to investigate ways to address the need for translation of training and reference materials into languages other than English

(514) The Committee welcomed the success of OceanTeacher and invited member states to contribute to OceanTeacher by making available resource persons as lecturers or content providers.

(515) The Committee adopted Recommendation IODE-XIX.12 (OceanTeacher)

(46)

DECISION OFFICERS 2007:

- The IODE Officers stressed the importance of having OceanTeacher materials available in all IOC working languages. In this regard the IODE Officers requested Mr Cesar Toro to assist the IODE Secretariat in contacting the AAAS which has a programme that assists with translating professional documentation.

STATUS: no action reported (Cesar Toro)

(47)

- The IODE Officers agreed to assist OceanTeacher by providing content on topics within their field(s) of expertise, as soon as the new OceanTeacher is up and running and the new topic tree has been created.

STATUS: starting – volunteers identified – see IODE-XX Agenda item 6.1
The IODE Officers also called for the identification of editors who can perform quality control on content submitted by e.g. students or young scientists/data managers/information managers.

STATUS: starting – volunteers identified – see agenda item 6.1

**New requirements for regional capacity building**

The Committee thanked the sessional working group for the good work it had done in compiling the regional capacity building requirements and endorsed them. The sessional working group stressed the importance of follow up mechanisms for students after the training, preferably with some long term implementation at national level. A web site should be set-up where the further tasks of trainees can be monitored and ensure the application in the beneficiary institutions; The sessional working group proposed that the core training courses should be developed as “training of trainers” courses so that those who are trained can train other people in their countries. Those trainees who have demonstrated their competence as trainers at the local level should be invited to assist in training at the IODE Project Office; The sessional working group stressed the importance of identifying other relevant international or national partners that can share financial support in the regions and co-sponsor training activities at the IODE Project Office; The sessional working group welcomed the initiative by the IODE Project Office to prepare audio-visual materials to assist in local training, and proposed the translation of materials to other languages to facilitate their greater use at the national level; The sessional working group also emphasized the need to enhance the connection of the ODIN networks to ongoing IODE activities on standards developments, QC and End-to-End technologies.

The Representative of IOI drew the attention of the Committee to the training course on Remote Sensing and GIS Applications that was organized jointly with IODE in 2006. This course had proved popular and complements the other courses on Ocean Governance organized by IOI. In this regard IOI would be ready to co-organise another similar course with IODE and would provide resource persons as well as support some participants.

The Committee endorsed the capacity building work plan and welcomed the offers of IOI and ICTP to collaborate in the implementation of the work plan

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** no action on discussions further cooperation with IOI and ICTP (except cooperation between ICTP and the project office on eYa)

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The IODE Officers requested the Secretariat to contact IOI to discuss further cooperation.
STATUS: initial contact made by Secretariat. Further discussions required.

**IOC/IODE Capacity Building Strategy:**

(527) The Committee strongly recommended for IODE to publish its Capacity Building strategy.

(50)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** No action. Officers need to discuss the need for a specific IODE CB strategy bearing in mind the existing IOC CB principles and draft JCOMM CB strategy.

STATUS: JCOMM Capacity Building Rapporteurs met from 16-17 October 2008 to discuss the capacity building strategy for JCOMM. Taking into consideration the existing capacity building strategies of IOC and WMO, the CB Rapporteurs agreed that a supplementary capacity building strategy for JCOMM was not required.

(528) The Committee noted that IODE’s ODINAFRICA and ODINCARSA projects had not only developed national capacity in oceanographic data and information management and promoted regional cooperation and exchange, but had assisted member states to participate in several ocean science, observation and management programmes at the regional and international level.

(529) The Committee noted further that it was essential to showcase the achievements of the ODIN projects at the regional as well as national level and recommended the publication of brochures or specialized audio/visual products. In this regard the Committee was informed that ODINAFRICA will publish such a brochure in 2007 and the Committee recommended that other ODINs follow this example.

(530) The Committee further invited Member States participating in ODIN projects to promote these important IODE initiatives on all occasions, and especially to donors to mobilize resources for sustained support to these networks. In this regard the Committee strongly urged Member States to show strong commitment to the data and information centres that have been established through ODIN projects by committing resources to these facilities.

(531) The Committee, while welcoming expressions of success, noted that it would be more productive to identify indicators of impact and thus to assess the success of IODE capacity building through objective performance assessment methods. In this regard the Committee was informed that the ODINAFRICA project was preparing a set of indicators.

(532) The UNESCO Consultant charged with the Review of the IODE programme, Dr Juan Carlos Villagran de Léon, stressed the importance of demonstrating concrete outputs of capacity building. In terms of IODE capacity building it was essential to demonstrate how IODE’s capacity building efforts had resulted in increased exchange of data and whether data (and what volumes) were reaching long-term archives such as the World Data Centres.
The Committee tasked the Training Coordinator of the IOC Project Office for IODE, Dr Wouter Rommens, with the preparation of the identified documents (Strategy) and products (brochures, audio/visual products), to be submitted to IODE-XX.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** Mr Rommens prepared a draft document which will be ready for circulation by January 2008.

**STATUS:** no action (input wouter)

**IODE Public Awareness**

The Committee congratulated the IODE Secretariat and IOC Project Office for IODE with the new web site, which it described as a user friendly communication tool. While the Committee expressed its appreciation especially for the event management system that was used for the preparations of IODE-XIX, it requested the Secretariat to investigate the possibility to make working documents available as one downloadable (zip) file.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:**
DONE: working documents can now be downloaded as 1 package from the web site

The Committee requested further to move the section “Popular IODE Sites” up higher on the home page and to consider adding links to all important IODE sub-sites and projects.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:**
DONE – popular sites have been moved to the top ; links to all important IODE sub-sites and projects: not done – requires further guidance from Officers

The Committee requested the Secretariat to allow submission of any ocean related event in the IODE web site calendar but enable a filtering option to select only IOC, GOOS and/or JCOMM events.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:**
Not done. Requires additional financial resources
The Committee welcomed the brochures prepared by the IOC Project Office for IODE and requested that electronic templates be made available to enable Member States to customize the brochures or to provide versions in other languages.

(54) **ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** not done. Dr Rommens reported that templates have been prepared and will be posted on the web site in December 2007

**IOC OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA EXCHANGE POLICY:**
**IMPLEMENTATION BY MEMBER STATES**

The Committee encouraged each Member State to review the 'IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy and enact it as part of their Oceanographic Data Policy.

(55) **DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The IODE Officers decided that this should be made part of the IODE national report. It was recommended to list all IOC programmes and then ask (i) whether the data centre/country adheres to clause 1 of the IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy (Clause 1: Member States shall provide timely, free and unrestricted access to all data, associated metadata and products generated under the auspices of IOC programmes); (ii) are there issues that hampered adherence to the clause; (iii) are the data available and how. The Officers also decided that this matter should be further discussed by the inter-sessional working group on the IODE National Report format. The WG needs to work by email. The ODINAFRICA coordinator was added to the group. The lead will be taken by IODE Co-Chairs.

STATUS: DONE (part of online national report survey)

**IOC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

The Committee, while expressing its great appreciation to the Chair for drafting the Strategy, and taking into consideration that the Strategic document was commissioned by an IOC Governing Body, recommended the following:

• to add a section on the relationships between IODE and GEOSS;
• to balance the different sections in terms of their level of detail;
• to focus more on policy matters and less on technical issues;
• to sub-divide the document in a strategy section and implementation section or annex;
• to add sections on marine information management;
• to add sections demonstrating the linkages between IODE and ocean science programmes;
• to add a section emphasizing the role of IODE as a data dissemination coordination mechanism (to avoid Internet data provision chaos);
• to add sections that deal with new observation technologies and how IODE can deal with the data and products of these;
• to add more content on biological data management.

(565) **The Committee invited** Dr Rickards, Mr Michailov, Mr Reed and Mr Keeley to continue the drafting of the Strategic document during the next few days in Trieste and then forward the revised version to the IODE Officers for finalization and approval.

(566) **The Committee tasked** the IODE past Chair, Dr Lesley Rickards, with the formal submission of the Document, on behalf of the IODE Committee, to the 24th Session of the IOC Assembly. The Committee was informed that the deadline for submission of working documents to the Assembly was end of April 2007.


(575) **The Committee instructed** the Officers to prepare a table indicating:
• Activities that are of strategic importance (as relevant to the strategic plan) but will need to be shut down due to shortage of funds;
• Activities that are of strategic importance but will be covered by the UNESCO regular programme (and indicating whether these funds suffice for effective implementation);
• Activities that are of strategic importance and are covered by extra-budgetary contributions.

(576) **The Committee instructed** the Co-Chairs to bring the above-mentioned table to the attention of the IOC Assembly at its twenty-fourth session, requesting Member States to consider funding activities that are of strategic importance but cannot be covered by the UNESCO regular programme.

(577) **The Committee adopted** Recommendation IODE-XIX.14 (Programme and Budget for 2007 and 2008-2009)

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING**: done – see relevant IOC Assembly Documents

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:**

• The Officers adopted the IODE work plan and budget for 2008-2009 taking into account the funds expected to be available, as shown in Annex III. It should be noted that all FUST-funded projects will end in 2008. Although it is expected that new projects will be submitted (and hopefully approved) this new revenue is not included in the current work plan and budget.

**STATUS:** no action needed
The Officers approved the request made by Dr Cesar Toro on behalf of ODINCARSA to co-fund a JCOMM/IODE training course in storm surge modeling for the Caribbean. US$15,000 was allocated in the 2009 budget (for the activity to take place at the IOC Project Office for IODE).

**STATUS:** to be re-assessed by IODE-XX

**ELECTIONS OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

The Committee elected Dr Malika Bel-Hassen Abid (Tunisia) and Mr Gregory Reed (Australia) as Co-Chairs of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE).

The Committee expressed its highest appreciation for the tireless efforts of the outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair during the past two inter-sessional periods which had witnessed great changes for IODE.

**DATE AND PLACE OF IODE-XX**

The Committee thanked the People’s Republic of China for the kind offer to host the twentieth Session of the IODE Committee and accepted it. The Committee instructed the Secretariat, in consultation with the Co-Chairs, to follow-up on the offer.

**ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING:** The Executive Secretary has decided that all primary subsidiary bodies should meet in parallel with the Sessions of the Assembly for a period of 3 days. This will start as from IOC-XXV in 2009. As such it will be necessary to decline the offer made by China.

**DECISION OFFICERS 2007:** The Officers expressed their concern about the very short duration of the meeting planned for 2009. They stated that this will leave no preparation time for the delegates to the Assembly. In addition it will not leave time for countries to consult nationally, and to formulate their interventions regarding IODE. In addition, if the other primary subsidiary bodies meet in parallel then this will hamper interaction between IODE and these other bodies.

**STATUS:** China re-iterated its offer to host IODE-XX in China during the 35th Session of the IOC Executive Council. The Council accepted the Offer.
The Committee considered the presented options [regarding Options for the organization of future Sessions of the IODE Committee] as well as some other such as running parallel sessions (e.g. one for data management and one for information management), grouping activities into the four groups utilized for the work plan and budget (data management, information management, ODIN and governance), grouping all ODIN activities into one presentation and discussion, and use of posters as alternative to plenary presentations.

The Committee instructed the Officers to further consider this issue and propose a small number of suitable options to the Committee, by email, not later than June 2008.

ACTIONS BETWEEN IODE-XIX AND 2007 OFFICERS MEETING: none taken

DECISION OFFICERS 2007: the Officers did not discuss this item

STATUS: no action taken

The Committee commended the Secretariat with the production of the Action Paper and instructed the Secretariat to continue preparing such a document for future Sessions. The Committee further instructed the Secretariat to further improve the Action Paper through a more concise summary of the issues that require decisions or action by the Committee.

STATUS: done: the reporting format for working documents was revised to include the introductory text as it will be included in the action paper and summary report. In addition authors are requested to identify action items, timelines and costing.

The Committee requested that for future meetings the meeting report introductory text should be limited to approximately one page, allowing more room to report on discussions and without inflating the size of the summary report.

STATUS: done: see (60)

The Committee instructed the Co-Chairs to include in their report a brief review (preferably as a diagram) of the relationship of IODE with other organizations, as well as the relationships of the various IODE subsidiary bodies, projects and activities.

STATUS: See agenda item 3.1