INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

Seventh Session of the IOC Regional Committee
for the Western Indian Ocean, Mombasa

Mombasa, Kenya
18–21 July 2008

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT

In accordance with Rule of Procedure 48.3, IOCWIO, as a primary Subsidiary Body of IOC, is required to report to a Governing Body on its sessions.

The IOC Assembly at its 25th Session will be invited to consider this Executive Summary.

1 The Regional Committee reviewed the progress made since its last session in November 2005. The Committee elected Mr Mohamudally Beebeejaun (Mauritius) as Chairman and Prof. Alfonse Dubi (Tanzania) as Vice-Chairman for the inter-sessional period. The Committee decided to hold its Eighth session in 2010, which coincides with the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of IOC. The Committee welcomed the offer Comoros made to host the next session in Moroni, and invited the Secretariat in consultation with the Chairman to follow-up on the offer.

2 The Committee adopted four recommendations as follows:
Recommendation IOCWIO-VII.1

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The IOC Regional Committee for the Western Indian Ocean,

Noting the progress that has been made in development of capacities in the region by IOC programmes (e.g. the IOC Capacity Development programme, ODINAFRICA, and the IOTWS), and other organizations and programmes,

Further noting the achievements of the UNESCO Chair in Marine Sciences and Oceanography at the Edouardo Mondlane University in Mozambique,

Recognizing the importance of development and use of Decision Support Tools such as models, GIS Applications and remote sensing, as well as the importance of distance learning tools such as video conferencing,

Supports the establishment of a UNESCO Chair in Marine Technology, which will focus on training on use of ecosystem-based Decision Support Tools at the University of Dar as Salaam, Tanzania;

Urges the UNESCO Chairs and other institutions in the region to consider development and use of distance-learning tools for their training programmes;

Emphasizes the need to publicize and promote the marine-related training programmes offered by various institutions in the region;

Urges Member States to support the UNESCO Chairs in the region.

Recommendation IOCWIO-VII.2

TSUNAMIS AND OTHER MARINE RELATED HAZARDS

The IOC Regional Committee for the Western Indian Ocean,

Welcoming the progress that has been made in developing the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWS),

Notes that various initiatives have been implemented to: (i) improve the sea-level observations; (ii) provide training on sea-level data analysis; (iii) and provide training on modelling and other topics related to tsunami preparedness;

Emphasizes the need to incorporate other marine related hazards such as cyclone and storm surges when developing the systems;

Calls on Member States from the region to increase their level of participation in the activities of the IOTWS;

Request the IOC Secretariat to provide support for collection of relevant core data such as bathymetry, topography and socio-economic data needed for further development of models for study of marine related hazards and their impacts.
Recommendation IOCWIO-VII.3

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

The IOC Regional Committee for the Western Indian Ocean,

Notes with appreciation the successful implementation of the third phase of ODINAFRICA funded by the Government of Flanders (Belgium), and the first phase of the Capacity-development Programme supported by the Swedish International Development Authority;

Expresses its thanks to the Governments of Flanders (Belgium) and Sweden for the substantial support that they have provided for implementation of activities in the region;

Welcomes the increased investment in marine-related research in recent years by a number of Member States from the region, and urges Member States from the region to continue increasing their investments in marine sciences so as to ensure that a critical mass of experts is sustained and fully utilized in the region;

Endorses the proposals developed for the next phases of ODINAFRICA and the Capacity-Development Programme;

Requests the IOC Secretariat to:

(i) Submit the ODINAFRICA-IV proposal to the Flanders UNESCO Science Trust fund for consideration for funding

(ii) Submit the proposal for the second phase of the Capacity-Development Programme, and the proposal developed during the Bid Writing workshop to appropriate funding agencies for consideration

(iii) Explore the possibility of establishing a Voluntary Cooperation Programme fund through which Member States can provide support targeted at specific pilot projects not covered by the Regular Budget;

Urges Member States from the region to engage in and actively support the development and submission of proposals for funding.

Recommendation IOCWIO-VII.4

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2008–2011

The IOC Regional Committee for the Western Indian Ocean,

Recalling the successful implementation of its programme during the past inter-sessional period 2005–2008,

Recognising the progress made in the implementation of the ODINAFRICA–III and the IOC Self Driven Capacity Development programmes in the region,

Noting that a number of Member States from the region have increased their investment in marine research,

Taking into consideration the planned celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO in 2010,
Decides to:

(i) hold the Eighth session in 2010 to coincide with the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of IOC

(ii) Adopt the programme of work for IOCWIO for the period 2008–2011 as indicated in the table annexed to this Recommendation;

Expresses its appreciation to the Member States, donors and organizations who have provided support to IOCWIO during the intersessional period, especially the Governments of Flanders (Belgium) and Sweden for their continued support;

Urges Member States from the region to incorporate climate change issues in their strategic and work plans, and in particular the following areas:

Urges the IOC and other organizations and donor agencies to assist in the implementation of the 2008–2011 Programme of Work.

Annex to Recommendation IOCWIO-VII.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAMME OF WORK 2008–2011</th>
<th>BUDGET RESOURCES</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIGH LEVEL OBJECTIVE 1 PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF THE IMPACTS OF NATURAL HAZARDS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance of existing tide gauge stations and installation of stations in Comoros, Madagascar and Tanzania.</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>IOTWS, GLOSS and national institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modeling and Forecasting of extreme events, including floods, tsunamis, swells and waves, storm surges</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>ODINAFRICA, WIOMSA, ICPAC and ReCoMaP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk and vulnerability mapping, and projects building resilience of communities (Proposed leads: KMFRI/IMS/IHSM)</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>ODINAFRICA-IV, ReCoMap, and others</td>
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<td>HIGH LEVEL OBJECTIVE 2: MITIGATION OF THE IMPACTS OF AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND VARIABILITY</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Climate model nested in the global modelling initiatives (Proposed leads: KMD and MMS).</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>(Potential collaboration WCRP, AMESD, CLIM Dev, GCOS GOOS, ODINAFRICA and GOOS AFRICA).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impact of Climate change and variability on fisheries, coastal zone biodiversity, and shoreline changes [and mitigation/adaptation strategies]</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2 sessions co-sponsored by WIOMSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Group of Experts on Ocean Dynamics and Climate session</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
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<td>HIGH LEVEL OBJECTIVE 3 – SAFEGUARDING THE HEALTH OF OCEAN SYSTEMS</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Monitoring and assessment of indicators for Integrated Coastal Area Management and MPAs (Pilot project – Proposed leads: KMFRI/IMS/IHSM)</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Possible Collaboration with ReCoMaP</td>
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<td>HIGH LEVEL OBJECTIVE 4 – MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES AND POLICIES LEADING TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF COASTAL AND OCEAN ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES</td>
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<td>Maintain and strengthen the mechanisms for management of activities in the region including the IOCWIO Projects Office</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>ODINAFRICA and IOC/CD</td>
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<td>Strengthening of national networks of marine related institutions as a mechanism for ICAM</td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td>ODINAFRICA</td>
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### PROGRAMME OF WORK 2008–2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGULAR</th>
<th>EXTRA BUDGETARY</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>2.5 million</td>
<td>????</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>ODINAFRICA, ASCLME, SWIOFP, WIOMSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>6,165,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Graduate/post-graduate programmes in the region supporting: Shoreline Change, pollution and waste management, coastal and offshore engineering, hydrodynamics, regulatory tools, ICZM including planning and policy. (Proposed lead: IMS, Mondlane University, UCT)
- Programmes for training on management and leadership and incubation of consultancies, and fellowships to support pilot projects in Decision Support Tools - DSTs
- Preparation of data products, scenarios, predictions and forecasts covering priority areas (e.g. shoreline change, marine related hazards and disasters, management of key ecosystems, and sustainable use of resources), and their dissemination through policy & media briefs, portals, websites and other outreach activities.
- Eighth session of IOCWIO, Moroni, Comoros

**TOTALS**

6,165,000