

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
Reports of Meetings of Experts and Equivalent Bodies



The Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (IOC/ABE-LOS)

Second Session

El Jadida, Morocco

6 - 9 May 2002

UNESCO

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1. OPENING AND WELCOMING ADDRESSES

The second meeting of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (IOC/ABE-LOS II) was opened on Monday 6 May 2002 at 09.30 by the Moroccan Minister of Higher Education, Training, and Scientific Research Honourable Mr Najib Zerouali Ouariti and by the Governor of the Province of El Jadida, Mr Mohammed Fassi-Fehri.

On behalf of his Government, Mr Najib Zerouali Ouariti welcomed the participants who came from afar to attend the IOC/ABE-LOS meeting in his country. He referred to the maritime tradition of his country, and emphasized the importance of the issue of transfer of marine technology, not only to his country, but also to other developing States facing increasing demands for action in the light of the evolving Law of the Sea.

The Assistant Director-General of UNESCO, Executive Secretary of IOC, Dr Patricio Bernal, thanked the host country for its welcome and noted that Morocco offers a good example of a State which has developed effective institutional, legal, scientific, and technical responses to the Law of the Sea. He praised the Moroccan participation in international initiatives such as GOOS-Africa and MedGOOS. He highlighted the establishment of the *Réseau National de la Recherche en Mer* (REMER) as an important step forward in accordance with UNCLOS Part XIV, Section 3, and with the guidelines issued by UN/OLA/DOALOS. He outlined the three themes to be discussed in the forthcoming sessions: Transfer of Marine Technology (TMT); IOC internal procedure for Marine Scientific Research (MSR) undertaken by or under the auspices of IOC; and the results of the collection and analysis of the IOC completed second questionnaire dealing with the practice of States in the fields of MSR and TMT.

Statements were also delivered by the President of the Municipal Council, the Rector of the University Chouaïb Doukkali, the Dean of the Faculty of Science, and Professor Mohammed Moncef, National Coordinator of the IOC/ABE-LOS II meeting for the Kingdom of Morocco.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

2.1 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

The Chairperson of IOC/ABE-LOS, Mr Elie Jarmache, proposed Mr Samuel Betah from Cameroon as Rapporteur, and the meeting accepted his proposal.

2.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was reviewed and accepted with one amendment: the title of Item 3 was changed to "Review of Intersessional Activities".

2.3 DOCUMENTATION

The Technical Secretary Ms Dienaba Beye presented the documents listed in IOC/ABE-LOS/II/4 prov, with three supplements:

- (i) *UN/OLA/DOALOS Marine Scientific Research – A Guide to the Implementation of the Relevant Provisions of UNCLOS;*
- (ii) *Oceans and law of the sea – Material for the Report of the Secretary-General to the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process established by the*

General Assembly in its Resolution 54/33 (ICP) in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of developments in ocean affairs (Third Meeting, 8 to 15 April 2002);

- (iii) *Marine Science and Ocean Services for Development: UNESCO/IOC Comprehensive Plan for a Major Assistance Programme to enhance the Marine Science Capabilities of Developing Countries (IOC/INF-612).*

The issue of delayed translations was raised by some delegates who expressed concern that the French versions of some documents were not delivered in time to permit review and consideration.

2.4 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION

The IOC/ABE-LOS Chairman reminded delegates that the Year 2002 is the twentieth anniversary of UNCLOS, and he urged them to recall this milestone in their discussions, paying particular attention to the need for raising awareness among the younger generation of the significance of the Convention. The meeting agreed to follow the adopted agenda.

3. REVIEW OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

3.1 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON IOC/ABE-LOS ACTIVITIES DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD

In delivering his report (IOC/ABE-LOSII/6), Chairman Elie Jarmache highlighted the following:

1. Establishment of two Working Groups in accordance with Resolution XXI-2 adopted by the 21st Session of the IOC Assembly (Paris, 3-10 July 2001): one on the Transfer of Marine Technology (chaired by Mr Ariel Gonzalez, expert from Argentina) and the other on the IOC internal procedures related to an effective and appropriate use of Article 247 of UNCLOS (chaired by Professor Alfred Soons, expert from The Netherlands);
2. Conduct of a survey on States' practices in the fields of Marine Scientific Research (MSR) and Transfer of Marine Technology (TMT). He expressed thank to the IOC Secretariat, and in particular to Mr Roland Rogers of the United Kingdom, who was assigned to the Secretariat for analysing the results of the completed second questionnaire related to UNCLOS Part XIII and XIV.
3. Resolution A/RES/56/12 adopted by the UN General Assembly, where IOC/ABE-LOS was invited in paragraph 23 to work in close cooperation with UN/OLA/DOALOS on the development of procedures under Part XIII of the Convention.
4. The importance attached to the Transfer of Marine Technology and capacity building in marine sciences at the third session of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process (ICP), as had been done in the two previous sessions.

Referring to document IOC/ABE-LOSII/inf.3, he raised the issue of the overlapping mandates of IOC/ABE-LOS and the I-GOOS "ad hoc Group of Experts on GOOS and UNCLOS", with consequent risk of a duplication of effort. The I-GOOS group had been established to consider preliminary scientific issues to be taken into account in establishing a legal framework that would apply to GOOS. He further pointed out that the I-GOOS group had been established as a unilateral

initiative and questioned the rationale for its existence when IOC/ABE-LOS has a specific mandate to advise IOC on UNCLOS-related matters.

Delegates made the following comments in response to the Chairman's report:

It was noted that IOC/ABE-LOS is gaining international recognition, as it is mentioned not only in the reports of the past two UN Informal Consultative Process sessions, but also at the higher level in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution A/Res/56/12.

It was suggested that the Chairman's report should have included a reference to paragraph 22 of Resolution A/RES/56/12, which also highlights the IOC role in the promotion of Marine Scientific Research. In this paragraph, the UN General Assembly:

"Calls upon States, through national and regional institutions, to ensure that, in respect of marine scientific research conducted pursuant to Part XIII of the Convention in areas over which the coastal State has jurisdiction, the rights of the coastal State under the Convention are respected and that, at the request of the coastal State, information, reports, results, conclusions and assessments of data, samples and research results are made available, and access to data and samples are provided, to that coastal State".

It was further expressed that paragraph 23 of the referred Resolution must be considered in conjunction with Paragraph 22.

Several delegates shared the IOC/ABE-LOS Chairman's concern over the unilateral establishment of the I-GOOS ad hoc Group of Experts on GOOS and UNCLOS, and several delegates expressed their reservations concerning the content of the Group's Report (IOC/ABE-LOSII/Inf.3), and its terminology. A number of delegates indicated that they would raise these issues at the 35th Session of the IOC Executive Council to be held in Paris in June 2002.

Dr Patricio Bernal, Executive Secretary of the IOC, recalled that IOC/ABE-LOS was established by Resolution XIX-19 of the IOC Assembly in July 1997. He pointed out that the Intergovernmental panel for GOOS (I-GOOS) has the authority to establish its own groups of experts, and that in this context, the ad hoc Group of Experts on GOOS and UNCLOS was established under the authority of the I-GOOS Chair. He also stated that the matter would be placed on the agenda of the 35th Session of the IOC Executive Council.

In further discussion the view was expressed that the issue at stake was not one of the authority of I-GOOS to establish an Expert Group but rather of the inefficiency of establishing an Expert Group in an area of competence of another IOC Subsidiary body, in this case IOC/ABE-LOS.

The representative of UN/OLA/DOALOS expressed some reservations concerning the content of IOC/ABE-LOSII/Inf.3, and indicated that there would be a more substantial response in due course.

3.2 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IOC/ABE-LOS SUB-GROUP ON THE DOCUMENT IOC/INF 1054 ON "DRAFT IOC PRINCIPLES ON TRANSFER OF MARINE TECHNOLOGY"

The Chairman of the Sub-group, Mr Ariel Gonzalez, presented his Progress Report, included in Document IOC/ABE-LOSII/7. In particular, the following aspects were highlighted:

1. Mr Gonzalez recalled the basis of his mandate as contained in the first recommendation of Resolution XXI-2 adopted by the 21st Session of the IOC Assembly:

“That further work is required for the development of guidelines, criteria and standards on the transfer of marine technology, including capacity building related to marine scientific research (MSR), in accordance with Article 271 of UNCLOS on guidelines, criteria and standards, and other related provisions of Part XIV of UNCLOS. To this end, an open-ended Sub-group of IOC/ABE-LOS should be established to re-draft, by correspondence, the document IOC/INF-1054 on “Draft IOC Principles on transfer of marine technology”, taking into account the debate on this issue at the first meeting of IOC/ABE-LOS. This Sub-group should operate in close co-operation with the Division of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Secretariat (UN/OLA/DOALOS)”

2. In this context, and taking into account the view of the first meeting of IOC/ABE-LOS (11-13 June 2001) that IOC/INF-1054 “Draft IOC principles on transfer of marine technology” was a good starting point, he had made an extensive redrafting of the document, in consultation with the members of the Sub-group. In this work, he was mainly guided by four objectives: (i) consistency with regard to UNCLOS –in particular, Part XIV; (ii) flexibility arising from the non-binding nature that the document should have; (iii) effectiveness in devising a mechanism whereby all States would benefit, on an equitable and reasonable basis, from TMT; and (iv) imagination in promoting TMT –in particular, through partnerships.
3. Before going into a detailed review of the draft document, he drew attention on the following general issues for discussion: the relationship between capacity-building and public awareness; the definition of marine technology; the purpose of TMT; potential restrictions; mechanisms for management; and a possible TMT Application Form (TMTA) - of which he presented a preliminary text, for discussion.

Following this presentation, the Group reviewed the *draft Criteria and Guidelines* included in the document paragraph by paragraph. Delegates were in general satisfied with the contents of the draft, offering comments and suggestions for improvement. An important and recurring theme was the need for IOC to assume an active role in the overall TMT process, and to serve as a clearinghouse mechanism along the lines of the model established by the 1995 Washington Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities and its Global Programme of Action.

Delegates also recognised the disparities among coastal States in terms of skills and capacities depending on their geographical location. Developing coastal States will need training, capacity building, know-how and equipment through TMT. IOC should, therefore, develop a substantial programme to support developing countries through TMT so as to reduce the gap that exists between them and the developed countries.

There was a discussion on whether TMT in this context should include the provision and transfer of legal marine expertise.

Some delegates expressed the views that item (h) of para. 2 of the draft Criteria and Guidelines, regarding legal assistance was entirely consistent with the chapeau providing that marine technology “refers to knowledge in all forms that would be useful to improve the study and understanding of the marine environment”. In this regard, some of them suggested item (h) be re-drafted to be more precise.

The IOC/ABE-LOS Group approved the following schedule for future work on this issue, as proposed by the Chairman of this Sub-Group: End of May 2002: submission by e-mail of a fourth draft of the Criteria and Guidelines, for comments by the members of the Sub-group.

- June 2002: sessional open-ended working group, in the framework of the 35th Session of the IOC Executive Council, to review progress made.
- September 2002 to March 2003: discussion by the members of the Sub-group, through e-mail, of a fifth –and possibly sixth draft of the Criteria and Guidelines.
- April/May 2003: examination and possible approval of the Criteria and Guidelines by the third IOC/ABE-LOS session (subject to approval by the IOC Executive Council of such a meeting)
- June/July 2003: possible adoption of the Criteria and Guidelines by the 22nd IOC Assembly.

3.3 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IOC/ABE-LOS SUB-GROUP ON THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IOC INTERNAL APPROPRIATE PROCEDURE RELATED TO AN EFFECTIVE USE OF ARTICLE 247 OF UNCLOS ON MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY OR UNDER THE AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

This item was introduced by Professor Alfred Soons, Chairman of the Sub-group. He made several general and specific comments. He recalled that his mandate was spelled out in the second recommendation of Resolution XXI-2 adopted by the 21st Session of the IOC Assembly. He went on to describe the procedure followed in the preparation of working document IOC/ABE-LOSII/8, outlining the two main criteria he had applied in drafting the text:

1. the end result should be a simplified and workable procedure for all parties involved in the execution of international marine scientific research projects, while safeguarding the rights of coastal States; and
2. the text should be short and clear, conforming closely to the text of UNCLOS, avoiding unnecessary repetition of UNCLOS provisions.

Turning to the document, he stated that he had shortened the title because he assumed the procedure in question, if adopted by the IOC Assembly, might lead to its consideration as an IOC internal procedure related to an effective and appropriate use of Article 247.

Paragraph 1 of the Draft restricted the procedure to MSR as governed by Part XIII of UNCLOS. It did not contain a definition of what constituted research "under the auspices" of IOC since that had to be decided by the IOC Assembly in individual cases.

He then expressed the view that paragraph 2 was the core element of the procedure for applying Article 247. It designated the Assembly as the competent organ. In view of the long-term planning often involved in international marine scientific research projects, and the fact that the Assembly only meets biennially, there is a need to accord some flexibility with respect to the required detailed description to be made available at the date of the adoption of the project by the Assembly. He suggested inclusion of the words "to the extent feasible at this stage". The Annex to the resolution could of course contain a mechanism to deal with this eventual. In this context, he also stressed that the use of Article 247 procedures would require close co-ordination between those representing their country at IOC meetings and the officials within coastal States administrations dealing with the handling and supervision of applications for consent.

Professor Soons identified additional issues in his draft that might need particular attention, such as the use of diplomatic channels versus possible alternative of appropriate official channels, the application of the procedure at the regional level (Paragraph 6), and the special case of non-IOC Member States (Paragraph 8).

Participants were then invited to make general statements concerning the draft.

With reference to Paragraph 6, the IOC Executive Secretary, Dr Bernal clarified the status of the IOC regional subsidiary bodies. He recalled that IOC has two sub-commissions, the IOC Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE) based in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, and the Western Pacific (WESTPAC) based in Bangkok, Thailand, with their own permanent secretariats. Both are intergovernmental bodies, presided over by chairs elected by Member States. He referred to the four regional committees that do not have permanent UNESCO/IOC staff: IOCEA (eastern Atlantic), IOCINCWIO (western Indian ocean), IOCINDIO (Central Indian ocean), and the Black Sea Committee. He recognized the will to de-centralize the MSR process towards the regional committees, which would have financial implications for the Commission.

He also dwelt on the complexity of the planning and execution of major ship borne operations, and expressed the need for recognition of these realities in the drafting of this procedure under Article 247. He recalled that in the previous IOC Statutes, it was stated that IOC implemented its programmes through the concerted actions of its Member States. IOC/ABE-LOS should contribute to the definition of a procedure applicable especially to multilateral co-operative research projects that involve all coastal States members of IOC. By the multilateral character of these projects, developing coastal States would have the opportunity to be involved from the beginning of the planning phase.

Mr Abdulqawi Yussuf, Director of the Office of Legal Affairs of UNESCO, recalled the history of Parts XIII and XIV of UNCLOS. He provided a brief description of Article 247, and suggested that it would be counterproductive to concentrate on elucidating the Article itself in all possible contexts. Given that IOC is not the only international organization involved in MSR, IOC/ABE-LOS should focus on devising internal IOC procedures that would help IOC in the use of Article 247. With regard to the meaning of “internal procedure,” he stated that it consisted of steps that would be undertaken within the IOC for the approval, notification, and implementation of a project.

Although the procedure might be internal to IOC, it would also affect the State or States referred to in Article 247 since certain actions or omissions by such States, with respect to the steps taken by IOC, would have consequences for them through the “deeming procedure” in the provisions of this Article.

Many important concerns and reservations were raised in a series of general and specific commentaries from the floor.

Title – there was no consensus on the proposal to shorten the title, with some delegates insisting that it reflects the wording of the recommendation adopted by IOC Assembly Resolution XXI-2; one delegate suggested the following title: “Rules of Procedures of MSR Projects undertaken under the auspices of IOC”.

Terminology (Paragraphs 1 and 2) – concern was voiced about the exact meanings of several words and expressions, and alternatives were suggested. In particular, there were objections and

queries about the meanings of certain expressions, such as “international organizations”, “under the auspices of”, “for this purpose”. Some delegates expressed the view that “to the extent feasible at this stage” be deleted, as it does not correspond with the clear reading of Article 247 of UNCLOS. With regard to the words “IOC internal procedures”, it was agreed that these procedures would be applied only to the MSR projects undertaken by IOC or under its auspices.

Clarity (Paragraphs 2, 3 and general) – several suggestions were offered concerning a re-ordering or a re-drafting of portions of the text.

Consistency with UNCLOS (general) – there was general agreement that Article 247 is to be viewed jointly with other articles in Part XIII, in particular 248, 249, 253.

Incompleteness of research proposals (Paragraph 2) – there were objections to the prospects of incomplete project specifications.

Time limits (Paragraphs 2, 4 and 5) – the two-month time limit mentioned in the draft and specified in Article 11 of the IOC Rules of Procedure was considered by many delegates to be too short to permit proper analysis and evaluation of research proposals; on the other hand, it was pointed out that a State would in actuality have an additional four months to consider a proposal following its acceptance by the Assembly; a potential problem with seeking approval under Article 247 is that the IOC Assembly only occurs at two-year intervals, while not all Member States are represented at the IOC Executive Council, which meets every year.

Procedures for non-Members States (Paragraph 8) – the provisions were debated extensively; some delegates suggested that procedures were already well covered in Article 247 and in Paragraph 1 of the draft document, while others felt that specific procedures for non-Member States needed to be dealt with.

Interpretation of the procedure (Paragraph 10) – some delegates were of the view that these procedures should be interpreted in accordance with international law in general, and without exclusive reference to UNCLOS, to which some States were not party. Others expressed the view that these procedures should be interpreted strictly in accordance with UNCLOS. Another view was expressed that the interpretation of these procedures must not prejudice the rights, jurisdiction and duties of States under UNCLOS.

Communications (general) - there is uncertainty surrounding the “appropriate official channels” that are mentioned in Article 250, and through which communications on MSR projects must be directed to coastal States. Many delegates pointed out that such procedures should be handled through diplomatic channels.

Regional procedures (Paragraph 6) - it was agreed that this paragraph of the preliminary draft, which deals with MSR projects to be carried out within the EEZ and/or on the continental shelf of IOC Member States located within the geographical region of an IOC regional body, be deleted.

Some delegates expressed the view that document IOC/ABE-LOS II/8 offered useful basis for consideration and was clear and concise in approach.

It was noted that Article 247 has legal, technical, and political implications. It concerns the competencies of a coastal State in the maritime area under its jurisdiction. It is a component of the consent regime of Part XIII, and strives for a balance between the rights of the coastal State and the researching State.

In his summation, the IOC/ABE-LOS Chairman stated that there are two levels of difficulty in connection with the draft. The first level involves issues that can be easily overcome, such as time limits taking into account Articles 248, 249, and 253, and the formulation of a step-by-step approach. The second level consists of issues that are difficult to overcome, such as the wording of the title, the re-drafting and re-ordering of portions of the text, particularly Paragraphs 2 and 3. Procedures would have to address the timing of a proposal submission to the IOC, and the IOC's potential role in formulating, elaborating, and developing that proposal. The Chairman pointed out that a project has an identity only when it has been assigned a budget line.

The Chairman of the Sub-group expressed his appreciation for the comments and suggestions made and stated that he would carefully consider this feedback in preparing the next revision of the document. He will develop a new draft for study and discussion during the intersessional period.

3.3 REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON THE RESULTS OF THE IOC QUESTIONNAIRE 2 ON THE PRACTICES OF STATES IN THE FIELD OF MSR AND TMT, IN RELATION WITH ARTICLE 251 OF UNCLOS CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GENERAL CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

Mr Roland Rogers opened the discussion of this report by explaining that he had been volunteered to assist the IOC Secretariat in the analysis of the completed questionnaire, and that he had worked closely in this undertaking with Ms Dienaba Beye under the direction of the Chairman of IOC/ABE-LOS. He thanked the delegates of Pakistan, the USA, and the UK for their comments, which had been subsumed into document IOC/ABE-LOSII/9, which also contains the Terms of Reference for the analysis. He acknowledged receipt of the very useful comments from the representative of UN/OLA/DOALOS, which had yet to be incorporated into the document.

Member States had worked hard to provide detailed information and he commended in particular the efforts made by the developing States. Document IOC/ABE-LOSII/9 is in the form of a scientific rather than legal paper. It contains four sections and four annexes.

Thirty-seven States had completed questionnaires, which were analysed over a period of one month. In his view the sample was of sufficient size to allow a sensible analysis to take place. The completed questionnaires contained information that falls into four distinct categories for purposes of analysis:

1. Yes/No responses
2. Statements of fact
3. Numerical data
4. Unsolicited but relevant comments – not included in the report, but considered when formulating some of the issues in Section 4.

The document is not a final version but a draft, as envisaged for Stage 6-7 of the Work Plan contained in document IOC/ABE-LOSII/9.

The Chairman of IOC/ABE-LOS then invited delegates to comment on the draft report.

Many delegations commended the team effort made by the IOC Secretariat to produce the report on the results of the questionnaire. However, in considering the achievements and limitations of the work so far undertaken, it was pointed out that the study at present lacked, in particular, the following elements:

1. A complete questionnaire

2. Relevant sources of information
3. A sizeable sample
4. Objective and balanced questions

According to some delegations, the poor return rate could not justify the drawing of conclusions in Section 3, particularly since many respondents did not answer substantive questions and that in many cases, it had not even been possible to identify who were the respondents. Moreover, some of the questions were considered to lack compliance with the Convention and to infringe upon the discretionary powers of States. Additionally, some questions were considered confusing and based upon assumptions.

It was pointed out that the questionnaire included little mention of TMT. It was suggested that consideration should be given to rectifying this topic in future by developing a focused questionnaire on the issue.

It was also stated that the mandate for this questionnaire is contained in Recommendation 3 of Resolution XXI-2 of the 21st IOC Assembly. In this respect, the task was to compile and analyse the data and not to draw conclusions, which is the responsibility of IOC/ABE-LOS delegates.

Some delegates were of the view that the questionnaire constituted a good starting point. They pointed out that the questionnaire had stimulated efforts at gathering and discussing information at the national level, and that in some cases it had even fostered greater coordination between national bodies. Such delegates also considered that the gathered information was significant in view of UN experience. The results provided an informative overview of the situation with regard to State practices in MSR, and drew attention to some of the difficulties in relation to Part XIII of UNCLOS.

A query was raised concerning the questions relating to national legislation. It was mentioned that UN/OLA/DOALOS has the prime responsibility for maintaining a compilation of national legislation relating to the Law of the Sea. Delegates were encouraged to visit the new UN/OLA/DOALOS website on national legislation, where an improved search engine is being developed to support specialized queries. Other competent international organizations also have their own legislative databases, and it was in this regard that Question 1 on national legislation on MSR was included in the IOC second questionnaire. It was pointed out that a number of other national and international institutions maintain similar databases, and these should be taken into account in the drafting of future questionnaires.

The UN/OLA/DOALOS representative stated that the answers as received were meaningful. She pointed out that one effect of this questionnaire had been to prompt reaction and increase consciousness of MSR at the national level. She stated that this IOC second questionnaire was a preliminary step that it would require re-drafting, and that future work to this effect is undertaken largely by email.

It was generally agreed that the efforts made by Member States, and the work involved in the synthesis prepared by the Secretariat in IOC processing information in the second questionnaire had been a good initial exercise, and that the process should continue.

There was also general agreement that the existing questionnaire should be re-formulated by IOC with the assistance of IOC/ABE-LOS members through correspondence by email. To encourage greater response, it was agreed that future questionnaires should be simple and more focused. They should also address specific topics.

4. FUTURE WORK OF THE IOC/ABE-LOS

There was a consensus that, in the near future, IOC/ABE-LOS should concentrate in finalising its work on the adopted three recommendations of Resolution XXI-2. Several points emerged from the discussion.

IOC/ABE-LOS is a unique international forum that consists of specialists working together in international law and marine sciences. Future work should therefore continue to focus on techno-juridical issues. A possible area of involvement suggested by one delegation could be relating to Article 76, which has both legal and technical implications; any such work would be predicated upon a request originating from the IOC governing bodies, in consultation and cooperation with the Commission on the Limits of the Continent Shelf (CLCS) and IHO/IAG/IOC Advisory Board on the (Technical and Scientific Aspects of the) Law of the Sea (ABLOS). Other delegations, however, were unsure as to whether UNCLOS allowed for this kind of work for IOC/ABE-LOS.

It would be worthwhile also to consider developing relationships and close cooperation with other international institutions established by UNCLOS, such as International Seabed Authority (ISA), International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), and CLCS. New scientific discoveries and technical developments such as the uniqueness of biological species in the vicinity of hydrothermal deep-sea vents, and the exploitation of resources of the deep seabed, are creating a rich environment for future cooperation between the scientific and legal communities. It was recalled that the ambassador Satya Nandan, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, at the third meeting of the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Ocean Affairs (ICP) held in New York in April 2002, raised the issue that UNCLOS does not adequately distinguish between the terms “marine scientific research”, “prospecting” and “exploration”, nor does it make a distinction between “pure” and “applied” scientific research.

The Chairman also spoke in favour of IOC/ABE-LOS maintaining a watching brief on developments in the UN Informal Consultative Process (ICP) and the upcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) to be held in Johannesburg in August 2002.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The IOC/ABE-LOS Group adopted the recommendations included in Annex II.

6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

The IOC/ABE-LOS Group decided that the draft summary report of IOC/ABE-LOS II should be circulated to the group for comments. One delegation suggested that the names and countries of the intervening delegates be mentioned in the report. The Chairman pointed out that it had been the practice of IOC/ABE-LOS to refrain from identifying the names and countries of interveners unless expressly requested.

It was **agreed** that the second draft of the report will be circulated by 14 May 2002 by email to the IOC/ABE-LOS Group for comment, and that the deadline for feedback will be 22 May, in light of the fact that the Chairman of IOC/ABE-LOS will make an oral presentation of the report at the 35th session of the IOC Executive Council (Paris, 4 – 14 June 2002).

As a follow-up of an informal meeting between the IOC Executive Secretary and the African experts, a draft recommendation dealing with three primary topics was presented to the meeting:

- (i) the need to organize, in close co-operation with UN/OLA/DOALOS, sub-regional workshops and conferences on the Law of the Sea, in order to make better known the role of the IOC in relation to UNCLOS and to raise the awareness of decision-makers and stakeholders particularly on the strategic opportunities presented by the marine sector;
- (ii) the need to translate the scientific information imparted at conferences and workshops of the Law of the Sea into practical and concrete projects to be jointly identified and implemented in partnership with the relevant international organizations;
- (iii) the need for IOC assistance in the establishment of institutional frameworks at the national level that will be mandated to coordinate the marine affairs at the national, regional, and international levels. This assistance should be done in close co-operation with UN/OLA/DOALOS.

One delegate expressed the view that the above should be left to UN/OLA/DOALOS, and developed in co-operation with IOC. Another delegate suggested that these primary topics be submitted to the IOC Secretariat for possible consideration within the scope of Transfer of Marine Technology Guidelines, and be raised at the IOC governing bodies meeting(s) if deemed necessary. It was requested that these topics be included in the oral report of the Chairman of IOC/ABE-LOS at the forthcoming session of the IOC Executive Council, to be held in June 2002.

Recognizing that time and circumstances did not permit an opportunity for the presentation by the Chairman of the IOC/IHO/IAG Advisory Board on Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (ABLOS), the Executive Secretary of IOC requested the ABLOS report be distributed by email to all members as an accompaniment to the meeting report.

7. CLOSURE

On behalf of the meeting, the Chairman thanked Professor Mohammed Moncef, IOC/ABE-LOS Representative for the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee, for the warm hospitality that had been provided. The delegates expressed their sincere thanks to the Chairman for the excellent leadership and guidance that he provided throughout the conduct of the meeting. They also expressed appreciation for the work done by the Secretariat.

The representative of UN/OLA/DOALOS announced that the United Nations is organizing a series of events to coincide with the 20th anniversary of UNCLOS in early December 2002. These will consist of ceremonies and round tables to review various aspects of the Convention. She invited members of IOC/ABE-LOS to consider participating in these events.

Finally, Professor Moncef read a message of thanks that will be sent to His Majesty King Mohammed VI on behalf of the meeting. The message is attached as Annex VI.

The second meeting of the IOC Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea was closed by the Chairman at 14.05 p.m. Thursday 9 May 2002.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

1. OPENING AND WELCOMING ADDRESSES

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

2.1 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

2.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.3 DOCUMENTATION

2.4 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION

3. REVIEW OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

3.1 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON IOC/ABE-LOS ACTIVITIES DURING THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD

3.2 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IOC/ABE-LOS SUB-GROUP ON THE DOCUMENT IOC/INF-1054 ON "DRAFT IOC PRINCIPLES ON TRANSFER OF MARINE TECHNOLOGY"

3.3 PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE IOC/ABE-LOS SUB-GROUP ON THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IOC INTERNAL APPROPRIATE PROCEDURE RELATED TO AN EFFECTIVE USE OF ARTICLE 247 OF UNCLOS ON MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY OR UNDER THE AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

3.4 REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT ON THE RESULTS OF THE IOC QUESTIONNAIRE 2 ON THE PRACTICES OF STATES IN THE FIELD OF MSR AND TMT, IN RELATION WITH ARTICLE 251 OF UNCLOS CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GENERAL CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES.

4 FUTURE WORK OF THE IOC/ABE-LOS

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

6 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

7 CLOSURE

ANNEX II

RECOMMENDATIONS

The IOC Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea at its second meeting (IOC/ABE-LOS II) recommended the following:

- 1) That the open-ended Sub-Group on Transfer of Marine Technology should continue its work by electronic correspondence, and in close co-operation with UN/OLA/DOALOS, on the elaboration of Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology (IOC/ABE-LOSII/7), with a view to their possible adoption by the 22nd Session of the IOC Assembly (2003). To this end, the Sub-Group should take Document IOC/ABE-LOSII/7 as a basis for its work, as well as the debate on such document at the Second meeting of IOC/ABE-LOS (IOC/ABE-LOS II).
- 2) That the open-ended Sub-Group on the IOC Internal Procedure related to an effective and appropriate use of Article 247 of UNCLOS on marine scientific research projects undertaken by or under the auspices of international organizations should continue its work by electronic correspondence, and in close co-operation with UN/OLA/DOALOS, with a view to its possible adoption by the 22nd Session of the IOC Assembly. To this end, the Sub-Group should take Document IOC/ABE-LOSII/8 as a basis for its work, as well as the debate on such document at the Second meeting of IOC/ABE-LOS (IOC/ABE-LOS II).
- 3) That the Secretariat should continue the collection and analysis of information from Member States on their practices in the field of marine scientific research and the transfer of marine technology, in close co-operation with UN/OLA/DOALOS. To this end, the IOC second questionnaire should be re-formulated in close co-operation with the IOC/ABE-LOS II Group, taking into account (i) the marine scientific regime as stated by UNCLOS, the development and transfer of marine technology and its related capacity building as stated by Part XIV of UNCLOS, (iii) as well as the debate on Document IOC/ABE-LOSII/9 at the Second meeting of IOC/ABE-LOS (IOC/ABE-LOS II).

ANNEX III

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**I. OFFICERS OF THE MEETING/ BUREAU
DE LA REUNION**

CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT

M. Elie Jarmache
Directeur des Relations internationales
Institut français de recherche
pour l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER)
155, rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau
F-92138 Issy-les-Moulineaux Cedex
Tel: (+33 1) 46 48 2181
Fax: (+33 1) 46 48 2188
E-mail: elie.jarmache@ifremer.fr

**CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT
OF THE SUB-GROUP ON THE TRANSFER
OF MARINE TECHNOLOGY/DU SOUS-
GROUPE DE TRAVAIL SUR LE TRANSFERT
DE TECHNOLOGIE MARINE**

Sr. Ariel Walter Gonzalez
Secretario de Embajada
Delegación Permanente de la República de
Argentina, Casa de la UNESCO
1, Rue Miollis
75732 Paris Cedex 15
Tel: (+33 1) 45 68 34 38
Fax: (+33 1) 43 06 60 35
E-mail: aw.gonzalez@unesco.org

**CHAIRMAN/PRESIDENT
OF THE SUB-GROUP ON ARTICLE 247 OF
UNCLOS/DU SOUS-GROUPE DE TRAVAIL
SUR L'ARTICLE 247 DE UNCLOS**

Prof. Alfred H.A. Soons
Utrecht University
Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea
Achter Sint Pieter 200
3512 HT Utrecht
Tel: + 31-(0) 30-253 7056
Fax: +31-(0) 30-253 7073
E-mail: a.soons@law.uu.nl

**II. EXPERTS PARTICIPANTS FROM
MEMBER STATES/EXPERTS
PARTICIPANTS DES ETATS MEMBRES**

ANGOLA

M. Antonio Domingos da Silva
Director do Gabinete Juridico do Ministerio das
Pescas & Ambiente – Edificio Atlantico
Avenida 4 de Fevereiro, nº30
Luanda
Tel.: (+244) 2 311 730
Fax : (+244) 2 371 252
E-mail: gabjuridico@snet.co.ao
da_silva_dmk@hotmail.com
del_angunesco@gofornet.com

ARGENTINA/ARGENTINE

Sr. Ariel Walter Gonzalez
Secretario de Embajada
Delegación Permanente de la República de
Argentina, Casa de la UNESCO
1, Rue Miollis
75732 Paris Cedex 15
Tel: (+33 1) 45 68 34 38
Fax: (+33 1) 43 06 60 35
E-mail: aw.gonzalez@unesco.org

BELGIUM/BELGIQUE

Professor Erik Franckx
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Vakgroep Internationaal Recht - Lokaal 4.B.343
Pleinlaan 2
B-1050 Brussel
Tel.: (+32) (0)2/629.26.38
Fax: (+32) (0)2/629.36.98
E-mail: Erik.Franckx@vub.ac.be

CAMEROON/CAMEROUN

Mr Samuel Sona Betah
P.O. Box 12840 Yaoundé
Tel : (+237) 2306 676
Fax: (+237) 2222 6177
E-mail : sbetah@iccnet.cm

CANADA

Mr David Ehinger
Deputy Director
Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Oceans Law Section
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1A 0G2
Tel.: (+613) 992-1360
Fax: (+613) 992-6483
E-mail: david.ehinger@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

Dr Lennox O'Riley Hinds
Oceans, Marine affairs and Fisheries Advisor
200 Promenade du Portage Hull (Québec)
K1A 0G4
Tel.: (+1819) 997 0483
Fax : (+1819) 953 3348
E-mail: lennox_hinds@acdi-cida.gc.ca

CHINA/CHINE

Dr Zhang Haiwen
Deputy Director General
China Institute for Marine Affairs
State Oceanic Administration
Specialist in the Law of the Sea
N°1 Fuxingmenwai Ave.,
Beijing 100860, CHINA
Tel.: (+86-10) 68044631
Fax: (+86-10) 68030767
E-mail: zhcima@163bj.com

COLOMBIA/COLOMBIE

Dr Maria-Carolina Lorduy
Primer Secretario de la Mision Permanente
De Colombia ante la UNESCO
1, rue Miollis Bureau 4.31
Cax de la UNESCO 75732 Paris Cedex 15
Tel.: +33 1 45 68 28 57/71
Fax.: +33 1 43 06 66 09
E-mail: c.lorduy@unesco.org

CÔTE D'IVOIRE/

Dr Sylvain Monde
Chercheur au Laboratoire de Géologie marine et de
Sédimentologie (GEOMARSE)
Université de Cocody
22 B.P. 582 Abidjan 22, Côte D'Ivoire
Tel/Fax : (+225) 22 44 35 00
E-mail: monde-sylvain@yahoo.fr
mailto:smonde@univ-h.fr

EGYPT/EGYPTE

Dr Mohammed Sameh Amr
Deputy Permanent Delegate
Egyptian Delegation to UNESCO
1, rue Miollis
75015 Paris
Tel.: (+33 1) 45 68 33 05/09
Fax: (+33 1) 47 83 41 87
E-mail: mohamedsamr@aol.com

ECUADOR/ECUADOR

Ambassador Dr José Ignacio Jijon Freile
General Director of Sovereignty
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Av 10 de Agosto y Carrión
Quito
Tel: (+593)2564 280
E-mail: pepeazul@hotmail.com

FINLAND

Prof. Kari Hakapää
Professor of Public International Law
University of Lapland, Faculty of Law
P.O. Box 122
FIN-96101 ROVANIEMI
Tel: (+358) 16 341 2523/ 379 4805
Fax: (+358) 16 341 2500
E-mail: Kari.Hakapaa@urova.fi

FRANCE

M. Elie Jarmache
(IOC/ABE-LOS - Président/Chairman)
Directeur des relations internationales
Institut français pour l'exploitation de la mer
(IFREMER)
155, rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau
F-92138 Issy-les-Moulineaux Cedex
Tel: (+33 1) 4648 2181
Fax: (+33 1) 4648 2188
E-mail: elie.jarmache@ifremer.fr

GABON

M. Pierre Maganga
Directeur général du droit de la mer
B.P. 408 Libreville
Tel.: (+241) 73 12 48
(+241) 73 09 59
Fax: (+241) 76 11 82
E-mail: dgdgm@internetgabon.com

GREECE/GRECE

Dr Emmanuel Gounaris
Minister Plenipotentiary-Expert of the
Law of the Sea
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Academics 3
ATHENS 10671 D1 Direction
Tel: (+30 10) 36 82 235
Fax: (+30 10) 36 82 239

JAPAN/JAPON

Prof. Keisuke Taira
Ocean Research Institute University of Tokyo
1-15-1 Minamidai, Nakano
Tokyo, 164-8639
Tel. (+81 3) 53 51 64 17
Fax (+81 3) 53 51 64 18
E-mail: taira@ori.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Dr Kazuhiro Kitazawa
Special Assistant to the Minister Ocean
And Earth Division
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology (MEXT)
3-2-2 Kasumigaseki
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8959
or
Japan Marine Science and Technology Center
(JAMSTEC)
1-15 Natsushima-cho
Yokosuka 237-0061
Tel: (+81) 468 67 91 91
Fax: (+81) 468 67 91 95
E-mail: kitazawa@jamstec.go.jp

KUWAIT/KOWEIT

Mr Adel Abdelrazaq Al-Sadi
Head of the Navigation Section
The Telecommunications & Navigation Institute,
PAAET
C/o Kuwait National Commission for Education,
Science & Culture
P.O. Box: 3266 Safat 13033
Tel.: (+965) 240 5331/ 244 4403 +4836786
Fax: (+965) 246 9512/ 244 2436 + 4834904
E-mail: ncunesco@ncc.moc.kw
Joe.lae.965@yahoo.com

MALAYSIA/MALAISIE

Captain Zainal bin Aziz
Hydrographic Directorate
Naval Headquarters
Ministry of Defense

Jalan Padang Tembak
50634 Kuala Lumpur
Tel. : (+60 3) 207 13075
Fax: (+60 3) 269 87972
E-mail: aziz_zaina@hotmail.com
Aziz_zainal@hotmail.com

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO/ ROYAUME DU MAROC

Prof. Mohammed Moncef
Laboratoire d'Hydrobiologie
Département de Biologie
Faculté des Sciences,
Université Chouaib Doukkali
B.P. 20
24000 El Jadida
Tél.: (+212) 23 34 30 03
(+212) 61 23 04 42
Fax: (212) 23 34 21 87
E-mail: moncefmd@ucd.ac.ma
mdmoncef@yahoo.fr

Prof. Miloud Loukili
Directeur général de la Marine Marchande
Bld Houphouët Boigny
Casablanca
Tel: (212) 22 27 80 92/22 27 60 10
Fax: (+212) 22 27 33 40
E-mail: hoda.loukili@undp.org

THE NETHERLANDS/LES PAYS BAS

Prof. Alfred H. A. Soons
Utrecht University
Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea
Achter Sint Pieter 200
3512 HT Utrecht
Tel: + 31-(0) 30-253 7056
Fax: +31-(0) 30-253 7073
E-mail: a.soons@law.uu.nl

PAKISTAN

Dr Syed Mazhar Haq
Professor and Director
Institute of Marine Biology (Retired)
University of Karachi
34, Bld de Grenelle - 75015 Paris
Tel.: (33 1) 45 77 28 30
Fax: (33 1) 45 75 27 74
E-mail: smazhaq@hotmail.com

PORTUGAL

Prof^a. Maria Eduarda Gonçalves
Department of Law
ISCTE, University of Lisbon
Av. das Forças Armadas
1600 Lisboa
Tel: (+351) 21 790 32 81
Fax: (+351) 21 796 4710
E-mail: mebg@iscte.pt

SENEGAL

Mme Marième Diagne Talla
Juriste des droits de la mer
Chef du bureau Législation
Direction de l'Océanographie et des Pêches
Maritimes (DOPM)
1, rue Joris
DAKAR
Tel: (+221) 821 65 78/84232 17
Fax: (+221) 821 47 58
E-mail: dopm@metissacana.sn
papasud@sentoo.sn

Dr Mamadou Diallo
Chercheur au Centre de Recherches
Océanographiques de Thiaroye
CRODT / ISRA
BP 2241 Dakar
Tel: (+221) 834 8041/641 13 84
Fax: (+221) 834 2792
E-mail: m/sdiallo@hotmail.com
mdiallo@crodt.isra.sn

SLOVENIA/SLOVENIE

Professor Dr Marko Pavliha
Head of Maritime and Transport Law Department
University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Maritime
Studies and Transportation,
Pot pomorscakov 4,
6320 Portoroz
Tel: (+386 5) 676-72-14
Fax: (+386 5) 676 71 30
E-mail: marko.pavliha@guest.arnes.si

SRI LANKA/SRI LANKA

Mr Razik Zarook
Chairman
National Aquatic Resources
Research and Development Agency, (NARA)
Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources,
Crow Island. Mattakuliya. Colombo-15 (S.L)
Tel. +941-521881/521006 (Ext 101)
E-mail: chairman@nara.ac.lk or razik@eureko.lk

SULTANATE OF OMAN

Mr Younis Khalfan El-Akhzami
Director General of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
P.O. Box 467, Muscat 113
Tel: (968) 696 369
Fax: (968) 605 634
E-mail: younisa@hotmail.com

SYRIE

M. Kamil Bouras
Directeur du Transport Maritime
C/o Commission Nationale Syrienne pour
l'UNESCO
Ministère de l'Education
Damas
Tel.: (+33) 13 206 – (+33) 13 207
Fax: (+33) 15 526

Dr Ferial Aigho
Faculté de Génie Civile
Université de Tichrine
Tel/fax.: (+963) 41 47 40 42

TOGO

Dr Adoté Blim Blivi
Maître de Conférences
Université de Lomé
Centre de Gestion Intégrée du Littoral et de
l'Environnement
B.P. 1515 / 60047 Bè Lomé Togo
Tél.: (D/H) : (+228)227 08 50 / 222 52 86
Cel: (+228)905 39 14
Tél.: (B/O): (+228)221 68 17 / 222 48 65
Fax : (+228)221 85 95 / 225 87 84 / 221 68 17
Email : adoblivi@hotmail.com ;
cgile@desticknet.com ;
a.blivi@odinafrica.net

TURKEY/TURQUIE

Associate Prof. Dr Hüseyin Yüce
University of Istanbul
Institute of Marine Sciences and Management
Müsküle Sokak No.1
34470 Vefa -Istanbul
Tel: (+ 90 212) 249 17 28
Mobile Tel: (+ 90) 542 581 35 42
Fax: (+ 90 212) 292 52 77
E-mail: yucep@bistek.net.tr

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND/ROYAUME UNI
DE GRANDE BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE
DU NORD**

Dr David Pugh
Southampton Oceanography Centre
Southampton S014 3ZH
Tel: (+ 44 23) 8059 6611
Fax: (+44 23) 8059 6395
E-mail: ntp@soc.soton.ac.uk

Mr Roland Rogers
Qinetiq EIA Unit
Southampton Oceanography Centre
Empress Dock
Southampton, SO 14 3ZH
United Kingdom
Tel.: +44 23 80 59 6314
Fax : +44 23 80) 59 60 41
E-mail : rjrogers1@qinetiq.com

UKRAINE

Prof. Youri Schemshnchenko
Director of V.M. Koretsky Institute of State and
Law of Ukrainian
Academy of Sciences
4, Turguenievskaya str.
01001, Kiev
Tel: (+380 44) 228 51 55
Fax: (+380 44) 228 54 74
E-mail: jus@ukrpack.net

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/
ETATS UNIS D'AMERIQUE**

Mr J. Ashley Roach
Attorney, expertise in Law of the Sea
Office of the Legal Advisor
U.S. Dept. of State, L/OES
2201 C ST NW
Washington, DC 20520 - 6417
Tel: (+202) 647 1646
Fax: (+202) 736 7115
E-mail: roachja@ms.state.gov
jaroach@attglobal.net

Ms Constance Arvis
Office of Oceans Affairs
US Dept. of State
OES/OA Room 5805
Washington, DC 20520
Tel: (+202) 647 0236
Fax: (+202) 647 4353
E-mail: ArvisCC@state.gov

III. OBSERVERS/OBSERVATEURS

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS/ ORGANISATION DES NATIONS
UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET
L'AGRICULTURE (FAO)**

Amor Ben Romhane
Représentant de la FAO au Maroc
Représentation de la FAO au Maroc
P.O. Box 1369
4, rue du Prince Sidi Mohamed Souissi
Rabat
Tél: (+212) 37 65 43 38// 08
Fax: (+212) 37 65 45 52
E-mail: FAO-MAR@field.fao.org

**UNITED NATIONS/NATIONS UNIES
OFFICE FOR OCEAN AFFAIRS AND THE
LAW OF THE SEA/DIVISION DES AFFAIRES
MARITIMES ET DU DROIT DE LA
MER/BUREAU DES AFFAIRES JURIDIQUES
(UN/OLA/DOALOS/OLA)**

Miss Alice Hicuburundi
Law of the Sea/ Ocean Affairs Officer
2 UN plaza; Boom 0424
New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel: (1 212) 963-59 15
Fax: (1 212) 963-58 47
E-mail: hicuburundi@un.org

**THE IOC/IHO/IAG ADVISORY BOARD OF
EXPERTS ON THE LAW OF THE SEA/
COMITÉ CONSULTATIF SUR LES ASPECTS
TECHNIQUES DU DROIT DE LA MER
(ABLOS)**

Ron Macnab
Chairman of ABLOS
11 Lyngby Avenue
Dartmouth NS
Canada B3A 3T6
Tel : +1 (902) 463-3963
Fax : +1 (902) 463-0908
Email: ron.macnab@ns.sympatico.ca

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)/
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR L'EDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA
CULTURE**

Abdulqawi Yusuf
Director of Legal Affairs
7, Place Fontenoy
Paris - France
Tel: (+33 1) 45 68 21 09
Fax: (33 1) 45 68 55 76
E-mail: a.yusuf@unesco.org

IV. SECRETARIAT

Tel: (+33 1) 45 68 10 00/45 68 39 83
Fax: (+33 1) 45 68 58 12/10
Tlx: 20446 PARIS
Clb.: UNESCO PARIS/740057 IOCS UC
E-mail:@unesco.org

Executive Secretary, IOC
Patricio Bernal

Technical Secretary, IOC
Diénaba Beye

ANNEX IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document Code	Title	Agenda Items	Lang.
WORKING DOCUMENTS			
IOC/ABE-LOSII/1	Provisional Agenda	1 – 8	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/1 Add.prov.	Provisional Timetable	2.2, 2.4	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/2	Provisional Annotated Agenda	1 – 8	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/3	Draft Summary Report <i>(to be prepared during or after the meeting)</i>	7	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/4	Provisional List of Documents <i>(this document)</i>	2.3	E.F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/5	Provisional List of Participants <i>(to be issued early during the Session)</i>	-	-
IOC/ABE-LOSII/6	Chairman's report on ABE-LOS Activities during the intersessional period <i>(Elie Jarmache)</i>	3.1	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/7	Progress Report of the Chairman of the ABE-LOS Sub-Group on the document IOC/INF-1054 on "Draft IOC principles on transfer of marine technology" <i>(Ariel Gonzales)</i>	3.2	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/8	Progress Report of the Chairman of the ABE-LOS Sub-Group on the possible establishment of an IOC internal appropriate procedure related to an effective use of Article 247 of UNCLOS on marine scientific research projects undertaken by or under the auspices of international organizations <i>(Alfred Soons)</i>	3.3	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/9	Report of the Secretariat on the results of the IOC questionnaire 2 on the practices of States in the field of MSR and TMT, in relation with Article 251 of UNCLOS concerning the establishment of general criteria and guidelines <i>(IOC Secretariat)</i>	3.4	E only
INFORMATION AND OTHER REFERENCE DOCUMENTS			
IOC/ABE-LOSII/Inf.1	Practical information		E F

		-	
IOC/ABE-LOSII/Inf.2	Resolution A/RES/56/12 of the UNGA on oceans and the law of the sea	all	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/Inf.3	Report of the I-GOOS <i>ad hoc</i> Group of Experts meetings on “GOOS and UNCLOS”	all	E F
IOC/ABE-LOSII/Inf.4	Oceans and the law of the sea - Material for Report of the Secretary-General: United Nations Open-Ended ICP established by the General Assembly in its Resolution 54/33 in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of Developments in Ocean Affairs (Third Meeting 8 to 15 April 2002)	all	E only
IOC/INF-612	Marine Science and Ocean Services for Development: UNESCO /IOC Comprehensive Plan for a Major Assistance Programme to Enhance the Marine Science Capabilities of Developing Countries	All	E F
IOC/INF-1035	Summary Report of the First Session of the Open-ended Intersessional WG on IOC’s Possible Role in Relation to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (IOC-LOS)	all	E F
IOC/INF-1054	Draft IOC principles on Transfer of Marine Technology	3.2	E only
	MSR Guide to the implementation of the Relevant Provisions of UNCLOS	all	E F
	Table showing the current status of UNCLOS and of the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention	-	E F

ANNEX V

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABLOS	IHO/IAG/IOC Advisory Board on the (Technical and Scientific Aspects of the) Law of the Sea
CLCS	Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
UN/OLA/ DOALOS	Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, United Nations Secretariat
GOOS	Global Ocean Observing System
IOC/ABE-LOS	Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea
ICP	United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Ocean Affairs
I-GOOS	Intergovernmental Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO)
IOCARIBE	IOC Regional Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
IOCEA	IOC Regional Committee for the Central Eastern Atlantic
IOCINCWIO	IOC Regional Committee for the Co-operative Investigation in the North and Central Western Indian Ocean
IOCINDIO	IOC Regional -Committee for the Central Indian Ocean
ISA	International Seabed Authority
ITLOS	International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
MSR	Marine Scientific Research
REMER	Réseau National de la Recherche en Mer (Morocco)
TEMA	Training, Education, and Mutual Assistance programme (IOC)
TMT	Transfer of Marine Technology
TMTA	Transfer of Marine Technology Application
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WESTPAC	IOC Regional Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific

ANNEX VI

Message of Appreciation to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco

Télégramme adressé à SA MAJESTE LE ROI MOHAMMED VI que Dieu le glorifie,
par le Prof. Mohammed MONCEF, au nom de tous les participants à la Deuxième Réunion de
l'Organe Consultatif d'Experts sur le Droit de la Mer « IOC/ABE-LOS II».

A l'occasion de la tenue à El Jadida du 06 au 09 mai 2002, sous Votre Haut Patronage, de la Deuxième Réunion de l'Organe Consultatif d'Experts sur le Droit de la Mer « ABE-LOS », de la Commission Océanographique Intergouvernementale « COI », organisé par l'Université Chouaïb Doukkali, Faculté des Sciences d'El Jadida, l'UNESCO/COI et le réseau REMER, j'ai l'immense honneur d'exprimer à Votre Majesté au nom de tous les participants et en mon nom personnel, toute notre gratitude accompagnée de nos meilleurs et chaleureux remerciements pour la Haute Sollicitude Royale envers cette importante manifestation et envers tous les participants, éminents experts et observateurs, représentant 33 pays d'Afrique, d'Amérique, d'Asie et d'Europe, et quatre organisations mondiales (ONU, UNESCO, FAO et ABLOS).

La réunion d'El Jadida, faisant suite à celle tenue à Paris au siège de l'UNESCO en juin dernier, a consacré ses quatre journées de travail, à la discussion et à l'adoption des rapports des sous-groupes relatifs à l'application de la Convention des Nations Unies sur le Droit de la Mer dans le domaine de la Recherche Scientifique Marine et du Transfert de Technologies, Convention à l'élaboration de laquelle, notre pays a profondément contribué avant d'y adhérer.

Cette manifestation, organisée pour la première fois dans notre Royaume, a été marquée par l'adoption d'importantes recommandations visant la promotion de la Recherche Scientifique Marine dans les différents Etats membres de la COI, en tenant compte particulièrement des besoins des Etats en développement, et des nécessités du développement durable.

En exprimant à Votre Majesté toute ma fidélité et mon attachement au Trône Alaouite, permettez-moi Majesté de renouveler nos sincères remerciements, nos profonds respects et toute notre gratitude à Votre Auguste Personne.

Fait à El Jadida, le jeudi 09 mai 2002

Pour tous les participants à la 2ème Réunion de l'ABE-LOS II

Prof. Mohammed MONCEF
Représentant du Royaume du Maroc
et Responsable de l'organisation

In this Series, entitled

Reports of Meetings of Experts and Equivalent Bodies, which was initiated in 1984 and which is published in English only, unless otherwise specified, the reports of the following meetings have already been issued:

1. Third Meeting of the Central Editorial Board for the Geological/Geophysical Atlases of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans
2. Fourth Meeting of the Central Editorial Board for the Geological/Geophysical Atlases of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans S. Fourth Session of the Joint IOC-WMO-CPPS Working Group on the Investigations of 'El Niño' (**Also printed in Spanish**)
4. First Session of the IOC-FAO Guiding Group of Experts on the Programme of Ocean Science in Relation to Living Resources
5. First Session of the IOC-UN(OETB) Guiding Group of Experts on the Programme of Ocean Science in Relation to Non-Living Resources
6. First Session of the Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and Overlay Sheets
7. First Session of the Joint CCOP(SOPAC)-IOC Working Group on South Pacific Tectonics and Resources
8. First Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management
9. Tenth Session of the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies in East Asian Tectonics and Resources
10. Sixth Session of the IOC-UNEP Group of Experts on Methods, Standards and Intercalibration
11. First Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping (**Also printed in French and Spanish**)
12. Joint 100-WMO Meeting for Implementation of IGOSS XBT Ships-of-Opportunity Programmes
13. Second Session of the Joint CCOP/SOPAC-IOC Working Group on South Pacific Tectonics and Resources
14. Third Session of the Group of Experts on Format Development
15. Eleventh Session of the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies of South-East Asian Tectonics and Resources
16. Second Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and Overlay Sheets
17. Seventh Session of the IOC-UNEP Group of Experts on Methods, Standards and Intercalibration
18. Second Session of the IOC Group of Experts on Effects of Pollutants
19. Primera Reunión del Comité Editorial de la COI para la Carta Batimétrica Internacional del Mar Caribe y Parte del Océano Pacífico frente a Centroamérica (**Spanish only**)
20. Third Session of the Joint CCOP/SOPAC-IOC Working Group on South Pacific Tectonics and Resources
21. Twelfth Session of the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies of South-East Asian Tectonics and Resources
22. Second Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management
23. First Session of the IOC Group of Experts on Marine Geology and Geophysics in the Western Pacific
24. Second Session of the IOC-UN(OETB) Guiding Group of Experts on the Programme of Ocean Science in Relation to Non-Living Resources (**Also printed in French and Spanish**)
25. Third Session of the IOC Group of Experts on Effects of Pollutants
26. Eighth Session of the IOC-UNEP Group of Experts on Methods, Standards and Intercalibration
27. Eleventh Session of the Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (**Also printed in French**)
28. Second Session of the IOC-FAO Guiding Group of Experts on the Programme of Ocean Science in Relation to Living Resources
29. First Session of the IOC-IAEA-UNEP Group of Experts on Standards and Reference Materials
30. First Session of the IOCARIBE Group of Experts on Recruitment in Tropical Coastal Demersal Communities (**Also printed in Spanish**)
31. Second IOC-WMO Meeting for Implementation of IGOSS XBT Ship-of-Opportunity Programmes
32. Thirteenth Session of the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies of East Asia Tectonics and Resources
33. Second Session of the IOC Task Team on the Global Sea-Level Observing System
34. Third Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and Overlay Sheets
35. Fourth Session of the IOC-UNEP-IMO Group of Experts on Effects of Pollutants
36. First Consultative Meeting on RNODCs and Climate Data Services
37. Second Joint IOC-WMO Meeting of Experts on IGOSS-IODE Data Flow
38. Fourth Session of the Joint CCOP/SOPAC-IOC Working Group on South Pacific Tectonics and Resources
39. Fourth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange
40. Fourteenth Session of the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies of East Asian Tectonics and Resources
41. Third Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping
42. Sixth Session of the Joint IOC-WMO-CCPS Working Group on the Investigations of 'El Niño' (**Also printed in Spanish**)
43. First Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Indian Ocean
44. Third Session of the IOC-UN(OALOS) Guiding Group of Experts on the Programme of Ocean Science in Relation to Non-Living Resources
45. Ninth Session of the IOC-UNEP Group of Experts on Methods, Standards and Intercalibration
46. Second Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico
47. First Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Indian Ocean
48. Twelfth Session of the Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans
49. Fifteenth Session of the Joint CCOP-IOC Working Group on Post-IDOE Studies of East Asian Tectonics and Resources
50. Third Joint IOC-WMO Meeting for Implementation of IGOSS XBT Ship-of-Opportunity Programmes
51. First Session of the IOC Group of Experts on the Global Sea-Level Observing System
52. Fourth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean
53. First Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Chart of the Central Eastern Atlantic (**Also printed in French**)
54. Third Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico (**Also printed in Spanish**)
55. Fifth Session of the IOC-UNEP-IMO Group of Experts on Effects of Pollutants
56. Second Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Indian Ocean
57. First Meeting of the IOC *ad hoc* Group of Experts on Ocean Mapping in the WESTPAC Area
58. Fourth Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping

59. Second Session of the IOC-WMO/IGOSS Group of Experts on Operations and Technical Applications
60. Second Session of the IOC Group of Experts on the Global Sea-Level Observing System
61. UNEP-IOC-WMO Meeting of Experts on Long-Term Global Monitoring System of Coastal and Near-Shore Phenomena Related to Climate Change
62. Third Session of the IOC-FAO Group of Experts on the Programme of Ocean Science in Relation to Living Resources
63. Second Session of the IOC-IAEA-UNEP Group of Experts on Standards and Reference Materials
64. Joint Meeting of the Group of Experts on Pollutants and the Group of Experts on Methods, Standards and Inter-calibration
65. First Meeting of the Working Group on Oceanographic Co-operation in the ROPME Sea Area
66. Fifth Session of the Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric and its Geological/Geophysical Series
67. Thirteenth Session of the IOC-IHO Joint Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans **(Also printed in French)**
68. International Meeting of Scientific and Technical Experts on Climate Change and Oceans
69. UNEP-IOC-WMO-IUCN Meeting of Experts on a Long-Term Global Monitoring System
70. Fourth Joint IOC-WMO Meeting for Implementation of IGOSS XBT Ship-of-Opportunity Programmes
71. ROPME-IOC Meeting of the Steering Committee on Oceanographic Co-operation in the ROPME Sea Area
72. Seventh Session of the Joint IOC-WMO-CPPS Working Group on the Investigations of 'El Niño' **(Spanish only)**
73. Fourth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico **(Also printed in Spanish)**
74. UNEP-IOC-ASPEI Global Task Team on the Implications of Climate Change on Coral Reefs
75. Third Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management
76. Fifth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange
77. ROPME-IOC Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Integrated Project Plan for the Coastal and Marine Environment of the ROPME Sea Area
78. Third Session of the IOC Group of Experts on the Global Sea-level Observing System
79. Third Session of the IOC-IAEA-UNEP Group of Experts on Standards and Reference Materials
80. Fourteenth Session of the Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans
81. Fifth Joint IOG-WMO Meeting for Implementation of IGOSS XBT Ship-of-Opportunity Programmes
82. Second Meeting of the UNEP-IOC-ASPEI Global Task Team on the Implications of climate Change on Coral Reefs
83. Seventh Session of the JSC Ocean Observing System Development Panel
84. Fourth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management
85. Sixth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric chart of the Mediterranean and its Geological/Geophysical Series
86. Fourth Session of the Joint IOC-JGOFS Panel on Carbon Dioxide
87. First Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Pacific
88. Eighth Session of the JSC Ocean Observing System Development Panel
89. Ninth Session of the JSC Ocean Observing System Development Panel
90. Sixth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange
91. First Session of the IOC-FAO Group of Experts on OSLR for the IOCINCWIO Region
92. Fifth Session of the Joint IOC-JGOFS CO₂ Advisory Panel Meeting
93. Tenth Session of the JSC Ocean Observing System Development Panel
94. First Session of the Joint CMM-IGOSS-IODE Sub-group on Ocean Satellites and Remote Sensing
95. Third Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Chart of the Western Indian Ocean
96. Fourth Session of the IOC Group of Experts on the Global Sea Level Observing System
97. Joint Meeting of GEMSI and GEEP Core Groups
98. First Session of the Joint Scientific and Technical Committee for Global Ocean Observing System
99. Second International Meeting of Scientific and Technical Experts on Climate Change and the Oceans
100. First Meeting of the Officers of the Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Pacific
101. Fifth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico
102. Second Session of the Joint Scientific and Technical Committee for Global Ocean Observing System
103. Fifteenth Session of the Joint IOC-IHO Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans
104. Fifth Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping
105. Fifth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management
106. IOC-NOAA *Ad hoc* Consultation on Marine Biodiversity
107. Sixth Joint IOC-WMO Meeting for Implementation of IGOSS XBT Ship-of-Opportunity Programmes
108. Third Session of the Health of the Oceans (HOTO) Panel of the Joint Scientific and Technical Committee for GLOSS
109. Second Session of the Strategy Subcommittee (SSC) of the IOC-WMO-UNEP Intergovernmental Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System
110. Third Session of the Joint Scientific and Technical Committee for Global Ocean Observing System
111. First Session of the Joint GCOS-GOOS-WCRP Ocean Observations Panel for Climate
112. Sixth Session of the Joint IOC-JGOFS CO₂ Advisory Panel Meeting
113. First Meeting of the IOC/WESTPAC Co-ordinating Committee for the North-East Asian Regional - Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS)
114. Eighth Session of the Joint IOC-WMO-CPPS Working Group on the Investigations of "El Niño" **(Spanish only)**
115. Second Session of the IOC Editorial Board of the International Bathymetric Chart of the Central Eastern Atlantic **(Also printed in French)**
116. Tenth Session of the Officers Committee for the Joint IOC-IHO General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), USA, 1996
117. IOC Group of Experts on the Global Sea Level Observing System (GLOSS), Fifth Session, USA, 1997
118. Joint Scientific Technical Committee for Global Ocean Observing System (J-GOOS), Fourth Session, USA, 1997
119. First Session of the Joint 100-WMO IGOSS Ship-of-Opportunity Programme Implementation Panel, South Africa, 1997
120. Report of Ocean Climate Time-Series Workshop, Joint GCOS-GOOS-WCRP Ocean Observations Panel for Climate, USA, 1997

121. IOC/WESTPAC Co-ordinating Committee for the North-East Asian Regional Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS), Second Session, Thailand, 1997
122. First Session of the IOC-IUCN-NOAA *Ad hoc* Consultative Meeting on Large Marine Ecosystems (LME), France, 1997
123. Second Session of the Joint GCOS-GOOS-WCRP Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC), South Africa, 1997
124. Sixth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, Colombia, 1996 (**also printed in Spanish**)
125. Seventh Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange, Ireland, 1997
126. IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Coastal Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), First Session, France, 1997
127. Second Session of the IOC-IUCN-NOAA Consultative Meeting on Large Marine Ecosystems (LME), France, 1998
128. Sixth Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping (CGOM), Monaco, 1997
129. Sixth Session of the Tropical Atmosphere - Ocean Array (TAO) Implementation Panel, United Kingdom, 1997
130. First Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Steering Committee of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), France, 1998
131. Fourth Session of the Health of the Oceans (HOTO) Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), Singapore, 1997
132. Sixteenth Session of the Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), United Kingdom, 1997
133. First Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU-FAO Living Marine Resources Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), France, 1998
134. Fourth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Indian Ocean (IOC/EB-IBCWIO-IW3), South Africa, 1997
135. Third Session of the Joint GCOS-GOOS-WCRP Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC), France, 1998
136. Seventh Session of the Joint IOC-JGOFS C02 Advisory Panel Meeting, Germany, 1997
137. Implementation of Global Ocean Observations for GOOS/GCOS, First Session, Australia, 1998
138. Implementation of Global Ocean Observations for GOOS/GCOS, Second Session, France, 1998
139. Second Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Coastal Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), Brazil, 1998
140. Third Session of IOC/WESTPAC Co-ordinating Committee for the North-East Asian Regional - Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS), China, 1998
141. Ninth Session of the Joint IOC-WMO-CPPS Working Group on the Investigations of 'El Niño', Ecuador, 1998 (**Spanish only**)
142. Seventh Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and its Geological/Geophysical Series, Croatia, 1998
143. Seventh Session of the Tropical Atmosphere-Ocean Array (TAO) Implementation Panel, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 1998
144. Sixth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management (GEMIM), USA, 1999
145. Second Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Steering Committee of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), China, 1999
146. Third Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Coastal Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), Ghana, 1999
147. Fourth Session of the GCOS-GOOS-WCRP Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC); Fourth Session of the WCRP CLIVAR Upper Ocean Panel (UOP); Special Joint Session of OOPC and UOP, USA, 1999
148. Second Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU-FAO Living Marine Resources Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), France, 1999
149. Eighth Session of the Joint IOC-JGOFS CO2 Advisory Panel Meeting, Japan, 1999
150. Fourth Session of the IOC/WESTPAC Co-ordinating Committee for the North-East Asian Regional – Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS), Japan, 1999
151. Seventh Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping (CGOM), Monaco, 1999
152. Sixth Session of the IOC Group of Experts on the Global Sea level Observing System (GLOSS), France, 1999
153. Seventeenth Session of the Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), Canada, 1999
154. Comité Editorial de la COI para la Carta Batimétrica Internacional del Mar Caribe y el Golfo de Mexico (IBCCA), Septima Reunión, Mexico, 1998
IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico (IBCCA), Seventh Session, Mexico, 1998
155. Initial Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Commitments Meeting, IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU/Impl-III/3, France, 1999
156. First Session of the *ad hoc* Advisory Group for IOCARIBE-GOOS, Venezuela, 1999 (**also printed in Spanish and French**)
157. Fourth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Coastal Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), China, 1999
158. Eighth Session of the IOC Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Mediterranean and its Geological/Geophysical Series, Russian Federation, 1999
159. Third Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU-FAO Living Marine Resources Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), Chile, 1999
160. Fourth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU-FAO Living Marine Resources Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). Hawaii, 2000
161. Eighth Session of the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange, USA, 2000
162. Third Session of the IOC-IUCN-NOAA Consultative Meeting on Large Marine Ecosystems (LME), France, 2000
163. Fifth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Coastal Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), Poland, 2000
164. Third Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Steering Committee of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), France, 2000
165. Second Session of the *ad hoc* Advisory Group for IOCARIBE-GOOS, Cuba, 2000 (**also printed in Spanish and French**)
166. First Session of the Coastal Ocean Observations Panel, Costa Rica, 2000
167. First GOOS Users' Forum, 2000
168. Seventh Session of the Group of Experts on the Global Sea Level Observing System, Honolulu, 2001
169. First Session of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (ABE-LOS), France, 2001 (**also printed in French**)
170. Fourth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP-ICSU Steering Committee of the Global Ocean Observing System, Chile, 2001
171. First Session of the IOC-SCOR Ocean CO₂ Advisory Panel, France, 2000
172. I-GOOS *ad hoc* Group of Experts Meetings on GOOS-UNCLOS, France and United Kingdom, 2001 (**also printed in French**)
173. Third Session of the *ad hoc* Advisory Group for IOCARIBE-GOOS, USA, 2001 (**also printed in Spanish and French**)
174. Second Session of the Coastal Ocean Observations Panel and GOOS Users' Forum, Italy, 2001
175. Second Session of the Black Sea GOOS Workshop, Georgia, 2001
176. Fifth Session of the IOC/WESTPAC Co-ordinating Committee for the North-East Asian Regional – Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS), Republic of Korea, 2000

177. Second Session of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (IOC/ABE-LOS), Morocco, 2002 (*also printed in French*)