

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
Reports of Governing and Major Subsidiary Bodies



Thirty-second Session of the Executive Council

Paris, 28 June 1999

UNESCO

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IOC/EC-XXXII/3
Paris, 18 August 1999
Original: English

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1. OPENING

1 The Chairman called the Executive Council to order at 10.00 a.m. on 28 June 1999. He welcomed all Members and referred to the documentation prepared for this session of the IOC Executive Council. The Council was convened, in accordance with Rule of Procedure No. 12(2), as the Steering Committee for the Twentieth Session of the Assembly.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

2.1 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

2 **The Executive Council accepted** the proposal by the Chair to designate Ms M. Cole (USA) as Rapporteur for the session.

2.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3 **The Executive Council adopted** the Agenda as reproduced in Annex I hereto.

2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION

4 **The Executive Council agreed** to the proposed timetable for the session.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

3.1 APPOINTMENT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

5 Pursuant to Rule of Procedure No. 12(2), **the Executive Council**, acting as the Steering Committee for the Assembly, **appointed** a Nominations Committee for the Assembly with the following composition:

Chairman: Poland

Members: Algeria, China, Colombia, France, Japan, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey.

3.2 FORMATION OF THE TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR RESOLUTIONS

6 **The Executive Council**, pursuant to criteria given by the Assembly since 1989 (cf. Document IOC/INF-785 Corr.), **recommended** a Technical Review Committee for Resolutions for the Assembly with the following composition:

Co-Chairmen: Mr G. Garcia Montero (Cuba), First Vice-Chair and Dr E. Okemwa (Kenya), Fourth Vice-Chair.

Members: Algeria, Brazil, China, France, Indonesia, Mexico, Russian Federation, USA.

3.3 TIMETABLE

7 The Chairman briefly introduced the Provisional Timetable for the Twentieth Session

of the Assembly, Document IOC-XX/1 Add. prov. rev. of 25 June 1999. **The Executive Council emphasized** the importance of Agenda Item 2.4 of the Provisional Timetable on the Report of the *ad hoc* Study Group on IOC Developments, Operations, Structure and Statutes (DOSS-2) and the need to give more time for the preparation of a draft resolution on this issue. **The Executive Council agreed** to keep the sequence of the agenda items for discussion as they were presented in the document. However, if the Chairman of the *ad hoc* Intersessional Group on DOSS-2 identified a need for having more time to discuss the item in plenary before the draft resolution be finalised, necessary adjustments of the timetable would be made.

4. REPORT OF THE AD HOC STUDY GROUP ON IOC DEVELOPMENT, OPERATIONS, STRUCTURE AND STATUTES (DOSS-2)

8 In the absence of Dr M. Murillo, Chairman of the DOSS-2 *ad hoc* Study Group, the Chairman of IOC introduced this item which was presented and discussed during the last IOC Executive Council. The Thirty-first Session of the Executive Council had adopted Resolution EC-XXXI.14, recommending "*that the proposal of the DOSS-2 ad hoc Study Group be used as a basis for discussion at the Twentieth Session of the IOC Assembly, with a view to preparing a recommendation on the statutes for the Thirtieth Session of the General Conference of UNESCO*".

9 The Executive Council instructed "*the Executive Secretary of IOC to transmit [...] the DOSS-2 Progress Report (Doc. IOC/EX-XXXI/6) immediately to all Member States of the Commission*". The countries that have replied are: Colombia, France, Germany, Israel, India, Kuwait, Japan, Peru, and the United Kingdom. He was also instructed to place the DOSS-2 Report on the agenda for this Executive Council so that "*views can be considered and a process adopted to facilitate the discussion at the IOC Assembly*".

10 The Delegate of Portugal restated the general support of his country to the proposals submitted by DOSS-2 for revision of the IOC Statutes. He noted, however, that some important issues had not been adequately addressed, namely those regarding the Member States' responsibilities *vis-à-vis* the Commission, and particularly, regarding financial and budgetary support. The Delegate of Portugal said that he was in favour of an in-depth study of these matters by the Commission during the forthcoming intersessional period.

11 Comments and proposed changes received from Member States were compiled in the Document IOC-XX/2 Annex 2. The proposed changes to the Statutes contained in the DOSS-2 report were accepted as a basis for the preparation of a draft resolution by a sessional group. This group was requested to pay particular attention to identifying any matters that could be better dealt with in the Rules of Procedure. **The Executive Council recommended** that individual changes and modifications should be dealt with by an open-ended sessional group which will be established during the Twentieth Session of the IOC Assembly, and chaired by Dr M. Murillo.

12 During the Executive Council, a brief debate took place on the title of the Commission. **The Executive Council decided to recommend** to the Assembly that a change to the name of IOC was a relevant question to be dealt with in a substantial manner in the future, however, it should not be one of the items for the present discussion of the changes to the IOC Statutes.

5. DATES AND PLACE OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

13 The Executive Secretary IOC recalled the discussion of the Thirty-first Session of the Executive Council, and taking into account other meetings of UNESCO, proposed to hold the next Executive Council just after the 159th Executive Board of UNESCO. Further consultations held during the Assembly resulted in the decision that the Thirty-third Session of the Executive Council would be held from 22 May 2000 at UNESCO, Paris. **The Executive Council recommended** that it should be kept as short as possible.

6. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT

14 **The Executive Council adopted** the Summary Report as given in this document.

7. CLOSURE

15 The Chair closed the session of the Executive Council at 5.15 p.m. on 28 June 1999.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING**
- 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**
 - 2.1 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR
 - 2.2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
 - 2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION
- 3. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY**
 - 3.1 APPOINTMENT OF THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
 - 3.2 FORMATION OF THE TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR RESOLUTIONS
 - 3.3 TIMETABLE
- 4. REPORT OF THE *AD HOC* STUDY GROUP ON IOC DEVELOPMENT, OPERATIONS, STRUCTURE AND STATUTES (DOSS-2)**
- 5. DATES AND PLACE OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**
- 6. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT**
- 7. CLOSURE**

ANNEX II

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