



IOC/IODE-XVII/3s
Paris, 21 April 2003
Original: English

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

SEVENTEENTH SESSION
OF THE IOC COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA
AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE
(IODE-XVII)

Paris, France, 3 – 7 March 2003

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

After an introductory paragraph this document contains all decisions adopted by the Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange at its seventeenth session as follows:

Section 1: decisions made by the IODE Committee under each agenda items; and

Section 2: Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the IODE Committee.

This Executive Summary is available in English, French, Russian and Spanish. The full summary Report of the session is published in English only. The report is submitted to the IOC Assembly at its 22nd session in June 2003 for endorsement.

Highlights

This Executive Summary includes all decisions, requests and recommendations formulated by the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange during its Seventeenth Session (IODE-XVII), held at UNESCO Headquarters between 3 and 7 March 2003. The Session was attended by 72 delegates from Member States, 16 representatives of organizations, programmes and projects, and five observers.

The Committee reviewed the work of the past inter-sessional period, noting, *inter alia*, the considerable progress made in cooperation with GOOS and JCOMM, the new IODE Group of Experts on Biological and Chemical Data Management and Exchange Practices (GE-BCDMEP), the new Global Ocean Surface Underway Data Pilot Programme (GOSUD), the development of a marine XML, the Marine Environmental Data Inventory (MEDI), the training system OceanTeacher, the dynamic content management system BeeBox, and the regional networks ODINAFRICA and ODINCARSA.

The Committee recommended the merging of the IODE Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange (GETADE) and JCOMM Expert Team on Data Management Practises (ETDMP), established an inter-sessional working group to examine the future role of World Data Centres (WDCs), Responsible National Oceanographic Data Centres (RNODCs) and National Oceanographic Data Centres (NODCs), established an ad hoc working group on the implications of GOOS and JCOMM development on IODE, called for further support for the ODINAFRICA and ODINCARSA networks, and recommended the establishment of the Ocean Information Technology (OIT) pilot project, jointly sponsored with JCOMM and GOOS.

The Committee further defined the terms of reference for the IODE Review and expressed its strong support for the draft policy as prepared by the Intergovernmental Working Group on IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy.

The Committee strongly supported the establishment of an IODE Project Office and recommended that the offer of the Government of Flanders and the City of Oostende to host the Office in Oostende, Belgium be accepted.

SECTION 1

DECISIONS, REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF IODE-XVII

3.2 Activities of World Data Centres

- **The Committee established** an inter-sessional working group to examine the future role of WDCs, RNODCs and NODCs (see also [Resolution IODE-XVII.1](#)).

3.3 Activities of RNODCs

- **The Committee**, taking into consideration the decisions of the IOC Governing Bodies with regard to IOCSOC, **decided** to maintain, at this time, the RNODC for the Southern Ocean until other suitable mechanisms are established.
- **The Committee noted** that the Marine Pollution Monitoring System (MARPOLMON) RNODC activities were now assumed mainly by the Japan Oceanographic Data Centre.
- **The Committee decided** to dissolve the RNODC (FORMATS). **It further tasked** the IOC/IODE Secretariat with taking over the tasks formerly covered by the RNODC (FORMATS).

3.5 New data centres

- **The Committee recommended** that Member States that wish to establish a National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC) or Designated National Agency (DNA) be provided with all relevant documentation and be requested to prepare a Business Plan for review by the IODE Officers. **The Committee tasked** the IODE Officers to provide the candidate centres with all necessary feedback and advice possible.

3.6 Regional coordinators reports

- **IOCINCWIO: The Committee recommended** the organization of a training course on remote sensing and urged Member States to provide support.
- **IOCARIBE: The Committee elected** Dr Lorna Inniss (Barbados) as IODE Regional Coordinator for the IOCARIBE region.
- **IOCSOC: The Committee re-iterated** the importance of having an IODE Regional Coordinator for the Southern Oceans region and **decided** to maintain the position.
- **Black Sea region: The Committee requested** the Chair to contact Member States, as well as organizations and projects active in the Caspian Sea region to seek close collaboration in relation to oceanographic data and information management. **The Committee agreed** that the matter of an IODE Regional Coordinator for the Caspian Sea be further considered on the basis of replies received.
- **Eastern Pacific (El Niño) region: The Committee elected** Mr Marfiu Rodriguez (Ecuador) as the new IODE regional coordinator for the Eastern Pacific (El Niño) region.

3.8 IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy

- **The Committee expressed its strong support** for the draft policy as prepared by the Second Session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on IOC Oceanographic Data Exchange Policy and called on the IOC Assembly to adopt it.
- **The Committee noted** that any policy is only as effective as its implementation and it

urged Member States to consider mechanisms for ensuring maximum compliance with the policy, should it be adopted by the IOC.

4.1.1 Group of Experts on Biological and Chemical Data Management and Exchange Practises (GE-BCDMEP)

- **The Committee invited** FAO to participate in the GE-BCDMEP.
- **The Committee extended** an invitation to the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) to actively participate in the activities of the GE-BCDMEP. It **recalled** that OBIS had been invited to IODE-XVII but due to other commitments no representative had been able to attend.
- **The Committee adopted** the Summary Report of the First Session of the Group and all recommendations contained therein. Noting the importance of promoting IODE in the ocean science community **the Committee recommended** that the GE-BCDMEP should take leadership in assisting ocean biology and chemistry projects with the development of their data management plans. **The Committee recommended** that the GE-BCDMEP meets prior to the proposed Hamburg meeting in order to discuss this matter.
- The delegate of France, Dr Catherine Maillard, offered to host an international conference on data management, focusing on multi-disciplinarity, operational oceanography and geoscience data. The proposed date is May-June 2005.

4.1.2 Group of Experts on Marine Information Management (GE-MIM)

- **The Committee re-iterated its request** to Member States to ensure better representation of marine information management (MIM) experts in delegations for IODE Sessions.
- **The Committee adopted** the Summary Report of the Seventh Session of the Group and all recommendations contained therein.

4.1.3 Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange (GE-TADE)

- **The Committee requested** the GE-TADE Chair to compare the GE-TADE-IX work plan (2003-2005) with the JCOMM ETDMP work plan (as available, taking into consideration that the first formal meeting of the ETDMP had not taken place), and to report to the IODE Officers on any action items that could not be addressed by the joint JCOMM/IODE ETDMP.
- **The Committee adopted** the Summary Report of the Ninth Session of the Group and all recommendations contained therein taking into consideration its decision to merge GE-TADE with the JCOMM ETDMP. (see also 6.2.1)
- **The Committee adopted** [Recommendation IODE-XVII.3.](#)

4.2.1 Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)

- **The Committee noted with satisfaction** the improved coverage of the ASFA database, expansion of the ASFA partnership and the expanded dissemination and use of ASFA products. **The Committee called on** ASFA to continue its efforts to include historical material in the database.
- **The Committee strongly supported** the continued participation of IOC in the ASFA Advisory Board, and its activities stressing the need to assist developing countries.
- **The Committee considered** that pre-1970 citations (currently not held by ASFA) are an

important resource supporting data archaeology initiatives. It **called** on the ASFA Board to identify such holdings and to convert and add them to the ASFA database.

4.2.2 Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue (GODAR)

- **The Committee endorsed** the continued support for the GODAR Project and **noted** that GODAR activities will continue to focus on data rescue as it has during the past years with particular emphasis to be placed on rescue of data from South American countries.

4.2.3 Global Temperature and Salinity Profile Programme (GTSP)

- **The Committee noted** the Report of the GTSP and that there were currently no agreed standard (IODE) procedures for correcting amending data. **The Committee further** agreed an appropriate strategy for all IODE data centres and other global archives was urgently required. **The Committee tasked** GTSP to submit to IODE XVIII a proposal for addressing this problem.

4.2.4 Development of a marine XML (marineXML)

- **The Committee recommended** that an informal group of interested data centres will be invited to work closely with the Canadian XML team on the further development of the XML brick concept. **The Committee invited** interested data centres to contact Dr Bob Keeley (MEDS, Canada) and to map their existing point data to the XML brick structure and to report their findings to the next Session of the SG-XML.
- **The Committee tasked** the SG-XML to consider at their next meeting to describe their 'vision' of XML and to report back to IODE-XVIII.
- **The Committee expressed its high appreciation** for the active role IODE is playing the development of a marineXML. It **stated** that the involvement of IODE in the EU XML project and the SG-XML will avoid the development of several, incompatible standards and **called** on the different projects to work closely together towards a single standard.

4.2.5 Global Ocean Surface Underway Data Pilot Project (GOSUD)

- **The Committee expressed its strong satisfaction** with the progress of the GOSUD pilot project and **invited** the Steering Group to continue its work.
- **The Committee endorsed** the GOSUD project plan and **invited** Member States to actively participate in the pilot project.

4.2.6 Marine Environmental Data Inventory (MEDI)

- **The Committee adopted** the summary reports of the First and Second Sessions of the IODE Steering Group for MEDI.
- **The Committee recommended** that MEDI should be ISO compliant and **tasked** the Chair SG-MEDI to investigate the requirements and to undertake the necessary work.
- **The Committee requested** Member States to study the compatibility of their metadata systems with MEDI.
- **The Committee urged** Member States to utilize MEDI, and to promote its use at the national level in relevant academic and ocean research facilities.
- **The Committee, noting** the importance of quality metadata, **stressed** the need to ensure that not only metadata are easily available and searchable, but that also the data sets be

made easily accessible through the metadata system.

4.2.7 Global Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals (OceanExpert)

- **The Committee expressed** its satisfaction with the progress made by OceanExpert.
- **The Committee thanked** the International and European Associations of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centres (IAMSLIC and EURASLIC) members for including a link to OceanExpert in their web sites and for providing content.
- **The Committee urged** IODE data centres to include a link to OceanExpert in their web sites so as to promote the service to the ocean data and information community as an IODE service, and **invited** IOC member states to actively promote OceanExpert at the national level by urging experts in all relevant academic and ocean research facilities to submit records to OceanExpert.
- **The Committee, regretting** the bandwidth limitations at UNESCO HQ, **recommended** that the server hosting OceanExpert be relocated to the proposed IODE Project Office to re-enable the indexing service.

4.2.8 OceanPortal

- **The Committee expressed** its satisfaction with the development of OceanPortal as a unique and focused catalogue of ocean data and information on the World Wide Web.
- **The Committee requested** IODE data centres to cooperate with OceanPortal by actively submitting sites to the system and by actively promoting the service at the national level (data centre users, web sites, academic institutions, libraries, ocean research institutions, ...)
- **The Committee, regretting** the bandwidth limitations at UNESCO HQ, **recommended** that the server hosting OceanPortal be relocated to the proposed IODE Project Office to re-enable the indexing service.

4.2.9 OceanTeacher

- **The Committee adopted** the report of the First Session of the Steering Group for OceanTeacher.
- **The Committee welcomed** the nomination of a JCOMM expert to the SG-OceanTeacher.
- **The Committee noted that**, whereas OceanTeacher was now primarily aimed at, and used by developing countries, more attention should be given to 'continuous professional development' and as such, modules covering advanced data and information management should be developed.
- **The Committee tasked** the SG-OceanTeacher to develop modules on advanced ocean data and information management, and related technology, covering delayed-mode as well as operational oceanographic data.
- **The Committee urged** Member States, and **tasked** IODE data centres, to actively participate in the further development and maintenance of OceanTeacher by providing content.
- **The Committee requested** the SG-OceanTeacher to prepare a draft curriculum that could be used in graduate courses in marine science/oceanography. **The Committee requested** the SG-OceanTeacher that investigations be made how the proposed curriculum could be submitted to, and adopted by national education programmes.

- [4.2.10 BeeBox](#)
- **The Committee congratulated** the IODE Secretariat in general, and Mr Benjamin Sims in particular, with the development of BeeBox.
- **The Committee requested** the Secretariat to develop a BeeBox ‘training package’ for distribution to interested Member States and for use by IODE and other projects.

4.3 IODE CAPACITY BUILDING

4.3.1.1 Ocean Data and Information Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA)

- **The Committee noted** with satisfaction the positive evaluation that the ODINAFRICA project has received **and called for** the preparation of a proposal for the next phase of the project which will focus on development and dissemination of data and information products to assist in the sustainable management of marine and coastal areas. **The Committee stressed the need** to ensure that ODINAFRICA-III is developed in close collaboration, and serving the needs of, other IOC programmes in Africa such as GLOSS, GOOS-Africa, IOGOOS, HAB, ICAM etc., and **called** on these programmes to collaborate in the preparation of the proposal.
- **The Committee thanked** the Government of Flanders, Belgium for their continued support for the ODINAFRICA project **and requested** that they continue support for the next phase of ODINAFRICA. **The Committee also urged** other Member States to extend support to the project.
- **The Committee thanked** the IODE data centres and information centres that have provided in-kind assistance to ODINAFRICA through providing lecturers, data sets, hosting interns and other support and **called** on them to continue these efforts.
- **The Committee requested** the IODE Chair to contact donor agencies such as World Bank, UNDP and relevant foundations and raise their awareness about the importance of ocean data and information management with the view of obtaining funding for data and information centres in Africa.
- **The Committee adopted** [Recommendation IODE-XVII.1.](#)

4.3.1.2 Ocean Data and Information Network for the Caribbean and South America regions (ODINCARSA)

- **The Committee recalled** that ODINCARSA had been initiated by Mr Ricardo Rojas, newly elected Vice-Chair IODE and **expressed its gratitude** to him. **The Committee also congratulated** Mr Rodney Martinez for his considerable efforts coordinating the successful implementation of the pilot project, and the ODINCARSA member countries for their active participation.
- **The Committee adopted** [Recommendation IODE-XVII.2.](#)

4.3.1.3 Other Regions

- **The Committee welcomed** the proposal of Dr Zaker, Chairman of IOCINDIO, to establish an Ocean Data and Information Network for the Central Indian Ocean Region (ODINCINDIO). **The Committee agreed** that that ODINCINDIO was a worthwhile initiative that requires further consideration, as only 5 of the 19 nations with a potential interest in the project were present at the session. **The Committee further noted** the importance of working with other groups with an interest in the area, such as IOGOOS. **The Committee stated** that strong leadership from a key country in the region would be

required to ensure the success of the project. **The committee agreed** on the following actions: (i) utilise the feedback from the IOGOOS meeting in Mauritius (Action 1, Data Management Workshop) which would survey existing capacity in the region, (ii) the regional coordinator for IOCINDIO, assisted by the Secretariat is requested to seek an expression of interest from potential member states to join the ODINCINDIO project; and (iii) convene an initial planning workshop to further consider the objectives, outcomes and the work plan of the project and to identify potential funding sources.

- **The Committee invited** IOGOOS to join IODE in this endeavour.

4.3.2 IODE Training Activities

4.3.2.1 National initiatives

- **The Committee, noting** the wide variety of national IODE related training activities, **requested** Member States to provide reports and documentation on these activities to the Secretariat, with the objective to possibly include some of the material in OceanTeacher.

4.3.2.2. Regional initiatives

- **The Committee recommended** that the following priorities should be addressed during the inter-sessional period in terms of capacity building: (i) undertake expert missions to member states, as requested; (ii) develop a two-track training programme: basic level for untrained students, and advanced level for experienced data/information managers. The latter could also include internships in highly advanced data/information centres; (iii) organize separate training courses for data and information management; (iv) contract a marine information management expert to assist with the development, lecturing and follow-up support for, marine information management training; (v) ensure that the best-qualified students are selected for training courses on the basis of CV and documented experience.
- **The Committee identified** the following geographic regions as priorities for training activities during the inter-sessional period: Baltic, Black Sea, Mediterranean, Caribbean and South American, IOCINDIO, WESTPAC and IOCEA.

4.3.2.3 OceanTeacher (report on use)

- **The Committee expressed** its appreciation for the successful development of OceanTeacher and for its wide use during IODE training courses.
- **The Committee called** on IODE National Coordinators to widely advertise OceanTeacher and for national data and information managers to contribute content.
- **The Committee noted** that, as OceanTeacher was progressing rapidly, it needed a strategic plan. Further requirements for modules needs to be identified, and quality of existing material needs to be assessed.
- **The Committee requested** Member States to review OceanTeacher and provide feedback to the SG-OceanTeacher.
- **Committee tasked** the SG-OceanTeacher to identify modules that need to be developed, in close consultation with the JCOMM Capacity Building Coordination Group and GOOS Capacity Building Panel, taking into consideration JCOMM and GOOS requirements.

5. IODE PUBLIC AWARENESS

5.1 IODE WEB SITES

- **The Committee invited** IODE National Coordinators and related experts to actively participating in ‘populating’ the IODE ad related web sites through submitting content and/or by assuming the role of ‘editor’ for categories relevant to their expertise.

5.2 IODE BROCHURES, POSTERS AND PUBLICATIONS

- **The Committee requested** the Secretariat to continue producing relevant Public Awareness materials.

5.3 NATIONAL IODE AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

- **The Committee requested** Member States to keep the Secretariat informed on national promotional activities so as to enable publicizing these activities on the IODE web site.

6. COOPERATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMMES

6.1 COOPERATION WITH GOOS

- **The Committee noted with satisfaction** the growing cooperation between IODE and GOOS in the area of capacity building (e.g. OceanTeacher).
- **The Committee noted** that the rapid development of GOOS, JCOMM and related projects create challenges for IODE in terms of facing the new requirements for data and information management.
- **The Committee adopted** [Resolution IODE-XVII.2.](#)

6.2 COOPERATION WITH JCOMM

6.2.1 Cooperation of IODE in JCOMM Data Management Programme Area

- **The Committee agreed** with the recommendation of the JCOMM MC ((i) to merge the GETADE and ETDMP in order to avoid duplication, to enable more effective use of scarce resources, and to enable annual meetings of the merged body; (ii) to task the IODE Secretariat with the secretariat duties for the Data Management Programme Area, and (iii) to have the relevant IODE Groups of Experts and Steering Groups co-sponsored by both JCOMM and IODE.)
- **The Committee adopted** [Recommendation IODE-XVII.3](#)

6.2.2 Cooperation of IODE in Ocean Information Technology (OIT)

- **The Committee agreed** that the OIT Pilot Project was an important contribution to the resolution of ocean data management issues and to enhancing the overall capacity and functionality. **The Committee agreed** that the overall scope and objectives of the Project were both relevant and appropriate as an IODE activity and **endorsed** the Project as a component of the IODE work plan.
- **The Committee noted with appreciation** the Report of the first meeting of the OIT and the recommended initiatives.
- **The Committee stated** that the proposed IODE Project Office would be an appropriate facility to provide support for the development of this important initiative.

- **The Committee also welcomed** the emphasis on quality control and data assembly and agreed that a jointly sponsored Workshop would be an effective and appropriate activity for the intersessional period. **The Committee proposed** to organize such a meeting during the month July or August 2004.
- **The Committee requested** Dr. Neville Smith to work with Mr Sydney Levitus (Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology & Rescue Project, World Ocean Database), Mr Keeley (GOSUD, Argo), and others as appropriate, to form an Organizing Committee and develop a Prospectus for the Workshop. Recalling the endorsement of the OIT Pilot Project by the GOOS Steering Committee at its 6th Session (see Agenda Item 6.1) **the Committee called** for close collaboration with GOOS/JCOMM in this matter.
- **The Committee adopted** [Recommendation IODE-XVII.5.](#)

6.3 COOPERATION WITH SCIENCE AND MONITORING PROGRAMMES

- **The Committee recalled** that IODE has made significant contributions to many international research programmes, including the Tropical Ocean & Global Atmosphere (TOGA), World Ocean Circulation Experiment (WOCE), Climate variability and Predictability (CLIVAR) and Joint Global Ocean Flux Study (JGOFS), and continues to have a prominent role in many regional initiatives, including within Europe.
- **The Committee urged** members to continue creating and maintaining close collaboration with the science and monitoring communities, especially through the development and implementation of joint projects.
- **The Committee decided** that the Steering Group should be dissolved in favour of the actions described in the previous paragraph.
- **The Committee called** for closer cooperation with research programmes, projects of the Coastal Ocean Observations Panel of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS' COOP) and the ocean components of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) and the World Climate Research programme (WCRP), as well as with the GOOS regional bodies (see also Agenda Item 6.1). It was noted that such alliances offered substantial opportunities for obtaining additional resources for the data centres and other partners.

6.4 OTHERS

- **The Committee requested** Member States to assess the Bilko software and how it could be used to develop capacity in coastal and marine remote sensing.

7. FUTURE OF IODE

7.1 IODE REVIEW (PROGRESS REPORT)

- **The Committee noted** that, as far as could be ascertained, there had not been a previous review of IODE and recalled its recommendation for a 'review and evaluation of the IODE' at IODE-XVI (para. 392 of the IODE-XVI Summary Report).
- **The Committee recommended** that the review team should be independent with experience in data management and users/clients of IODE services.
- To assist in the preparation of a work plan for the Review Team, **the Committee requested** the IODE secretariat to compile background information on the current objectives and structure of IODE.

- **The Committee requested** that Member states as well as stakeholders should be consulted as part of the review, and that this could be done in a similar way to the GOOS Review by way of a questionnaire.
- A Proposal For Implementation of the IODE Review was prepared

7.3 IOC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- **The Committee tasked** the Chair to inform the Task Team on the proceedings of the IODE-XVII Session using especially [Resolution IODE-XVII.1](#) and [Recommendation IODE-XVII.5](#).

7.4 OCEAN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT: see 6.2.2

7.5 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IODE PROJECT OFFICE

- **The Committee thanked** the Government of Flanders for its kind offer, **expressed** its strong support for the proposal, and **recommended** that it be submitted to the 22nd Session of the IOC Assembly for approval.
- **The Committee adopted** [Recommendation IOC/IODE-XVII.4](#)
- **The Committee requested** the Secretariat to ensure that the business plan for the Project Offices gives due and balanced consideration to both positive and negative aspects of decentralizing IODE Secretariat operations. In this regard reference was made to a communication plan, management, financial implications, risk analysis. It should also include a medium and long-term vision statement.
- **The Committee stated** that the Project Office should be considered as a meeting venue, laboratory, training centre, communication hub and general forum for IODE and partner projects, programmes and organizations. **The Committee recommended** that one of the first activities to be based at the Project Office should be assisting in the implementation of the OIT project.

8. REQUIRED RESOURCES AND PLAN OF ACTION FOR 2003-2005

- **The Committee noted with concern** that the inability of all Member States to participate in Sessions of the Committee negatively impacts on the effectiveness of the programme and involvement of its Member States.
- **The Committee recalled** that it had, during IODE-XVI, called on Member States to contribute to the IOC Trust Fund to assist the IODE Programme. The Committee regretted that only one Member State (Belgium) had responded positively to this request by providing US\$ 5,000 in 2001 and US\$ 5,000 in 2002.
- **The Committee recalled** that it had requested, at IODE-XVI, the IODE National Co-ordinators to provide the Secretariat with an estimate of the in-kind resources made available by their governments for the IODE programme. It was felt that this support is a substantive contribution to extra-budgetary resources available to the IODE Programme and should therefore be identified as well. The Secretariat reported that no such information had been received.
- **The Committee noted with serious concern** that the IODE programme is currently still supported by only one permanent Professional staff member.

- **The Committee thanked** the IOC Executive Secretary for supporting the programme with one full-time consultant P-4 (Mr Greg Reed) and one supernumerary staff P-1 (Mr Benjamin Sims) but **expressed its strong concern** over the long-term sustainability of this arrangement.
- **The Committee discussed and adopted** the Programme and Budget for the period 2003-2005 as presented in [Recommendation IOC/IODE-XVII.6.](#)

9. ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- **The Committee elected** Dr Lesley Rickards as IODE Chair, and Mr Ricardo Rojas as IODE Vice-Chair by acclamation.

10. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

- To keep momentum and to keep abreast with the developments in ocean data and information management in a more effective way, **the Committee decided** to organize its Eighteenth Session during the period March - June 2005.
- The Delegate of Italy informed the Session that his country was willing to investigate the possibility of hosting IODE-XVIII. **The Committee thanked** Italy for its kind offer and **requested** the Chair to discuss formal and practical arrangements with the Government of Italy.

SECTION 2

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution IODE-XVII.1: ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-SESSIONAL WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE FUTURE ROLE OF WDCS, RNODCS AND NODCS
- Resolution IODE-XVII.2: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE *AD HOC* WORKING GROUP ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF GOOS DEVELOPMENT ON IODE

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendation IODE-XVII.1 : OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION NETWORK FOR AFRICA (ODINAFRICA)
- Recommendation IODE-XVII.2 : OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION NETWORK FOR THE CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGIONS (ODINCARSA)
- Recommendation IODE-XVII.3 : MERGING OF THE IODE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF DATA EXCHANGE WITH THE JCOMM EXPERT TEAM ON DATA MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- Recommendation IODE-XVII.4 : ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IODE PROJECT OFFICE
- Recommendation IODE-XVII.5 : ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OIT PILOT PROJECT
- Recommendation IODE-XVII.6 : PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2003-2005

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution IODE-XVII.1

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-SESSIONAL WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE FUTURE ROLE OF WDCS, RNODCS AND NODCS

Noting the changing user needs of the scientific research, operational forecasting and assessment communities for historical and real-time oceanographic data,

Further noting the impact of rapidly changing technology on the acquisition, processing and dissemination of oceanographic data,

Recognizing the impact on IODE of the emergence of global and regional operational oceanographic capabilities now emerging through activities such as JCOMM, GOOS, and other programs,

Decides to establish an inter-sessional working group to examine present and future roles for WDCs, RNODCs, and NODCs (“the centres”) to:

1. Review and summarize present and planned capabilities and functions of the centres.
2. Provide a synopsis of anticipated needs, taking into account:
 - i. Changing user needs,
 - ii. Changes brought about by the extensive use of the internet and other technological changes,
 - iii. The needs of IODE, JCOMM, and GOOS,
3. Compare and note where present and planned capabilities of the centres are meeting or contributing to meeting the challenges in 2, and identify where significant opportunities exist for meeting gaps, and where unresolved remaining gaps exist. Of particular importance are:
 - i. How the centres are evolving to a broader role while maintaining the essential core functionalities that are provided today,
 - ii. Documenting centre capabilities (both present and planned) with attention to unique capabilities (e.g., thematic basic services: discovery, archiving, quality control, access, distribution, etc.),
 - iii. Recommended roles of the centres in responding to operational oceanographic services,

Recommends that the Group will be composed of the IODE Officers, and the Chair of the ICSU Panel on World Data Centres;

Instructs the Group to report their findings not later than February 2004 to the IODE Review team.

Resolution IODE-XVII.2

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE
IMPLICATIONS OF GOOS AND JCOMM DEVELOPMENT ON IODE**

Noting that IODE Centres are considered to be integral components of the ocean element of the end-to-end global observing system,

Noting also the rapid development of GOOS since IODE-XVI, with (i) some \$20 million invested in the Global ocean Data Assimilation Experiment (GODAE) (up from \$0 in 1998); (ii) some \$12-15 million invested in 600 Argo floats (up from \$0 in 1998); (iii) the rapid growth of GOOS Regional Alliances, each bringing another ten or more Member States into active participations in GOOS, most recently in the Indian Ocean with the development of IOGOOS; (iv) the imminent publication of the Design Plan for a coastal global observing system; (v) the rapid development of JCOMM (the implementation body for GOOS) since its first meeting in Iceland in June 2001; (vi) the development of the Ocean Information Technology Pilot Project to address data and information management needs for the future,

Recognizing the joint, overlapping and complementary interests of IODE, GOOS and JCOMM in these rapid developments and their implications for the future of data and information management within IOC Member States,

Decides to establish an ad hoc intersessional Working Group to consider the Implications of GOOS development for IODE, and the adaptations that IODE may need to consider making to meet GOOS and JCOMM requirements for data and information management in the future;

Invites Neville Smith (Australia), Peter Pissierssens (IODE Secretariat), Lesley Rickards (IODE Chair), Savi Narayanan (Canada, and JCOMM Co-President), Colin Summerhayes (GOOS Project Office), Tom Malone (Co-Chair of COOP), and Thorkild Aarup (COOP Technical Secretary) to participate in the *ad hoc* Working Group on Implications of GOOS for IODE;

Requests that the first meeting of the Group be held in the margins of the I-GOOS-VI meeting in Paris March 10-14, 2003, to capitalise on the fact that key IODE, GOOS and JCOMM players will all be present;

Invites the ad hoc Working Group to hold appropriate discussions mainly by e-mail, to avoid duplication of other joint IODE-GOOS or IODE-JCOMM activities, and to report back to IODE-XVIII.

Recommends that the IODE, JCOMM and GOOS Secretariats, together with relevant national experts, work together to prepare, for IODE-XVIII, a comprehensive report on the interactions between GOOS, JCOMM and IODE.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation IODE-XVII.1

OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION NETWORK FOR AFRICA

The IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange,

Noting with satisfaction the successful implementation of the ODINAFRICA project which has resulted in (i) the establishment and operation of at least 16 National Oceanographic Data centres, (ii) development of meta databases, data archives, directories, library catalogues, etc (iii) development of data and information products, (iv) public awareness creation of the project products and services,

Further noting the positive external evaluation of ODINAFRICA and its recommendation for a third phase of the project focussing on development of data products and services to assist in the sustainable management of marine and coastal areas, and addressing issues such as internet connectivity, disparities in capacity between the different institutions,

Taking into account the recommendations of the fifth session of IOCINCWIO (23-26 September 2002, Nairobi, Kenya) which also requested for the development of a next phase of the project,

Acknowledging the substantial funding provided by the Government of Flanders, Belgium for implementation of the ODINAFRICA-II project, and the support provided by other IODE National Oceanographic Data and Information Centres (NODC) and WDCs,

Recommends that a third phase of ODINAFRICA be developed, with special emphasis on the development of products and services that respond to the needs of sustainable marine and coastal management, and contribute to other IOC programmes active in Africa such as GLOSS, GOOS-Africa, IOGOOS, HAB, ICAM etc. **and calls** on the programmes to collaborate in the preparation of the proposal;

Invites African Member States to prepare a proposal for submission to relevant donors;

Requests the secretariat to assist with the development of the proposal and its submission to potential donors for funding;

Urges Member States and donor organizations to provide funding for the preparation and implementation of the next phase of ODINAFRICA.

Recommendation IODE-XVII.2

OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION NETWORK FOR THE CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGIONS (ODINCARSA)

The IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange,

Noting with satisfaction the implementation of data and information management activities in the region within the framework of the pilot phase of ODINCARSA,

Further noting the need to involve more Member States from the South America and the Caribbean regions in the activities of ODINCARSA,

Acknowledging the assessment of data and information management capacities in the region undertaken at different meetings and workshops held in the region,

Taking into account the report of the ODINCARSA planning meeting held from 24-26 October 2001, in Guayaquil, Ecuador,

Invites Member States from South America and the Caribbean, in consultation with the IODE Secretariat to prepare a work plan for ODINCARSA for the period 2003-2005,

Recommends that resources be provided to support the implementation of the ODINCARSA work plan for 2003-2005,

Requests the IOC Executive Secretary to implement, as a priority, the following actions:

- (i) To coordinate the necessary actions with the IOCARIBE Office and ODINCARSA participating Member States to obtain donor support for ODINCARSA,
- (ii) To provide funding for the implementation of the ODINCARSA pilot phase (2003-2005),
- (iii) To strengthen links with JCOMM and GOOS in terms of capacity building and oceanographic data and information management in the ODINCARSA participating Member States;

Urges Member States and donors to support this project through by providing resources, technology transfer and capacity building to enable the implementation of ODINCARSA.

Recommendation IODE-XVII.3

MERGING OF THE IODE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF DATA EXCHANGE WITH THE JCOMM EXPERT TEAM ON DATA MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange,

Recognizing the increased strong cooperation between IODE and JCOMM,

Recognizing further the need to avoid duplication and to maximize available human and financial resources,

Noting the similarity of the terms of reference for the IODE Group of Experts on the Technical Aspects of Data Exchange (GETADE) and the JCOMM Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP),

Recommends that the IODE Group of Experts on the Technical Aspects of Data Exchange be merged with the JCOMM Expert Team on Data Management Practices;

Further recommends that the funds allocated to the IODE programme for the organization of GETADE sessions be assigned to the organization of ETDMP sessions, thereby assuring annual sessions of the Group;

Requests that the JCOMM Management Committee consider renaming the Group to the JCOMM/IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices to reflect the joint contribution of both bodies;

Further requests that the JCOMM Management Committee consider filling the vacant position on ETDMP with a representative from the IODE community.

Recommendation IODE-XVII.4

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IODE PROJECT OFFICE

The IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange,

Recognizing the emphasis on complementary collaborative agreements with other projects that deal with ocean data and information, including JCOMM and GOOS, and developments of global standards for ocean data and information exchange,

Recognizing the considerable and widely appreciated expertise of the IODE programme in capacity building related to ocean data and information management,

Considering the strong involvement and commitment of IODE in the Ocean Information Technology (OIT) project and the technical, infrastructural and management requirements ensuing,

Noting the priorities set by the Committee for its capacity building programme during the next inter-sessional period that includes, *inter alia*:

- (i) Developing a two-track training programme based on basic and advance training curricula,
- (ii) Organizing separate courses for data and information management;
- (iii) Continuing the development and management of ODIN networks, including relevant training activities and electronic help desks,
- (iv) Continuing the development of OceanTeacher with special emphasis on modules for GOOS and JCOMM, as well as on modules for introducing scientists to ocean data and information management,
- (v) organizing teacher training courses,

Further noting that the lack of sufficient bandwidth at UNESCO Headquarters is hampering the effectiveness of IODE's electronic communication mechanism,

Strongly supports the establishment of an IODE Project Office;

Acknowledging with appreciation the offer of the Government of Flanders and the City of Oostende to:

- (i) Host the IODE Project Office,
- (ii) Provide substantial financial support covering utilities and broadband internet access,
- (iii) Provide part-time secretarial and technical assistance through the Flemish Marine Institute;

Noting with appreciation that the proposed Project Office will be co-located with the Flemish Marine Institute that hosts the Flanders Marine and Data Information Centre,

Recommends that the offer of the Government of Flanders and the City of Oostende be accepted;

Further recommends that the IODE Secretariat prepare, jointly with the IODE Officers, a business plan for the IODE Project Office, to be submitted, together with this Recommendation, to the IOC Assembly at its 22nd Session.

Recommendation IODE-XVII.5

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OIT PILOT PROJECT

The IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange,

Recognizing the importance of innovative, flagship initiatives in ocean data management, to take advantage of technological advances and to enhance the capacity and functionality of IODE activities, for a wide range of new needs and demands,

Recognizing the importance of forging productive and constructive projects and partnerships with GOOS and JCOMM,

Noting the recommendation of the Fifth meeting of the GOOS Steering Committee to endorse the OIT initiative as a Pilot Project of GOOS, and the decisions of the JCOMM Data Management Coordination Group (DCMG-I) and the JCOMM Management Committee (MAN-II) to support the OIT as a JCOMM Data Management PA Pilot Project,

Recognizing the existence of existing projects and Groups of Experts within IODE, and within JCOMM, whose activities are pertinent to the objectives of the OIT,

Noting the decisions of the GOOS SC (GSC-V) and JCOMM to form a Steering Team for the OIT Project, and the provisional Membership of the Team (Inf. 1178), subject to consideration of the IODE,

Acknowledging that the OIT Pilot Project represents an important contribution to the resolution of ocean data management issues and to enhancing the overall capacity and functionality of IODE, and that the overall scope and objectives of the Project as represented in Doc 31 and Inf. 1178 were both relevant and appropriate for IODE,

Recommends that

- (i) The *Ocean Information Technology Pilot Project* be implemented as an initiative of the IODE, jointly sponsored with JCOMM and GOOS,
- (ii) The *Steering Team* of the Project be responsible for the development and implementation of the Project, including the development of a Strategic Plan and initiation of sub-projects,
- (iii) The initial focus of the Project be as agreed at the First Meeting of the OIT, as reported in Document IOC/IODE-XVII/32 (Ocean Information Technology), and
- (iv) The *Steering Team* provides a detailed work programme, including a schedule of activities, to the next Session of the Committee;

Further, in consideration of the initial focus on data assembly and quality control, and **recognizing** the significant experience and expertise of IODE in this area, including *inter alia* through the World Ocean Data Base Project and GODAR, the GTSPP, Argo, and GOSUD,

Acknowledging the key role of the joint JCOMM/IODE ETDMP,

Recommends that

- (i) The *Ocean Information Technology Pilot Project* in conjunction with the Chairs of GODAR, GTSPP, GODAE and the Argo Data Management Committee, convene a Workshop on quality control and assembly of ocean data, including formation of an Organizing Committee and development of a Prospectus, with the third quarter of 2004 as the tentative target period, and
- (ii) The *Ocean Information Technology Pilot Project* be adopted as a component of the work program of the JCOMM/IODE ETDMP and that this joint group take the lead in developing an appropriate model and standard for ocean metadata;

Further noting that JCOMM and GOOS have both adopted a generic description of Pilot Projects, and

Acknowledging that such a definition would be beneficial to the strategic planning of IODE, and that IODE has in the past adopted such terminology,

Recommends that IODE adopt the following as a definition of an IODE Pilot Project: A pilot project is defined as an organized, planned set of activities with focused objectives designed to provide an evaluation of technology, methods, or concepts within a defined schedule and having the overall goal of advancing the development and capacity of IODE.

Recommendation IODE-XVII.6

PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2003-2005

The IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange,

Having reviewed its ongoing and planned programme implementation requirements for the period 2003 through 2005,

Having been informed about the resources allocated to the IODE Programme from the UNESCO Regular Programme for the 2002-2003 biennium and requested for the 2004-2005 biennium,

Being aware of the continuing severe financial constraints faced by UNESCO and its IOC,

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring high-quality oceanographic data and information, products and services for scientific and observation programmes of the Commission, for Member States, private sector and other users,

Noting the new and important role of IODE in JCOMM,

Noting further the close collaboration with GOOS and the ensuing role of IODE in assisting with the management of operational data,

Expressing great appreciation for the offer by the Government of Flanders to host and support the proposed IODE Project Office,

Appreciating the in-kind support for the IODE Programme received from Member States through the establishment and maintenance of the IODE Data Centres, provision of experts and through the services and products made available to the global community,

Appreciating further the financial support received from Member States for the implementation of projects or through the IOC Trust Fund,

Calls on Member States to provide funding to the IOC Trust Fund, or to specific projects, to strengthen the IODE Programme, and to consider the secondment of national experts to the IOC Secretariat (or Project Office) or other appropriate mechanisms for improving the staffing situation in the IOC/IODE Secretariat;

Invites the IOC Executive Secretary to ensure more stable and long-term staffing arrangements for the IODE Secretariat.

ANNEX I to Recommendation IODE-XVII.6

	2003				2004				2005			
	RP	EB req	EB exp	TOTAL	RP	EB req	EB exp	TOTAL	RP	EB req	EB exp	TOTAL
IODE subsidiary bodies												
GE-MIM meeting				0	10 000	5 000		15 000				0
GE-TADE/ETDMP meeting				0	10 000			10 000				0
GE-BCDMEP meeting				0	10 000			10 000	9 000			9 000
SG MEDI meeting				0	10 000			10 000				0
SG OCEANTEACHER meeting	10 000			10 000				0	10 000			10 000
Capacity Building												0
ODINAFRICA			930 000	930 000		20 000		20 000		20 000		20 000
REG TC IOCINDIO (see ODINCINDIO)				0				0				0
REG TC IOCINCWIO (see ODINAFRICA)				0				0				0
REG TC MED (MAMA)			8 000	8 000				0				0
REG TC IOCARIBE (see ODINCARSA)				0				0				0
REG TC S.America (see ODINCARSA)				0				0				0
MIM Travel grants	11 000			11 000	5 000	5 000		10 000	5 000	5 000		10 000
ASFA participation	2 000			2 000	2 000			2 000	2 000			
Regional OceanPortal AFR			53 919	53 919			52 200				30 000	
Regional OceanPortal LAC			28 731	28 731			77 500				52 500	
												0
Products and Services												
OCEANTEACHER			13 000	13 000	5 000	5 000		10 000	5 000	5 000		10 000
MARXML	5 000		10 000	15 000	5 000		10 000	15 000	5 000			5 000
MEDI	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000
OCEANPORTAL	5 000	5 000		10 000	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000
OCEANEXPERT	5 000			5 000	2 000	3 000		5 000	5 000			5 000
BEEBOX		10 000	5 000	15 000	0	10 000		10 000	8 000	2 000		10 000
				0				0				0
Projects				0				0				0
GODAR - WORLD	3 000			3 000	3 000			3 000	3 000			3 000
GTSP	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000

	2003				2004				2005			
	RP	EB req	EB exp	TOTAL	RP	EB req	EB exp	TOTAL	RP	EB req	EB exp	TOTAL
Events												
GODAR QC conference					10 000	10 000		20000				0
France data management conf									10 000	10 000		20000
Hamburg data management conf					10 000	10 000		20000				
Pilot Projects												0
ODINCARSA	40 000	5 000		45 000	10 000	10 000		20 000	10 000	10 000		20 000
GOSUD	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000
OIT	4 000			4 000		35 000		35 000		35 000		35 000
ODINCINDIO planning meeting					10 000	10 000		20 000				
Programme management												0
Staff and Officer travel	10 000			10 000	15 000			15 000	15 000			15 000
Regional Coordinator support				0				0				0
JCOMM cooperation	1 400			1 400	3 000			3 000	3 000			0
IODE REVIEW costs	5 000	5 000		10 000	5 000	15 000		20 000	5 000			
OFFICERS/IODE-17 Session	30 000			30 000				0	30 000			
IODE project office							20 000			20 000		
Public awareness	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000	5 000			5 000
TOTALS	151 400	25 000	1 048 650	1 225 050	150 000	138 000	159 700	447 700	150 000	107 000	82 500	339 500
Available	150 000	0	1 048 650	1 198 650	150 000	0	159 700	309 700	150 000	0	82 500	232 500
Difference	-1 400	-25 000	0	-26 400	0	-138 000	0	-138 000	0	-107 000	0	-107 000
%	-0,9%	100,0%	0,0%	-2,2%	0,0%	100,0%	0,0%	-30,8%	0,0%	100,0%	0,0%	-31,5%

RP: UNESCO regular Programme; **EB req:** Extra-budgetary requested from Member States or other donors; **EB exp:** Extra-budgetary expected (confirmed) from Member States or other donors (includes also funds from cross-cutting themes UNESCO RP).

Notes: A proposal for ODINAFRICA-III will be submitted to donors end of 2003 after drafting by ODINAFRICA Member States. Estimate not available at this time.

ODINCARSA and ODINCINDIO: additional financial resources will be required. The shown budget includes only core/start-up elements.

ANNEX

AGENDA

1. OPENING

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1 ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- 2.2 DESIGNATION OF RAPPORTEUR
- 2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION, TIME TABLE AND DOCUMENTATION
- 2.4 LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

3. STATUS OF IODE

- 3.1 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
- 3.2 ACTIVITIES OF WORLD DATA CENTRES
- 3.3 ACTIVITIES OF RNODCs
- 3.4 REPORTS OF NODCs AND DNAs
- 3.5 NEW DATA CENTRES
- 3.6 REGIONAL COORDINATORS REPORTS
- 3.7 IODE DATA FLOW
- 3.8 IOC OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA EXCHANGE POLICY

4. PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORTS

- 4.1 GROUPS OF EXPERTS
 - 4.1.1 Group of Experts on Biological and Chemical Data Management and Exchange Practices (GEBCDMEP)
 - 4.1.2 Group of Experts on Marine Information Management (GEMIM)
 - 4.1.3 Group of Experts on Technical Aspects of Data Exchange (GETADE)
- 4.2 GLOBAL PROJECTS
 - 4.2.1 Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)
 - 4.2.2 Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue (GODAR)
 - 4.2.3 Global Temperature and Salinity Profile Programme (GTSPP)
 - 4.2.4 Development of a marine XML (marineXML)
 - 4.2.5 Global Ocean Surface Underway Data Pilot Project (GOSUD)
 - 4.2.6 Marine Environmental Data Inventory (MEDI)
 - 4.2.7 Global Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals (OceanExpert)
 - 4.2.8 OceanPortal
 - 4.2.9 OceanTeacher (see also 4.3.2.3)
 - 4.2.10 BeeBox
- 4.3 IODE CAPACITY BUILDING
 - 4.3.1 IODE's regional capacity building programme
 - 4.3.1.1 Ocean Data and Information Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA)**

4.3.1.2 Ocean Data and Information Network for the Caribbean and South America regions (ODINCARSA)

4.3.1.3 Other regions

4.3.2 IODE Training activities

4.3.2.1 National initiatives

4.3.2.2 Regional initiatives

4.3.2.3 OceanTeacher (report on use)

5 IODE PUBLIC AWARENESS

5.1 IODE WEB SITES

5.2 IODE BROCHURES, POSTERS AND PUBLICATIONS

5.3 NATIONAL IODE AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

6 COOPERATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMMES

6.1 COOPERATION WITH GOOS

6.2 COOPERATION WITH JCOMM

6.2.1 Cooperation of IODE in JCOMM Data Management Programme Area

6.2.2 Cooperation of IODE in DMCG, ETDMP and OIT

6.3 COOPERATION WITH SCIENCE AND MONITORING PROGRAMMES

6.4 OTHERS

7 FUTURE OF IODE

7.1 IODE REVIEW (PROGRESS REPORT)

7.2 EVOLUTION OF IODE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

7.3 IOC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

7.4 OCEAN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

7.5 ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IODE PROJECT OFFICE

8 REQUIRED RESOURCES AND PLAN OF ACTION FOR 2003-2005

9 ELECTIONS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE

10 DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

11 ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT

12 CLOSURE OF THE SESSION