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(of UNESCO)

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**IODE Regional Coordinator Report for IOCEA**

(Larry Awosika)

1. **Region:** Central Eastern Atlantic.

2. **Name of IODE Regional Coordinator:**

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4. **Countries covered by IODE Regional Coordinator:**

COUNTRY	ADDRESS AND STATUS OF DATA CENTRE	NATIONAL COORDINATOR
Benin	Comité National Océanographique Centre de Recherches Halieutiques et Océanologiques du Bénin (CRHOB) du Centre Beninois de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique (CNO/CBRST) BP 03-1665. Cotonou Tel : [229] 321263, 32-62-14 Fax : [229] 32 36 71 / 32 62 14 Data centre: yes, NODC	Mr. Roger DJIMAN E-mail: <a href="mailto:r.djiman@odinafrica.net">r.djiman@odinafrica.net</a>
Cameroon	MINREST-IRAD Station de Recherches Halieutiques et Océanographiques. PMB 77 Limbe, Cameroon Tel : [237] 33.20.71 Fax: (237) 33.20.25 /33.23.76	Dr. Jean Folack Senior Research Officer E-mail : <a href="mailto:j.folack@odinafrica.net">j.folack@odinafrica.net</a>

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<b>Gabon</b>	Direction Generale du Droit de la Mer B.P. 408 Libreville, GABON Tel: 241-73 09 59/ 73 12 4 Line direct: 241- 73 09 63 Fax: 241- 74 23 75/ 73 09 63 Data Centre: No	Mr Pierre Maganga E-mail: <a href="mailto:dgdm@internetgabon.com">dgdm@internetgabon.com</a>
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<b>Guinea</b>	Centre de Recherche Scientifique de Conakry - Rogbane (CERESCOR) BP 1615 Conakry Tel: [224] 42 38 38/ 13 40 57 73/ 22 43 60 Fax: [224] 45 18 75 Data Centre: yes, NODC, since 1990	Dr. Sekou Cisse E-mail: <a href="mailto:s.cisse@odinafrica.net">s.cisse@odinafrica.net</a>
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## 5. Activities undertaken during the intersessional period

The regional Coordinator participated in the following regional and International meetings and activities with relevance to IODE:

### (i) ODINAFRICA II

The IODE regional coordinator coordinated with the ODINAFRICA II IOCEA regional coordinator (Dr Cisse Sekou in Conakry), and IOCINWIO regional Coordinator (Dr. Mika Odido in Mombassa) in the implementation of the project.

### (ii) AFRICAN PROCESS (ICAM)

The African Process for the development and protection of the Marine and Coastal environment in Sub Sahara Africa which is an African wide initiative to address five thematic areas namely: coastal erosion, management of key ecosystems and habitats, pollution, sustainable use of living resources and tourism. The Regional Coordinator participated in all working group meetings as well as the Super Prep Com meeting. Projects were developed in the areas of pollution, coastal erosion, and coastal dynamics. A total of 21 projects were presented to donors and partners during the partnership conference held during the WSSD conference in Johannesburg South Africa in August 2002.

### (iii) GOOS AFRICA

The regional coordinator participated in the GOOS AFRICA regional meeting in Mombassa. The project office assisted in the development of GOOS AFRICA projects which formed part of the projects presented at the African process donors conference held in Johannesburg during the WSSD in August. The project office is also assisting in the identification of donors and partners for the GOOS AFRICA projects.

### (iv) GLOSS

The regional coordinator is assisting the identification of donors and partners in the enhancement and upgrading of some GLOSS stations in the IOCEA region. Actions are underway to revitalise GLOSS in the IOCEA region as well as collating new GLOSS data in the region.

### (v) OCEAN PORTAL

The regional coordinator worked in close collaboration with the editor of Ocean Portal for the IOCEA region (Mrs. Regina Folorunsho) in the development of the Ocean Portal

### (vi) JCOMM

The regional coordinator maintained close collaboration with JCOMM especially the working group on capacity building and the development of JCOMM project concept for the IOCEA region.

### Travels

The regional coordinator attended several oceanographic related meetings during the year. Some of these meetings though not funded directly with IODE funds, the regional coordinator took such opportunities to promote communication and collaboration between the region and other international bodies and centres. Such meeting included:

- LOICZ project meeting in Miami in May 2002
- AFRICAN PROCESS working group meetings in Accra, Abidjan and Abuja in February May and June respectively 2002.
- WSSD summit in Johannesburg August 2002
- ODINAFRICA II review and planning meeting in Limbe Cameroon in November 2002.

The regional coordinator maintained regular contact with IOC Secretariat, subsidiary bodies of IOC and the IOCINWIO region.

## **6. Comments**

Communication and cooperation between the different national data centres in the region is still not effective. This is due to the poor telephone and internet facilities in the region. Many data centres lack trained staff. Efforts should be made to train more scientists in the region. Funds should also be provided for data centre staff to attend other regional and international data and exchange workshops and conferences.