

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

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**IODE Regional Coordinator Report for the Eastern Pacific
(El Nino)**

(Ricardo Luis Rojas)

1. **Region:** Eastern Pacific (El Nino)

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

Name: Ricardo Luis Rojas

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3. **IODE regional coordinator designation Date:**

Circular Letter IOC N° IO/av dated august 18,1997.According to Resolution IODE XV.4

4. **Brief History:**

In compliance with the general policy of IOC in implementing its programme activities through regional cooperation, the IOC Committee on IODE at its Fifteenth Session adopted Resolution IODE-XV.4. This resolution appointed IODE regional coordinators for each of the IOC regional programmes with the following terms of references

- Keep IOC Regional Bodies and programmes informed on the IODE data policy and rules of procedures
- Be a link between the IOC regional bodies and the IODE Committee
- Publicize IODE activities
- Help the IODE Committee to implement regional activities in data and information management by providing advice and establishing necessary contacts.

5. **Activities undertaken during the inter-sessional period to fulfill your role as IODE regional coordinator as described in Recommendation IODE-XVI/2**

After IODE XVI General Assembly, Mr. Rojas cooperated with the IODE Technical section by translating into spanish a series of brochures related to IODE activities (IODE, ELIBRARY and GLODIR) . Those brochures are of general public interest.

The most important activity performed by Mr. Rojas after presenting the ODINLAC Initiative Project at IODE XVI, was to perform all the necessary actions and tasks to make the project start as expected. Among the actions:

To make arrangements with the IODE Secretariat to hire Dr. Paul Geerders as a IOC consultant to handle most of the in situ approach to countries of the region, as well as to help Mr. Rojas in the preparation of the draft project itself.

After discussing and presenting the draft project to IOC Secretariat and later to Members States at the IOC Assembly in 2001 the project continued under a new denomination (ODINCARSA).

Finally all the scheduled (letters, consults and questionnaires) were sent to participating countries and the First Planning meeting of ODINCARSA took place at the INOCAR facilities in Guayaquil, Ecuador on October 2001.

Special recognition is forwarded to the Director of the CENDO (Mr. Marfiu Rodriguez) who made all the arrangements at the local level to make ODICARSA a success. During the meeting Mr. Rodney Martinez from INOCAR was elected as the Regional Coordinator for ODINACARSA taking, from then on, all the directives that maintains ODINCARSA in its high level of performance.

Nevertheless, Mr. Rojas has continued cooperating with the project either by his own interest or upon request.

During 2002, Mr. Rojas also replied a request from the Peruvian national IODE coordinator (Mr. Carlos Alvarado) who attended the first ODINCARSA planning meeting. Mr. Alvarado requested some advice in order to reactivate the Peruvian NODC. Some hints was forwarded but not further reply was received.

6. Comments

As a IODE coordinator for the CPPS region, Mr. Rojas has tried for a long time to include a Data Management component in the ERFEN project of the CPPS. The efforts have been made at all levels but not real advance has been achieved on this issue so far. I am sure that a closer collaboration, between the ODINCARSA regional coordinator and the countries of the CPPS regions will make thing happens eventually.

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