IOC Circular Letter No. 2211
(English, French, Spanish, Russian)

To:
IOC Member States
IODC National Co-ordinators for Data Management
IODC National Co-ordinators for Marine Information Management
Directors of WDCs (Oceanography, Marine Geology & Geophysics), NODCs & DNAs

cc:
Chairman of the Committee on IODE
Chairmen of the Subsidiary Bodies of the Committee on IODE
Chairmen of the IOC Scientific & Regional Committees
Co-presidents JCOMM
Chairman of the GOOS Steering Committee
Chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee for GOOS (I-GOOS)
Permanent Delegations/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States

Subject: NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE IOC COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE (IODE-XIX), TRIESTE, ITALY, 12-16 MARCH 2007

I have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in the Nineteenth Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE), to be held from 12 to 16 March 2007 in Trieste, Italy at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) (http://www.ictp.it/).

You are kindly requested to inform us at your earliest convenience on the participation in the above events and forward the names of your representatives. It would be appreciated if delegations would be composed of both experts in data management and experts in marine information management. We will be grateful if you can inform us of the names, contact addresses and e-mail addresses of your representatives so we can easily contact them.

.../...
As IODE Committee Sessions now have a duration of 5 days, it will be essential to focus the work of the Session on vision, strategy and work plan rather than on informing the Committee of past activities. We therefore would like to suggest that reporting on past activities is done well in advance in writing, and that participants study reports and other working documents prior to the Session and prepare their comments for brief constructive discussions at the Session. Accordingly, we would appreciate if Directors of NODCs and DNAs, Directors of WDCs (Oceanography), Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee on IODE, the Chairmen of the IODE Subsidiary Bodies (e.g., Chairs of IODE Groups of Experts, Chairs of Steering Groups,…) submit their intersessional reports to the IODE Secretariat not later than 1 January 2007, in electronic form. (E-mail to p.pissierssens@unesco.org). Guidelines for the submission of the report are available from the IODE web site (IODE-XIX section). We would like to request that reports by Directors of NODCs and DNAs include sections on data management, as well as information management. In this regard we refer to the IODE National Coordinators for Marine Information Management.

All documentation will be made available through the IODE web site. You are kindly invited to download all documentation from the web site. Only a limited number of copies of working documents will be available in printed form at the Session.

In order to further increase efficiency of the Session we would like to invite those Members of the Committee who wish to propose projects, events and other activities to be implemented during the period 2006-2008, to submit concrete proposals to the IODE Secretariat not later than 1 January 2007. The same applies to work plans of Groups of Experts and global, as well as Regional Projects (including ODINs). Work plans and project proposals should have clear objectives, deliverables, timelines and budgets.

We remind NODC Directors that participation in IODE Committee Sessions is part of the national contribution to the IODE programme. The IOC can regrettably not provide financial assistance for participation in IODE Sessions.

With regard to work plans and project proposals we wish to remind you that the total annual revenue from the UNESCO Regular Programme budget for IODE in 2006 will be US$ 75,000 (including costs for IODE-XIX). Funding for most projects and operational activities will therefore need to be sourced largely from extra-budgetary funding.

The Provisional Agenda and Provisional Timetable will be made available shortly (by 20 November 2006) through the IODE web site. Practical information on venue and hotel accommodation will also be made available on the IODE web site. We expect that this Session of the IODE Committee will concentrate on, inter alia: (i) discussion and recommendation regarding the IOC strategic plan for oceanographic data and information management; (ii) implementation of the recommendations of the IODE review; (iii) cooperation with GOOS, JCOMM, GEO, other organizations, programmes and projects related to ocean science, monitoring and observation; (iv) IODE capacity building. It is also expected that the Session will discuss and recommend medium to long-term objectives.

Looking forward to your reply and to a successful Meeting, I remain, yours sincerely,

Patricio Bernal
Executive Secretary IOC
Limited distribution

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

Nineteenth Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data
and Information Exchange (IODE-XIX)

Trieste, Italy, 12-16 March 2007

Provisional Agenda

1. OPENING

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
   2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
   2.2 DESIGNATION OF A RAPPORTEUR
   2.3 SESSION TIME TABLE AND DOCUMENTATION
   2.4 LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

3. STATUS OF IODE
   3.1 CHAIR'S REPORT
   3.2 IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE IODE-18 WORK PLAN
   3.3 REPORT ON INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS OF THE IODE OFFICERS
   3.4 REPORTS OF NODCs AND DNAs
   3.5 REPORT OF THE IODE PROJECT OFFICE
   3.6 ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD DATA CENTRES
   3.7 FOLLOW UP TO THE IODE REVIEW
   3.8 IODE DATA FLOW
   3.9 QUALITY CONTROL/ QUALITY ASSESSMENT

4. STRUCTURAL ISSUES
   4.1 RESTRUCTURING OF THE IOC AND ITS IMPACT ON IODE
   4.2 IMPACT OF THE IODE REVIEW AND FOLLOW-UP
   4.3 ROLE OF NODCs AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

5. COOPERATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMMES
   5.1 COOPERATION WITH GOOS
   5.2 COOPERATION WITH JCOMM
   5.3 COOPERATION WITH WMO
   5.4 COOPERATION WITH GEO/GEOSS
   5.5 COOPERATION WITH IOC SCIENCE AND MONITORING PROGRAMMES
   5.6 COOPERATION WITH IPY
   5.7 OTHERS
6. PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES: PROGRESS REPORTS AND FUTURE PLANNING

6.1 GROUPS OF EXPERTS

6.1.1 IODE Group of Experts on Biological and Chemical Data Management and Exchange Practices (GEBICH)
6.1.2 IODE Group of Experts on Marine Information Management (GEMIM)
6.1.3 JCOMM/IODE Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP)

6.2 PROJECTS

6.2.1 Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)
6.2.2 Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue (GODAR)
6.2.3 Global Temperature and Salinity Profile Programme (GTSPPP)
6.2.4 Global Ocean Surface Underway Data Pilot Project (GOSUD)
6.2.5 Development of marine XML (marineXML)
6.2.6 Marine Environmental Data Inventory (MEDI)
6.2.7 Global Directory of Marine and Freshwater Professionals (OceanExpert)
6.2.8 Development of e-repositories (OceanDocs)
6.2.9 OceanPortal
6.2.10 OceanTeacher (see 6.3.2.2)
6.2.11 SeaDataNet (and related)
6.2.12 SIMORC
6.2.13 Other

6.3 IODE CAPACITY BUILDING

6.3.1 IODE's regional capacity building projects: ODIN
6.3.1.1 Ocean Data and Information Network for Africa (ODINAFRICA)
6.3.1.2 Ocean Data and Information Network for the Caribbean and South America regions (ODINCARSA)
6.3.1.3 Ocean Data and Information Network for the Central Indian Ocean Region (ODINCINDIO)
6.3.1.4 Ocean Data and Information Network for European Countries in Economic Transition (ODINECET)
6.3.1.5 Ocean Data and Information Network for the Western Pacific region (ODIN-WESTPAC)
6.3.1.6 Black Sea Region
6.3.1.7 Pacific Islands
6.3.1.8 Other regions

6.3.2 IODE Training Programme
6.3.2.1 Training activities at the IOC Project Office for IODE
6.3.2.2 OceanTeacher
6.3.3 New requirements in regional capacity building
6.3.4 National data and information management capacity building requirements
6.3.5 IODE capacity building strategy (see also 8.2)

7. IODE PUBLIC AWARENESS

7.1 IODE WEB SITES
7.2 IODE BROCHURES, POSTERS AND PUBLICATIONS
7.3 NATIONAL IODE AWARENESS ACTIVITIES
7.4 OTHER

8. IODE VISION AND STRATEGY

8.1 IOC OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA EXCHANGE POLICY: IMPLEMENTATION BY MEMBER STATES
8.2 IOC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE


10. ELECTIONS OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

11. DATE AND PLACE OF IODE-XX

12. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT

13. CLOSURE