

IRF Convener's report on IRF-3e (18 Oct 2012) to IOGOOS-9

Nick D'Adamo

19 October 2012, Cape Town, South Africa.

General

- Following endorsement by IRF, Dr Gary Meyers handed over the IRF Convener role to Dr Nick D'Adamo, Perth Regional Programme Office in support of UNESCO IOC, (PRPO) effective 1 January 2012.
- Dr Meyers' fundamentally important strategic and tactical support to IRF in his founding role as IRF Convener is warmly acknowledged.
- The Convener position's underpinning resources and support from IOC Perth were impacted as a result of the UNESCO funding crisis of late 2011. That crisis transmitted down to IOC Perth's budget via a significant cut in IOC Secretariat sponsorship to IOC Perth compared to previous annual sponsorships. This situation is likely to continue at least into the immediate short term future.
- IOC Perth's current tenure under the tri-partite agreement between IOC, BoM Australia and the Western Australian Government expires in October 2013. An application for a 5-year renewal (2014-2018) to the Western Australian Government, underpinned by commitments from IOC and BoM, has been submitted. The application is currently being assessed, the results of which may be known by the end of 2012.

Highlighted IRF3 issues for IOGOOS's interest, information, attention:

IndOOS continues to work well and grow significantly. IOP and SIBER leaders will present their status reports to IOGOOS.

Note: interesting update given at IRF-3 on the piracy issue for NW IO based on talks from IOP9 and IRF3. Piracy incidents dramatically reducing and possibilities may be imminent for science to 're-take' the NW IO. Note...2012 piracy incidents at ~15% of 2011 levels.

IRF write a letter of thanks to Dr Gary Meyers, regarding his role as 1st IRF Convener.

IRF will write to IOR-ARC to (i) introduce IRF (and IOP, SIBER and IOGOOS) and its relevancies to IOR-ARC constituents, (ii) outline possible areas of cooperation with / through IOR-ARC with complementary ideas for relevant projects under the IOGOOS framework and (iii) seek dialogue and

development of further strategic linkages between IRF and IOR-ARC during current Indian and future Australian Chairing tenures.

IRF will support (eg an endorsing letter) a proposed capacity building concept paper (by MOFPS Project Leader, Nick D'Adamo, for GEF IW Division) (relating to capacity building and delivery of benefits from IndOOS through modelling for ocean forecasting and process studies) to be prepared and submitted by the Convener to GEF IW Division.

IRF will support the concept of a Western IO Alliance to be led/facilitated by ASCLME. (copy of draft from the IOP9/SIBER3 meetings attached). IOGOOS will consider the same at IOGOOS9.

IRF will continue to try to rationalise overall ship usage for IndOOS – through continued efforts in joint planning etc. IRF3 suggested POGO examined as a useful mechanism to facilitate this objective.

IRF3 requested the Convener prepare a concept structure for a high level review of IndOOS and its related projects (IOP and SIBER) for 2013. Work has begun on draft ToR, timelines, agenda, underpinning source materials needed etc.

The concept of a 50th anniversary effort to repeat the International Indian Ocean Expedition of the early 1960s).

- The concept of IOGOOS championing and facilitating planning for a prospective IIOE-2 the IO community and related ocean observing stakeholders was endorsed.*
- Raleigh Hood (SIBER) and Nick D'Adamo have undertaken some strategic thinking and early planning in this regard.*
- A key to this will be creating an ad hoc 'coordinating committee' (under IOGOOS) and bringing the group together to plan an IIOE-2.*
- This item will be discussed at IOGOOS9.*

end

Copy for IOGOOS9 (contains) suggested changes from IRF-3, 18-10-12

DRAFT JOINT RESOLUTION FROM INDIAN OCEAN PANEL, INDIAN OCEAN
OBSERVING SYSTEM RESOURCES FORUM, IOGOOS AND SIBER

Cape Town, 18th October 2012

The 9th Annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System
The 9th Annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Panel of GOOS/CLIVAR
The 3rd Annual meeting of the Scientific Steering Committee for the Sustained Indian Ocean
Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research of IMBER/IOGOOS
The 3rd Annual Meeting of the Indian Ocean Observing System Resources Forum

The participants to the aforementioned 2012 integrated meetings have noted the advances within the Western Indian Ocean over the last decade in relation to building a better understanding of the Large Marine Ecosystems of this region, the ocean-climate drivers that are the foundation to these ecosystems, their living marine resources, the goods and services that they provide to coastal communities and to the overall socioeconomic welfare of the region, and the challenges that relate to the long-term management and sustainability of those goods and services.

The participants have also noted the progress made by the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems Project in building partnerships to promote the sustainable management and shared governance of WIO ecosystems for present and future generations through the development and endorsement of a Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems.

The Participants recognize the adoption by the 28th Session of the Joint WMO/IOC-UNESCO Data Buoy Cooperation Panel in Fremantle, Australia (26th October 2012) of a recommendation to 'Establish a Western Indian Ocean Science Alliance to be led by the Agulhas-Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME)'.

The Participants therefore recognize the overall need for an Alliance of partners working within the WIO region to commit themselves to cooperating in the monitoring of the Large Marine Ecosystems of this region and to assisting in building better capacity within the institutions of the region to undertake such monitoring.

The Participants further recognize the importance and necessity to translate scientific data and knowledge into management advice and policy guidelines within an ecosystem-based governance mechanism

Within this context, the Participants request the ASCLME Project to undertake the following activities on their behalf and within the context of a Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems:

1. To negotiate and enable a formal Alliance of scientific partners and collaborators working within the region, based on existing bilateral agreements between ASCLME and other parties.

2. To work closely with these partners, with the countries of the region and with the intergovernmental organisations to formulate and adopt a 5-year Ecosystem Monitoring and Science Programme for the region.
3. To identify the specific areas of cooperation and responsibility that each of these Alliance partners can agree to adopt as part of this 5-year Ecosystem Monitoring and Science Programme.
4. To identify the gaps and needs that are highlighted within such an Ecosystem Monitoring and Science programme in relation to such cooperation and responsibility and to further identify existing or new partners that can address these gaps and needs.
5. To develop a 5-year Programme for Capacity Building and Training and to identify potential partnerships within the Alliance to deliver such a Programme at both the national and regional levels.
6. To develop a Science-Based governance mechanism that can translate the results of scientific studies, research and monitoring into reliable management guidelines and policy advice for the countries of the region.

The Participants further request that the ASCLME Project report progress on the above activities to the appropriate coordinating bodies and meetings of IOGOOS, IOP, SIBER and IRF from time-to-time and at formal meetings of these bodies.

Cape Town, 18th October 2012
IRF-3 comments on draft 18 Oct 2012

MM consider text to show facilitate rather than lead.....

end

