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COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL (de la UNESCO)

Séptima reunión intergubernamental de la Subcomisión de la COI para el Pacífico Occidental (WESTPAC-VII)

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah (Malasia),
26–29 de mayo de 2008

RESUMEN DISPOSITIVO

De conformidad con lo dispuesto en el Artículo 48.3 del Reglamento, la Subcomisión de la COI para el Pacífico Occidental (COI/WESTPAC), en su calidad de órgano subsidiario principal de la COI, debe presentar informes de sus reuniones a un órgano rector.

Se invitará al Consejo Ejecutivo de la COI, en su 41ª reunión, a examinar el presente resumen dispositivo.

Para obtener información más detallada sobre esta reunión, sírvase consultar el informe resumido de la séptima reunión intergubernamental de la WESTPAC.

1. Por amable invitación del Gobierno de Malasia, la séptima reunión de la Subcomisión de la COI para el Pacífico Occidental (WESTPAC) se celebró en Kota Kinabalu, Sabah (Malasia), del 26 al 29 de mayo de 2008. Participaron en la reunión ciento siete delegados y representantes de doce Estados Miembros de la WESTPAC y seis organizaciones y programas internacionales y regionales. La República Popular Democrática de Corea, la Federación de Rusia y los Estados Unidos de América asistieron a la reunión tras una prolongada ausencia. Este elevado número de asistentes y la participación activa de las delegaciones en la reunión marcan una etapa decisiva en los esfuerzos realizados por la WESTPAC para hacer avanzar la ejecución del programa de la COI en la región del Pacífico Occidental.

2. **La Subcomisión tomó nota con satisfacción** de los importantes avances realizados por la actual Secretaría de la WESTPAC, dirigida por el Sr. Wenxi Zhu, en un breve periodo de dos años en el que se inició un difícil proceso encaminado a revitalizar y racionalizar el programa de la WESTPAC, crear y poner en marcha nuevos proyectos de colaboración con otros programas regionales, organizar consultas con las partes interesadas para definir la estrategia de la WESTPAC y restaurar la confianza de los Estados Miembros en el futuro de la Subcomisión.

¹ Los anexos se adjuntan solamente en inglés en todas las versiones lingüísticas de este documento.

3. Antes de la reunión, del 21 al 25 de mayo de 2008 se organizó el séptimo Simposio Científico Internacional de la WESTPAC, con el generoso apoyo del Gobierno de Malasia, por conducto de su Dirección General de Oceanografía. Se registró un total de 367 participantes procedentes de 19 países, con 113 presentaciones orales, 120 carteles y 20 puestos de exposiciones presentados por organismos nacionales, ONG, industrias e instituciones de investigación y educación. Ese encuentro fue reconocidamente el más amplio de los simposios de la WESTPAC. A fin de reflejar mejor los Objetivos de alto nivel de la COI y sus preocupaciones regionales, los temas del simposio abarcaban los efectos del cambio climático en el Pacífico Occidental, los procesos costeros y de alta mar en el Pacífico Occidental y su medición, las predicciones y la gestión de datos sobre el medio marino, y la salud de los ecosistemas marinos. El simposio demostró cabalmente su importancia como dispositivo regional que permite intercambiar conocimientos científicos marinos, estimular nuevas ideas e impartir las experiencias y enseñanzas adquiridas en la ejecución de los proyectos de la WESTPAC.

Actividades entre reuniones y estrategias futuras

4. **La Subcomisión hizo suyo** el informe de la Secretaría de la WESTPAC sobre las actividades llevadas a cabo para revitalizar la WESTPAC durante el último periodo entre reuniones, a saber:

- Aumento de la participación de los Estados Miembros y movilización de su apoyo mediante el establecimiento de modalidades de comunicación eficaces y de amplias interacciones: el Gobierno del Japón, por conducto de su Fondo Fiduciario para actividades relativas a las floraciones de algas nocivas, la teledetección y el Sistema Mundial de Observación de los Océanos - Asia Nororiental (NEAR-GOOS); el Gobierno de Tailandia para el suministro de personal, oficinas y servicios a la Secretaría de la Subcomisión; el Gobierno de China mediante la adscripción por un periodo de dos años de un secretario técnico para la Secretaría de la WESTPAC y la planificación estratégica de la Subcomisión, así como las actividades relacionadas con el NEAR-GOOS; el Gobierno de Malasia que acogió la reunión y el séptimo Simposio Científico Internacional de la WESTPAC; el Gobierno de Indonesia que acogerá la próxima reunión en 2010; los Gobiernos de República de Corea y Filipinas que acogerán el próximo Simposio Científico Internacional de la WESTPAC en 2011; la Oficina Regional de Programas de la COI en Perth en apoyo de la elaboración de un plan estratégico del SEA-GOOS; el Organismo mundial de vigilancia planetaria para la reducción del riesgo sísmico (WAPMERR) y la Universidad de las Naciones Unidas (UNU).
- Reestructuración y afinación de las actividades de la WESTPAC mediante la elaboración de procedimientos y el fomento de nuevos proyectos. Los procedimientos para establecer, ejecutar y finalizar proyectos y presentar informes al respecto se ultimaron para ajustarlos a los Objetivos de alto nivel de la COI relativos a los peligros naturales, el cambio climático, la salud de los ecosistemas oceánicos y las políticas de gestión sostenible de los océanos y las zonas costeras, así como la estructura de los proyectos de la WESTPAC (2008–2013): varios Estados Miembros han elaborado proyectos regionales para presentarlos.
- Ejecución del plan de trabajo de la WESTPAC mediante una coordinación más estrecha con los jefes de proyecto. Las dos recomendaciones de la Subcomisión de la COI para el Pacífico Occidental en su sexta reunión se aplicaron íntegra o parcialmente; se realizaron progresos en la ejecución del plan de trabajo aprobado en la sexta reunión, en particular en lo relativo al Programa WESTPAC-HAB, la teledetección, NEAR-GOOS y SEA-GOOS; se finalizó satisfactoriamente el Proyecto Internacional de Arqueología y Recuperación de Datos Oceanográficos en el Pacífico Occidental (GODAR-WESTPAC) y se puso en marcha y se ejecutó parcialmente el proyecto piloto ODINWESTPAC.

- Aumento de las capacidades regionales en ciencias marinas mediante la creación de “Centros Regionales de Formación e Investigación de la COI sobre Oceanografía en el Pacífico Occidental”. Se ultimaron los procedimientos y directrices para la creación de dichos centros que fueron aprobados por el Secretario Ejecutivo de la COI, y el establecimiento del primer centro regional está previsto para finales del año en curso.
- Fortalecimiento de la cooperación regional con otras organizaciones mediante la ejecución de actividades conjuntas. Se firmó un Memorando de Entendimiento entre la WESTPAC y el proyecto relativo al Gran Ecosistema Marino del Mar Amarillo (YSLME) financiado por el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD) y el Fondo del Medio Ambiente Mundial (FMAM), y se están llevando a cabo actividades conjuntas relativas a los algoritmos para la observación del color del océano aplicados en el Mar Amarillo; se firmaron una carta de cooperación y un acuerdo de colaboración con el proyecto PEMSEA financiado por el PNUD y el FMAM; y se organizó en septiembre de 2007 un curso de formación sobre el análisis de datos obtenidos por teledetección en colaboración con el Plan de Acción para el Pacífico Noroccidental (NOWPAP) del Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA).
- Estrechamiento de los vínculos con la Sede de la COI mediante el suministro de asistencia en la realización de las actividades de la Comisión en la región, en particular para la ejecución del proyecto de aprendizaje adaptativo en gestión de desastres naturales para la sensibilización y capacidad de recuperación de las comunidades (ALDCAR), y la organización de varios talleres relativos a los tsunamis.

5. **La Subcomisión valoró** los avances logrados en la ejecución de los proyectos siguientes e instó a que se siguieran desarrollando:

- Floraciones de Algas Nocivas
- Estudio sobre aportaciones atmosféricas
- Teledetección oceánica
- Componente Regional del GOOS para el Asia Nororiental
- Componente Regional del GOOS para el Asia Sudoriental
- Mapa Batimétrico Internacional del Pacífico Occidental
- Proyecto Piloto ODINWESTPAC, comprendido el Proyecto Internacional de Arqueología y Recuperación de Datos Oceanográficos para WESTPAC (GODAR-WESTPAC)

6. **La Subcomisión examinó** la posibilidad de poner término a los siguientes proyectos, debido a las restricciones financieras y/o la falta de actividades:

- Estudios de vigilancia de los efectos biológicos de la contaminación del mar
- Dinámica de los Océanos y el Clima
- Paleocorrientes
- Ecosistemas oceánicos y biodiversidad.

7. **La Subcomisión reconoció** la necesidad de elaborar una estrategia coherente que permita a la WESTPAC de la COI mantener su ventaja en tanto que mecanismo intergubernamental de fomento de la colaboración en ciencias del mar, servicios y aumento de capacidades en la región. En este sentido, **la Subcomisión enumeró** varios planteamientos que cabría examinar:

- La WESTPAC debería no sólo ejecutar el programa mundial en la región, sino también elaborar algunos proyectos de base regional, dirigidos desde la región misma y que correspondan a sus necesidades. Esos proyectos deberían vincularse a los programas de investigación sobre el cambio climático, como el IGBP-SOLAS, los relativos a las amenazas costeras, la reducción de la pobreza, etc.
- Es preciso que la WESTPAC incorpore más elementos científicos a sus proyectos, por ejemplo, la vigilancia de los mecanismos que desencadenan y amplifican los fenómenos peligrosos, y la observación de los cambios en el ecosistema.
- Gracias a los recientes esfuerzos de reforma y revitalización, la WESTPAC se está convirtiendo en una de las entidades regionales emblemáticas en el marco de la COI y debería recibir la atención adecuada en la asignación de recursos del programa de la COI.
- La COI podría ayudar a la región representándola en las reuniones pertinentes de los organismos donantes y las instituciones financieras.

Estrategia y estructura del programa de la WESTPAC (2008–2013)

8. **La Subcomisión aprobó** la Estrategia y estructura del programa de la WESTPAC (2008-2013) (Rec. SC-WESTPAC-VII.4) a fin de: i) dotarla de un marco de referencia para la elaboración, aceptación, continuación y conclusión de proyectos; ii) presentar la estructura y las prioridades estratégicas de sus programas en el contexto de los Objetivos de alto nivel de la COI (2008–2009) y la Estrategia a Plazo Medio para 2008-2013; y iii) establecer el marco de referencia para la preparación de los planes operacionales de la WESTPAC. Esto constituye la aplicación de la recomendación formulada en la quinta reunión de la WESTPAC en 2002 para la racionalización y consolidación del programa y representa también, en parte, la ejecución de la estrategia de revitalización de la WESTPAC (Rec. SC-WESTPAC-VII.4).

9. **La Subcomisión decidió** crear un Grupo Consultivo de la WESTPAC como mecanismo para brindar asesoramiento al Presidente y a la Subcomisión, lo que comprende el examen científico y técnico de las propuestas de proyecto presentadas a la WESTPAC para su aprobación como proyectos de la Subcomisión y las consultas sobre la elaboración, planificación y ejecución de las actividades de la Subcomisión. Esta decisión se adoptó también como una de las medidas encaminadas a revitalizar la Subcomisión mediante la rectificación de las deficiencias actuales, mejorando las comunicaciones e interacciones y dotándolas de un programa completo, de conformidad con los Objetivos de alto nivel de la COI (Rec. SC-WESTPAC-VII.1).

10. **La Subcomisión decidió** reducir el periodo entre reuniones de tres a dos años, con efecto a partir de la clausura de la séptima reunión de la WESTPAC. Además, las reuniones de la WESTPAC se programarán para el primer trimestre del año, de manera que sus decisiones, recomendaciones e informes puedan someterse con suficiente antelación al Consejo Ejecutivo de la COI para su examen y consideración. De este modo se armoniza el ciclo de planificación de la WESTPAC con el de la COI (Rec. SC-WESTPAC-VII.6).

Fomentar las iniciativas regionales

11. **La Subcomisión hizo suyos** los siguientes proyectos de la WESTPAC, posibilitando el inicio de su ejecución como proyectos piloto, e impartiendo al mismo tiempo orientaciones para mejorar su diseño:

- Arrecifes coralinos sometidos a perturbaciones climáticas y de origen humano en el Pacífico Occidental
- Biodiversidad y conservación marina costera en el Pacífico Occidental

- Relación entre las amenazas marinas y el cambio climático en el Pacífico Occidental
- Fortalecimiento de la capacidad de respuesta a los derrames de hidrocarburos y restauración de los ecosistemas marinos en el Pacífico Occidental
- Aporte de sedimentos fluviales al Mar de China Meridional
- Predicción de los peligros marinos en el Pacífico Occidental y atenuación de sus efectos
- Boletín electrónico de la WESTPAC.

12. **La Subcomisión pidió** a su Presidente que solicitara orientaciones al Grupo Intergubernamental de Coordinación del Sistema de Alerta contra los Tsunamis y Atenuación de sus Efectos en el Pacífico (ICG/PTWS) acerca de uno de los proyectos propuestos, el relativo a la creación de un Sistema de alerta contra los tsunamis y atenuación de sus efectos para el Mar de China Meridional, habida cuenta de que el ICG/PTWS es el órgano subsidiario competente, en el marco de la COI, para tratar asuntos como la creación de sistemas de alerta subregionales, mientras que la WESTPAC puede ocuparse del correspondiente aumento de capacidades, por ejemplo la capacitación y la transferencia de tecnología, que son importantes para el establecimiento y el funcionamiento del sistema de alerta. En consecuencia, el proyecto propuesto se modificó y pasó a denominarse Predicción y atenuación de los peligros marinos en el Pacífico Occidental (WESTPAC-MHWM), con hincapié en el aumento de capacidades, etc.

13. **La Subcomisión aprobó asimismo** la iniciativa regional de creación de una red regional UNESCO/COI de centros de formación e investigación en oceanografía en el Pacífico Occidental para facilitar la aplicación de los Principios y Estrategia de la COI para el Aumento de Capacidades (documento IOC/INF-1211), que aprobó la Asamblea de la COI en su 23ª reunión (2005), y subsanar las disparidades de capacidad y potencial de los Estados Miembros (Rec. SC-WESTPAC-VII.3). Por consiguiente, **la Subcomisión aprobó** una recomendación con directrices específicas para la creación y el funcionamiento de la red de centros de formación e investigación participantes. **La Subcomisión encargó además** a su Secretaría que iniciase la ejecución de esta importante iniciativa regional como un proyecto piloto y presentase en la próxima reunión a los Estados Miembros un informe al respecto en el que se especifiquen las medidas adoptadas, los resultados, los obstáculos, las oportunidades y las recomendaciones.

Programa y Presupuesto de la WESTPAC (2008-2010)

14. **La Subcomisión aprobó** el Programa y Presupuesto de la WESTPAC para 2008-2010, que abarcará 12 proyectos de esta Subcomisión, comprendidas las nuevas iniciativas aprobadas durante la reunión, con un presupuesto estimado de 442.000 dólares estadounidenses procedentes de fuentes extrapresupuestarias. Éste no comprende los gastos de personal y administrativos de la Secretaría de la WESTPAC (Rec. SC-WESTPAC-VII.5).

15. **La Subcomisión eligió** por aclamación Presidente, primer Vicepresidente y segundo Vicepresidente a los Dres. Zhang Zhanhai (China), Yasuwo Fukuyo (Japón) y Nor Aieni Binti Hj Mokhtar (Malasia), respectivamente.

16. **La Subcomisión aceptó** la amable propuesta del Gobierno de Indonesia de acoger su octava reunión durante el primer trimestre de 2010, a reserva del visto bueno final de las autoridades competentes. **La Subcomisión encargó además** a su Secretaría que iniciara consultas sobre el lugar y las fechas del próximo simposio en función de las amables propuestas de los Gobiernos de Filipinas y República de Corea.

17. **La Subcomisión expresó** el deseo de que se prolongase el actual impulso de revitalización y reforma, se mantuviese el clima de cordialidad y la relación de trabajo eficaz entre la actual Secretaría de la WESTPAC y los Estados Miembros, y se reforzase el servicio de calidad prestado por la Secretaría de la WESTPAC.

ANNEX I

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING**
- 2. ADMINISTRATION**
 - 2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
 - 2.2 DESIGNATION OF RAPPORTEUR FOR THE SESSION
 - 2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION
- 3. REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
 - 3.1 REPORT ON INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
 - 3.1.1 Report on Intersessional Activities and Budget Overview**
 - 3.1.2 Seventh WESTPAC International Scientific Symposium**
 - 3.1.3 IOC Global Programme Activities**
 - 3.1.4 Operation of IOC Regional Secretariat for WESTPAC**
 - 3.2 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN IOC, UNESCO RELEVANT TO WESTPAC
- 4. REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS FOR MAY 2005–MAY 2008**
 - 4.1 MARINE SCIENCE AND APPLICATIONS
 - WESTPAC-Harmful Algal Bloom
 - Atmospheric Inputs Study
 - Biological Effects Monitoring Studies of Marine Pollution
 - Ocean Dynamics and Climate
 - Paleo-currents
 - Ocean Ecosystem and Biodiversity
 - Ocean Remote Sensing
 - 4.2 OPERATIONAL OBSERVING SYSTEM
 - North East Asian Regional-GOOS (NEAR-GOOS)
 - South East Asia-GOOS (SEAGOOS)
 - 4.3 OCEAN SERVICES
 - International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Pacific (IBCWP)
 - ODINWESTPAC Pilot Project (including GODAR-WESTPAC)
 - 4.4 CAPACITY BUILDING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS
- 5. PROPOSED WESTPAC PROJECT STRUCTURE 2008-2013**
- 6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS**

- 7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**
- 8. WESTPAC WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR 2008-2010**
- 9. OTHER MATTERS**
- 10. ELECTIONS**
- 11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION**
- 12. ADOPTION OF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**
- 13. CLOSURE**

ANNEX II

ADOPTED RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.1

WESTPAC ADVISORY GROUP

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific,

Recognizing that:

- (i) the Sub-Commission has been instrumental in promoting advancements in marine scientific research, raising awareness of marine issues, developing national capacities for marine science and ocean services, and fostering regional cooperation in the Western Pacific region,
- (ii) the visibility of WESTPAC, however, has been negatively impacted by the mismatch between the Sub-Commission's agreed programmes and the resources available, as well as the declining capacity of IOC to support its regional activities through its Regular Budget,

Recalling:

- (i) Resolution XXIV-11 on Enhancing the role of the Commission at the Regional Level,
- (ii) the appeal to Member States to strengthen the regional role of the Commission made by Resolution XXIII-6 (Regional Cooperation in Marine Science and Technology and the Role of Regional Subsidiary Bodies),
- (iii) the conclusions of documents IOC/EC-XXXVII/2 Annex 12, "Concept Paper on the Modalities of Implementation of IOC Programmes in Regions", and subsequently IOC-XXIII/2 Annex 5, "Enhancing the Effectiveness of Regional Cooperation in Marine Science and Technology and the Role of the IOC Regional Subsidiary Bodies",

Noting with appreciation the efforts that have been made to revitalize the Sub-Commission during the past two years by examining and correcting the present deficiencies, improving communications and interactions and ensuing a comprehensive programme following the IOC's High Level Objectives,

Noting further that the member states desire to establish a mechanism for providing advice to the Chairperson and the Sub-Commission, including scientific and technical review of Project Proposals submitted for adoption as WESTPAC Projects and on the development, planning and implementation of the activities of the Sub-Commission,

Decides to establish the WESTPAC Advisory Group with the Terms of Reference as given in the Annex to this Recommendation;

Requests The Member States are asked to nominate experts for the consideration of the Chairperson who, in consultation with Officers, will appoint 5 members to the Group; and provide financial and in-kind support to the work of this Group.

Annex to Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.1

Terms of Reference of the WESTPAC Advisory Group

The WESTPAC Advisory Group, composed of the Officers of the Sub-Commission and up to five additional experts in relevant disciplines of marine science, has the responsibility to provide scientific and technical advice on the development, planning and implementation of the activities of the Sub-Commission.

The WESTPAC Advisory Group will:

- (i) advise the Sub-Commission through the Chairperson on all scientific and technical aspects and other matters identified by the Chairperson;
- (ii) review and assess the development, planning and implementation of the ongoing project and make necessary recommendations to the Sub-Commission accordingly;
- (iii) assist in developing and updating, as appropriate, a Scientific Strategic Plan and accompanying short- to medium-term actions plans and targets for the Sub-Commission;
- (iv) assist in developing WESTPAC programmes to be in line with IOC High-Level Objectives;
- (v) promote the support for the implementation of the Sub-Commission's activities;
- (vi) submit reports to the Sub-Commission through the Chairperson.

The Advisory Group may establish working groups as appropriate.

The Advisory Group shall be comprised scientific and technical experts selected by the officers of the Sub-Commission, taking into account balanced representation of geographical distribution of the member states, and of gender, on the basis of their personal expertise so as to provide a balanced representation of the major scientific and technical disciplines. Experts will serve in their personal capacities, not as Member State representatives. Additional experts may be consulted as needed.

One Vice-Chair of the Sub-Commission will act as the Chairperson of the Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group shall operate during intersessional periods and meet at least once a year. The WESTPAC Secretariat will provide secretariat support for the Advisory Group.

Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.2

WESTPAC INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific,

Recalling its decision of its First Session that a major multi-disciplinary symposium should become a principal intersessional activity of the Sub-Commission;

Having reviewed the output and results of the Seventh IOC/WESTPAC International Scientific Symposium on the Natural Hazards and Changing Marine Environment in the Western Pacific, Sabah, Malaysia, 21–25 May 2008,

Expressing its great appreciation to the Government of Malaysia, through its National Oceanography Directorate, for having hosted it;

Having formulated its work plan for the period 2008–2010,

Bearing in mind the need for presentation and exchange of scientific results in an interdisciplinary forum,

Recognizing the success of the previous symposia,

Notes with appreciation the kind offer of the Philippines and Republic of Korea to host the next Symposium;

Decides that the Eighth IOC/WESTPAC International Scientific Symposium be organized in 2011;

Recommends that regional and global cooperating international organization be invited to support and participate in the Symposium;

Instructs the WESTPAC Secretariat to consult with the designated national focal points from the Philippines and the Republic of Korea and, through the Chairperson, confirm the host, venue, and dates of the next WESTPAC International Scientific Symposium.

Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.3

UNESCO/IOC REGIONAL NETWORK OF TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTRES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific,

Recalling the IOC Principles and Strategy for Capacity Building adopted at the 23rd Session of its Assembly in 2005,

Recognizing the disparity in capacity and capability among the Member States of the region, and high capability of several Member States in marine science, ocean observations and service,

Further recognizing the urgent need to provide high quality training in specialized fields of oceanography in the WESTPAC Region,

Invites member states and regional institutions, including academic institutions, to provide training and capacity building courses in support of the WESTPAC High-Level Objectives and Priority Areas working through the WESTPAC Secretariat to help create a network of training opportunities;

Endorses the UNESCO/IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centres in the Western Pacific as appended to this recommendation;

Invites Member States to nominate and support their national oceanographic institutes willing to participate actively in the above-mentioned Network;

Instructs the WESTPAC Secretariat to begin implementation of the Regional Network of Training and Research Centres in the Western Pacific as a pilot project and to provide Member States with a report during the next Session that describes actions taken, results, obstacles, opportunities, and recommendations;

Requests the IOC Executive Secretary to facilitate the implementation of this regional capacity building activity by encouraging Member States, donors, organizations, and institutions to engage in the Regional Network.

Annex to Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.3

**UNESCO/IOC REGIONAL NETWORK OF TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTRES
IN WESTERN PACIFIC**

1. RATIONALE:

1. The Western Pacific region comprises 20 countries, encompassing roughly 140 degrees from the Andaman Sea part of Thailand to the Pacific coast of the USA and 120 degrees from the southern tip of New Zealand to the northern part of the Bering Sea. It is not only recognized as the center of marine generic richness and diversity in the world, but also considered to play a very important role in the study of climate change.

2. With the explosive population growth, rapid economic development and significant impact of climate change, the Western Pacific is experiencing an unprecedented pressure on its coastal and marine environment and ecosystems.

3. As a regional subsidiary body of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (hereinafter referred to as "WESTPAC") was established in 1989, aiming to promote and enhance the capacity of its member states in understanding and using the ocean sustainably.

4. This initiative for a Framework for a Regional Training and Research Network aims to serve as a prime means of capacity building through provision of training and research opportunities on marine science and service in national oceanographic institutes, universities, within their domains of focus, to all WESTPAC member states. Thus it promotes north-south and south-south cooperation as a strategy to enrich institutions. It also can be considered as a regional activity to follow up with the UNESCO-IOC Principles and Strategy for Capacity-building as endorsed by the 23rd Assembly of the IOC in Resolution XXIII-10, Paris, 21–30 June 2005.

2. WHO CAN JOIN THIS INITIATIVE?

5. National Oceanographic Institutes and Universities in WESTPAC that are recognized as bona fide institutions in marine scientific research and service by the competent national authorities in the respective countries, and are willing to provide regular training and research opportunities to the trainees from all WESTPAC member states on a free-of-charge basis.

6. Proposal for a Regional T&R Network should be endorsed by its National Focal Points and submitted to IOC through the UNESCO-IOC Regional Secretariat for WESTPAC (hereinafter referred to as "WESTPAC Secretariat") by an institution eligible to participate in this initiative.

3. HOW TO JOIN THE INITIATIVE?

7. Interested institutions should prepare and submit, through the WESTPAC Secretariat, to the Executive Secretary of IOC – under the signature of the head or his/her representative of the institution- a detailed project proposal in which objectives, activities, work plan, budget requirement, are clearly stated (see the outline in Annex 1). It is important to note that this initiative is established between UNESCO-IOC and the institution and not with the individual intellectual.

4. PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION:

8. UNESCO-IOC encourages a bi-partite relationship in the preparation of the proposal for a UNESCO-IOC Regional Training and Research Network. The national level team should comprise the institute /university as the responsible institution and the National IOC Focal Points. The proposal should be submitted, through the WESTPAC Secretariat, to the Executive Secretary of IOC by the Institute/University with endorsement letter of its National IOC Focal Point.

9. The annual deadline for submission of proposals is 30 April of each year.

5. ASSESSMENT AND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSAL:

10. Once WESTPAC Secretariat receives the project proposal, a process of review and analysis is undertaken, in cooperation with relevant IOC sectors, UNESCO field office to:

- 1 determine compliance with the guidelines and its relevance to UNESCO-IOC mandate, medium term strategy and its high-level objectives;
- 2 assess the work plan and relevant human and financial resources provided for those training and research opportunities by the institution(s) submitting the proposal;
- 3 assess sustainability of the project giving attention to its ability to mobilize and attract resources.

11. Activities undertaken in the work plan should include:

1. At least one Training Course each year, offering at least 10 seats to trainees from other WESTPAC member states, who are jointly identified by his/her National IOC Focal Points and his/her director or through open advertisement in case that the National IOC Focal Points are unable to identify.
2. At least one regional and international workshops/ seminars or meetings/conferences every two years.

Besides, it is encouraged that the work plan may include:

3. exchange of lecturers
4. visiting professorships
5. postgraduate teaching program
6. study abroad
7. Publications

All activities should complement the relevant IOC and its WESTPAC programmes and actions approved by its Member States. Close cooperation with on-going IOC and its WESTPAC activities and programmes is of utmost importance.

12. When the project proposal has completed its cycle for evaluation, the WESTPAC Secretariat informs the institution of the results. If UNESCO-IOC accepts the proposal, then the relevant Agreement is drawn up and co-signed by the Executive Secretary of IOC and the head or its representative of the host institution.

6. RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THIS INITIATIVE:

13. The host institution should appoint a director responsible for the implementation of this training and research center. The appointment of a director does not necessarily entail the creation of a specific post and does not always constitute an employment opportunity. All appointments will be subject to approval by the host institutions, in consultation with WESTPAC Secretariat.

14. Criteria for the selection of a director: (i) Academic reputation- he or she should be a renown specialist in the domain(s) to be covered (ii) have the capacity and experience to promote cooperation at national, regional and international levels (iii) be willing and able to mobilize resources.

7. HOW DOES THE INITIATIVE FUNCTION?

(i) Role of the Director

15. The performance of the project depends largely on the quality of the coordination function. He or she is responsible for the programming, organization, fund-raising and promotion of training and research activities. Effective coordination will ensure better cross-border involvement in the project and ultimately improve its impact.

(ii) Reports

16. Annual progress reports are mandatory and it is the responsibility of the implementing institution to ensure that IOC receives such reports. They should not only cover the progress with both quantitative and qualitative outcomes of the activities, but also the work plan for next year.

17. The annual deadline for reporting is 10 December of each year. In case of new center, the report should be submitted, through WESTPAC Secretariat, to IOC after the first 12 months of implementation, and every year thereafter.

(iii) Using UNESCO-IOC Logo

18. UNESCO-IOC expects that the Network participants will utilize the UNESCO-IOC logo in a coherent and consistent way, making clear the type of relationship they have with the Organization. The period of use of the Logo is limited to the period of the Agreement and any extension thereafter. All publications, papers and documents should carry the following disclaimer:

19. The authors are responsible for the choice and presentation of views contained in this ... and for opinions expressed therein, which are not necessarily those of UNESCO-IOC and do not commit the Organization.

(iv) Communication

20. UNESCO-IOC Regional Training and Research Network centers should maintain communication with the WESTPAC Secretariat for intellectual guidance, technical support and direct involvement in the planning and execution of events (meetings, conferences, publications, research).

(v) Renewal of Agreements

21. The renewal of Agreements is processed through an exchange of letters between the parties-signatories to them. Whether or not UNESCO-IOC approves the renewal of the Agreement will depend on the assessment of the Network by the UNESCO-IOC WESTPAC Secretariat for WESTPAC. The concerned institution(s) addresses the letter of request to the Executive Secretary of IOC. The Agreement is considered renewed only after receipt by the concerned institution(s) of a letter of confirmation from UNESCO-IOC signed by the Executive Secretary.

(vi) Termination clause

22. When the UNESCO-IOC Training and Research Network Center does not fully comply with the terms of the agreement, UNESCO-IOC will exercise its right to close the Center. Circumstances under which UNESCO-IOC will close the Center are as follows:

- 1) No annual report over two years;
- 2) Annual reports received by UNESCO-IOC are evaluated negatively
- 3) The activities of the Center are not coherent with UNESCO-IOC mandate

23. When UNESCO-IOC has taken a decision to cancel an Agreement, the host institution will receive a letter of notification from the Executive Secretary of IOC informing that closure will take place within sixty days of the written notice. It should be noted that this action does not preclude future cooperation between UNESCO-IOC and the concerned institution(s).

8. EVALUATION AND MONITORING:

24. Quality performance is of paramount importance to this initiative. The intention is for the Centers to become centers of excellence. The first level of evaluation should be the host institutions itself to ensure that the Center is making a difference, particularly in improving capacity in developing country partners. Other forms of evaluation will be organized by UNESCO-IOC with the National Committee for IOC. Evaluation and monitoring can also take the form of consultation meetings, workshops that include partners or visits by UNESCO-IOC staff to the Network Centers.

Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.4

WESTPAC STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME STRUCTURE (2008–2013)

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific,

Recalling:

- (i) Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VI.1 concerning the Reform of Programme and Project Structure
- (ii) The WESTPAC Consultative meeting, hosted by China in Hangzhou, and the correspondence from the Chair of WESTPAC to the Executive Secretary, on WESTPAC Programme reform and restructure

- (iii) The adoption at the 24th Assembly of the IOC of the Medium-term Strategy (2008-2013) and the IOC Biennial Strategy 2008–2009 (IOC Resolution XXIV-2) within which the High-Level Objectives and Expected Results of IOC are elaborated, and
- (iv) The adoption of the IOC Programme and Budget 2008–2009 through Resolution XXIV-15,

Recognizing the urgent need for programme restructuring that ensure efficient and effective implementation and execution of WESTPAC projects, consistent with the High-Level Objectives of IOC,

Further recognizing the need for WESTPAC to be responsible for the governance and rules of procedures of its projects, including requirements for establishment and implementation of projects, and for monitoring and evaluating projects,

Approves the WESTPAC Strategy and Programme Structure (2008–2013) annexed to this recommendation.

Annex to Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.4

WESTPAC STRATEGY AND PROGRAMME STRUCTURE (2008–2013)

Purpose

- To present the strategic priorities and structure of the programmes of IOC/WESTPAC, in the context of IOC High-level Objectives (2008–2009) and Medium-term Strategy (2008–2013);
- To provide a framework for the establishment, acceptance, continuation and termination of projects; and
- To establish the framework for developing the operational plans of IOC/WESTPAC.

Preamble

The world community faces growing challenges arising from climate variability and change, marine environmental degradation and pollution, biodiversity losses, and natural hazards. As a competent body and focal point in ocean affairs within the UN system, IOC needs to respond to these global issues. WESTPAC, as a Subsidiary body of IOC, contributes to the translation of the objectives of the global programmes and ocean services of the Commission into activities that maximize the benefit for Member States, taking into account the regional-specific perspectives and capability and the priorities indicated by WESTPAC Member States. Its work and action truly add value and capacity in line with IOC objectives and WESTPAC member needs.

Toward a Restructured Programme of Work

Regional work programs, be they implemented through Subsidiary Bodies or other means, are a fundamental component of the IOC structure to translate the global programmes and ocean services of the Commission into activities that maximize the benefit for Member States, taking into account the regional-specific perspectives and capability and the priorities indicated by Member States. WESTPAC as a Regional Subsidiary Body of the IOC potentially offers such a component, but only if its work and action truly add value and capacity in line with IOC objectives and WESTPAC member needs.

By Resolution XXIII-6, the IOC Assembly recognized that the role of Regional Subsidiary Bodies must be made more effective and efficient by examining and correcting the present deficiencies, improving communications and interactions and ensuring a comprehensive programme of work following UNESCO's Main Lines of Action and the IOC's High-Level Objectives and lines of action.

Regional Subsidiary Bodies can also play an important role in establishing partnerships and understanding (agreements) with other UN and non-governmental regional bodies who have similar and/or overlapping interests. In the light of present UN reform, it is important that UN bodies are seen to be "acting as one", particularly at the national level.

Work (action) at the regional level takes on many forms:

- Building scientific knowledge and supporting data for
 - Study key scientific issues,
 - ocean and coastal management,
 - decision making and policy formulation, and
 - as contributions to the broader base of oceanographic data and knowledge;
- Increasing national and regional capacities in marine sciences through
 - training,
 - networking among scientists and research institutions, and
 - the mobilization of resources;
- Improving bilateral and multilateral support arrangements and governance; and
- Enhancing communication and awareness building.

The work programme can be organized in a number of different ways including

- (a) Sector/field or regional specific projects. They will be characterized by (among other things)
 - A project plan, with specified objectives, outcomes and measures of performance;
 - An agreed period for the project; and
 - Identified leaders and participants.
- (b) Work that is a contribution to an IOC programme of action. The definition of this work should include
 - Well defined objectives, which may be ongoing;
 - Governance structure (rapporteurs and/or leaders responsible for interaction with IOC programme of action);
 - A schedule of work of work for each inter-sessional period; and
 - A clear identification of the WESTPAC role and responsibility.

The following sub-sections provide more detail on the process by which projects and/or programmes of work are agreed by WESTPAC (a necessary but not always sufficient step for endorsement as part of the wider body of work within IOC), and for review by WESTPAC.

For each of the WESTPAC activities there should be a set of WESTPAC actions, at or at a level lower than the IOC lines of action, which can be endorsed by WESTPAC as part of its Programme and Budget which should also include (i) related performance indicators (deliverables); and (ii) the resource allocation.

The Structure

WESTPAC can only be useful and effective if it adds real value to the work of the Commission. The outputs of the work coordinated through WESTPAC must directly impact the lines of action of IOC and the Main Lines of Action of UNESCO. In many areas this requires coordination and agreement with other bodies of IOC such as IGOOS, JCOMM and IODE and this is explicitly recognized in the revised approach. Such interaction must be mutually supportive and beneficial.

WESTPAC has a distinctive and leading role in coordinating regional capability and developing capacity, though this role is not unique. This role is expressed through projects (region or sector/field specific) and/or identified contributions to global programs.

The new structure attempts to balance the need for integration with the IOC Programme and responsiveness to regional needs and priorities. It is important that the stakeholders of WESTPAC clearly see actions that are relevant and have high impact. In some cases the impact might be uniquely associated with WESTPAC, in others WESTPAC may play a secondary, but still important role.

The development of regional infrastructure to support science, monitoring and assessment, management and decision making, among other purposes, is an important role for WESTPAC. Such infrastructure will usually be longer-lasting and sustainable. Partnerships, be that within IOC, within UNESCO, with other UN bodies, or with non-governmental and/or national agencies is recognized as fundamental to the future of WESTPAC. NEARGOOS and SEAGOOS are two examples of significant contributions to infrastructure development.

It is important that the new Programme structure promotes innovation and initiative, with active review of existing work programmes, and that the sessions of WESTPAC provide an opportunity to discuss gaps and new issues. The adoption of a WESTPAC Science Advisory Group (Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.1) is an important element of this new approach.

The nomenclature used to describe elements of programme structure within IOC is not always clear. Here we use the terms:

1. WESTPAC Programme	This is the plan of work adopted by WESTPAC, either through endorsement by the IOC WESTPAC Sub-Commission or as modified through out-of-session action through the Chairperson.
2. Themes or sub-programmes	It has been common practice to define programme areas in the sub-Commission, but these have led to some confusion with IOC Programmes, particularly when the IOC work areas were being referred to. The new structure will use the terms Theme to describe the output areas of WESTPAC, and Sub-Programme to refer to the input. There will often be a one-to-one match, but this need not be so.
3. WESTPAC High-Level (Strategic) Objectives	These closely align with the IOC medium-term strategic objectives and High-Level Objectives, but also include regional specific aspects.

4. WESTPAC lines of Action	Like the IOC and UNESCO counterparts, these are the high-level actions against which progress and impact for IOC is delivered. They will usually be of a form that allows measurement of impact.
5. Projects/work elements	These are the modalities that WESTPAC chooses to use for organising its work. In some cases they may align directly with a Theme, in other cases a sub-programme area will have a number of projects and/or elements of work. The former will be described in a project plan. The latter may be contributions to a larger programme, but coordinated locally, or networks that are established to coordinate contributions.

WESTPAC High-Level Objectives

In accordance with the High-level Objectives of IOC adopted at the 24th Assembly, WESTPAC Objectives adhere to the direction and priorities set forth in the IOC Biennial Strategy, but recognize the particular interests and priorities of WESTPAC.

WESTPAC contributes to the 4 IOC high-level objectives (HLOs) which are adopted herein as WESTPAC HLOs (WHLOs); WESTPAC will focus its efforts in a number of key areas (denoted as WESTPAC Priority Areas, WPAa).

WHLO 1: Prevention and reduction of the impacts of natural hazards

- a. Promote integrated and sustained monitoring and warning systems for coastal and oceanic natural hazards,
- b. Develop comprehensive scientific research programmes to further understanding mechanisms of ocean natural hazards,
- c. Promote comprehensive assessment of risk from marine natural hazards,
- d. Educate communities at risk with respect to natural-hazard impact prevention, preparedness and mitigation measures through symposia, conferences, workshops, seminars and forums.

WHLO 2: Mitigation of the impacts and adaptation to climate change and variability

- a. Increase the understanding of the ocean's role in climate variability and climate change.
- b. Contribute to the better prediction of climate through ocean observation and process studies, especially development of new generation numerical models and technology, at regional and global scales.
- c. Increase the understanding of the impacts of climate change and variability on marine ecosystems and their living resources.

WHLO 3: Safeguarding the health of ocean ecosystems

- a. Actively contribute to the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects.
- b. Further develop the research and monitoring required for the prevention of marine environment degradation, and the maintenance of biodiversity and the sustainable use of marine habitats.
- c. Identify and develop the capacity-building necessary for maintenance of healthy ocean ecosystems focusing on the regional needs.

WHLO 4: Management procedures and policies leading to the sustainability of coastal and ocean environment and resources

- a. Facilitate science related to ocean and coastal resource management.
- b. Enhance development and implementation of decision-support tools that improve integrated ocean and coastal management.
- c. Provide advice for policy development management on the marine environment.

WHLO 5: Scientific knowledge and innovation

- a. Enhance regional cooperation and involvement of the Member States through capacity-building and capability or competencies in strong scientific knowledge, training, data and information management, technology development and innovations and transfer of technology

Project Framework

Projects established within WESTPAC need to meet the following criteria:

- Have defined objectives, aligned with the WESTPAC High-Level Objectives;
- Have developed a work plan, including resources requirements;
- Have demonstrated scientific quality and expected concrete outcomes;
- Have proposed potential members of the Project Steering Committee and its Terms of Reference, and identify a Project Leader.

WESTPAC Projects may be continued—or terminated—upon the approval of the Sub-Commission.

Establishment

Member States or individual scientists (hereinafter referred to as the “proposer”) should submit new Proposals, through its National IOC Focal Point, to the WESTPAC Secretariat, at least two months prior to the Session of the Sub-Commission. In the case of a new proposal from interested organizations outside WESTPAC, it should be submitted through the Chair of WESTPAC. Upon receipt of the proposal, the Secretariat will make an initial review to ensure that all relevant information has been provided. The proposals will be sent to the WESTPAC Advisory Group for further advice, as appropriate

The Advisory group reviews all proposals and the Chair of the Group will provide a recommendation to the Chair of the Sub-Commission. If necessary, the Chair may communicate with the proposer and relevant National IOC Focal Point for further improvement/strengthening. Revised proposals should be submitted to the Secretariat accordingly at least two weeks before the Session.

The proposer or his/her representative should present the proposal to the session of WESTPAC. The Sub-Commission will consider the proposal and budgetary implications, taking into account the recommendation from the Advisory Group, and, as appropriate adopt the project as part of the work plan of the Sub-Commission.

Implementation and Reporting

A Project Steering Committee should be established to work closely with the WESTPAC Secretariat and to serve as a management and coordination body for the project. The Committee should be set up as soon as possible after the Sub-Commission approves the Project. The Committee, under the chairmanship of the Project Leader, is responsible for the overall implementation.

The Terms of Reference for a Project Steering Committee should include:

- i. identify the long-term needs and goals of the project in the region;
- ii. oversee and ensure efficient coordination of the project and related activities.
- iii. consider sources of funding for activities with various funding agencies;
- iv. seek, on behalf of the Sub-Commission, the cooperation with national and international projects and program, where relevant;
- v. harmonise actions agreed under the Sub-Commission with those of other intergovernmental groups, as appropriate;
- vi. inform both the officers of the Sub-Commission and to his/her National IOC Focal Point of the implementations of the project, at appropriate intervals, identifying these matters requiring their attention and assistance.
- vii. report its implementation and achievement to the Session of the Sub-Commission at least one month prior to the Session

Continuation or termination of a project

All Projects must be reviewed at Sessions of the Sub-Commission and, as appropriate, renewed with specific objectives and expected outputs for the next intersessional period. The Chairperson of the Sub-Commission should request the Advisory Group to provide comment on achievement based on the report from the Project and recommendation on continuation or termination of the Project.

The Advisory Group meets before the Session. The Chairperson of the Group, if necessary, may set up ad hoc working group for assessment of the achievement, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Sub-Commission.

The Sub-Commission makes decision on continuation/termination, taking into account of the report of the Project Leader together with the comment and recommendation from the Advisory Group. The Sub-Commission may terminate a project, if one of the following conditions is observed;

- i. the Project Leader reports the objectives of the project are accomplished; or
- ii. in case of financial problem, Project Leader reports to the Sub-Commission for termination; or
- iii. the Project Leader or his/her representative could not attend the session and no progress report was submitted without any reason, or
- iv. Project Leader did not respond to the request of the WESTPAC Secretariat to report on the progress during intersessional period and few activities were carried out during intersessional period.

In case of termination, the Sub-Commission will inform the Project leaders of its decision, along with a justification, through his/her National IOC Focal Point.

Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.5

WESTPAC PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2008–2010

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific,

Noting the reports of the Technical Secretary for IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific on Intersessional Activities and on the WESTPAC Work plan and Budget, contained in Documents IOC/SC-WESTPAC-VII/5, 6 and 10,

Further noting the presentation of the IOC Programme and Budget 2008–2009, Resolution XXIV-15,

Also noting decisions taken at this Session to revise the WESTPAC Strategy and Programme Structure (2008–2013) to align with the IOC's High-Level Objectives, and

Noting with great appreciation the Royal Thai Government's continued—and critical-- support for the WESTPAC Secretariat,

Decides that the WESTPAC Programme and Budget 2008–2009 shall be aligned with the High-Level Objectives of the WESTPAC Strategy and the priority areas detailed within that Strategy;

Adopts the Draft WESTPAC Programme and Budget 2008–2010 given in the Annex to this Resolution;

Urges Member States:

- (i) To support any WESTPAC programme proposals which are considered at the Executive Council and Assembly,
- (ii) To continue and increase their support to WESTPAC through direct and in-kind contributions to programmes, projects, and the WESTPAC Secretariat;

Calls on the WESTPAC Secretariat to communicate the results of the 41st Executive Council meeting together with an analysis of implications for WESTPAC programmes.

ANNEX to Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.5

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
WESTPAC Harmful Algae Bloom	1. HAB strategic meeting	discussion and decision of its activity plan		During 8th WESTPAC Symposium	US\$3K for room (by leader)	50 from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Establishment of regional network	dissemination of information, announcements, etc.		Intersession	No cost	WESTPAC Member States	
	3. Provision of coordination for the Asia GEOHAB project	Establishment of AsiaGEOHAB		1 day during 3-7 November	US\$20K (IOC)	70 from WESTPAC Member States	
	4. Strategic meeting for TTR project	Capacity building		1 week in each year in 2009 and 2010	US\$20K (IOC) in each meeting	10 from WESTPAC Member States	
	5. HABSEA Portal	Establishment of web site for information dissemination		Intersessional	US\$20K (IOC)	WESTPAC Member States	
	6. Interaction with other Projects	Activation of HAB projects		Intersessional	No cost	WESTPAC Member States	
	7. Harmful Algal Event Data-base	Information dissemination		Intersessional	No cost (through interaction with other organization)	WESTPAC Member States	

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
International Bathymetric Chart of the Western Pacific (IBCWP)	1. The Five Session of the Editorial Board for IBCWP	To discuss and resolve the issue encountered in the implementation of the project	Decisions and suggestions	ASAP	No cost	Members of the EB-IBCWP	
	2. Training Workshop	Technical exchange and learning	Technical training course	ASAP	No cost	Relevant technicians from WESTPAC Member States	
Northeast Asian Global Ocean Observing System (NEAR-GOOS)	1. A workshop on NEAR-GOOS products during the next intersessional period. It will be discussion on the	Collecting and providing more data products and information to the users and to develop more products to improve the NEAR-GOOS services in the future.	Application of NEARGOOS promoted	To be fixed		WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Hold another workshop on the data quality control technology.	Data quality control,	Capacity Enhanced	To be fixed		WESTPAC Member States	
	3. The 2nd training course on ocean remote sensing to be held in October 2008	Improve the capability on Remote Data Analysis	Capacity Enhanced	To be fixed		WESTPAC Member States	
Southeast Asian Global Ocean Observing System (SEAGOOS)	1. The first meeting of Coordination Committee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To let the CC consider on the Operation Guideline and strategic Plan of SEAGOOS Consider the future and the project under SEAGOOS To select Chair for the SEAGOOS	To get start and coordinate the project/activities of the SEAGOOS	February- April 2009, Bangkok	20K (WESTPAC)	25 from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Regional Workshop on Standardization of Tide Gauges and Sea Level Data in Southeast Asia (Real-Time Sea Level Observing System for SEAGOOS Region)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To set up a regional system to exchange observed sea level data To assist some countries in the region to building capacity to observe and transmit sea level data on a real-time basis 	To have the sea level network and high precision of data including data exchange in the region	September 2008 (3 days) Bangkok	US\$15K (WESTPAC)	25 from WESTPAC Member States	

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
	3. The Expert Meeting on development of BLUElink project for Southeast Asian sea	To develop the cooperation of WESTPAC expert with Australia Scientist on using and validation of BLUElink model for the SEA.sea	To get the prediction of SST, SSS, and sea surface currents in Southeast Asian Sea by using BLUElink model	To be fixed	US\$6K (WESTPAC)	4 from WESTPAC Member States	
Ocean Remote Sensing (ORSP)	1. Coastal Habitat Remote Sensing Project	Discussion on strategic design plan of “Coastal Habitat Remote Sensing Project”	Strategic design plan of “Coastal Habitat Remote Sensing Project”	November 2008, Bangkok	US\$1500 (JFiT)	Tentative project leader and nominated members	
	2. NGSST project	To conduct NGSST R&D for the southeast Asian Seas	Southeast Asian NGSST science and technology establishment		None		
	3. Ocean Color Project	YOC-2008 with YSLME and NOWPAP	Improvement of YOC2007 ocean color algorithms		None		
Responses of Marine Hazards to climate change in the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-MaHaz)	1. Deployment of three buoys in the Indian Ocean and South China Sea; 2. One field survey in SCS and/or west Pacific 3. Running of the new generation climate model for 100 years	To quantify the trends of some marine hazards in the context of global climate change	Development of an ocean monitoring system for the Western Pacific ; Prediction report on the trend of Tropical Cyclones	1. Two buoys deployed in 2009 and. one buoy deployed in 2010 2. Tentatively in 2009 3. Tentatively at the end of 2010, Qingdao	US\$4.5M required. No required financial support from WESTPAC. Project leader will coordinate the available funds.	WESTPAC Member States	

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
	4. Model experiments and data analysis	To understand the physical nature of some marine hazards and their responding mechanisms to global change.	Published papers and write brief introduction documents to IOC/WESTPAC for member states sharing	4. Laboratory of all participants during 2008-2010	US\$100K required. Project leader will coordinate the available funds.	WESTPAC Member States	
	5. Refine a kind of circulation model such as POM; 6. Refine a kind of climate model such as CCSM3	To enhance the capacity to predict climate change and the ocean responses.	State-of-the-art wave-tide-circulation coupled model suitable for the Western Pacific region; New generation climate model suitable for the Western Pacific region.	5. tentatively in Qingdao during 2008-2010; 6. tentatively in Qingdao during 2008-2010;	US\$400K required. Project leader will coordinate the available funds.	WESTPAC Member States	
	7. One workshop on MaHaz 8. One training course on new generation numerical models	Capacity building	Knowledge sharing among member states	7. Summer 2009, TBD; 8. Oct. 2010, Qingdao	US\$20K required. Project leader will coordinate the available funds.	WESTPAC Member States	
Coastal Marine Biodiversity and Conservation in the WESTPAC Region	1. 1st Workshop	To understand and provide the scientific basis for marine biodiversity management by articulating the state of the science with respect to current and emerging stressors	Publish book/report on biodiversity and current stressors on marine ecosystems in WESTPAC region	May 2009, Bangkok, Thailand	US\$10K (WESTPAC), US\$5K(CU), US\$5K(DMCR), TBN	WESTPAC Member States	Budget is needed to conduct a workshop and to publish book/report.

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
	2. 2nd Workshop	To establish the effective management plan and monitoring programmes for marine biodiversity among WESTPAC country members	Publish book/report on restoration and rehabilitation of marine ecosystems	February 2010, Bangkok, Thailand	US\$10K (WESTPAC), US\$5K(CU), US\$5K(DMCR), TBN	WESTPAC Member States	Budget is needed to conduct a workshop and to publish book/report.
Enhancing the Capability on Oil Spill Response and Restoration of Marine Ecosystem in the Western Pacific	1. Training course	Raise public awareness and/or build capacity for OSR and the restoration of marine ecosystems	Capability Enhanced	2008	US\$50K	Selected participants from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Training Course	Raise public awareness and/or build capacity for OSR and the restoration of marine ecosystems	Capability Enhanced	2009	US\$50K	Selected participants from WESTPAC Member States	
	3. Training Course	Raise public awareness and/or build capacity for OSR and the restoration of marine ecosystems	Capability Enhanced	2010	US\$50K	Selected participants from WESTPAC Member States	
Fluvial Sediment Supply to the South China Sea: Anthropogenic and Natural Aspects	1. 1st Workshop	Information Gathering	Workshop proceedings	November 2008, Shanghai	US\$10K (WESTPAC), 20K (LTJ)	30 participants from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. 2nd Workshop	Information comparison	Workshop proceedings	November 2009, Ho Chi Minh City	US\$15K (WESTPAC), US\$10K (LTJ), 5K (Others)	30 participants from WESTPAC Member States	
	3. 3rd-Workshop	Discussion and publication	Proceedings, publications, and report	November 2010, Manila	US\$15K (WESTPAC), US\$15K (LTJ), 10K (Others)	50 participants from WESTPAC Member States	

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
Coral Reefs under Climate and Anthropogenic Perturbation (WESTPAC-CorReCAP)	1. Workshop	To form a steering group and review the status of coral reef research and develop the implementation plan	Report on coral reef knowledge in WESTPAC	Spring 2009 (presumably at Shanghai or Hainan in China)	US\$2.5K (WESTPAC), US\$5K or more from national and other funding resources	Participants from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Workshop and Training Course	To promote capacity building through training and scientific presentations	Workshop and training course report and proceedings	Summer 2010 (Place to be determined)	US\$5K (WESTPAC), US\$10K or more from national and other funding resources	Young scientists and lecturers from WESTPAC Member States, plus a few experts from other regions	
	3. Workshop	To summarize the progress of CorReCAP and synthesize the coral reef research and propose new activity for next session term after 2011	Report of CorReCAP and joint publications	Autumn 2011 (Place to be determined)	US\$2.5K (WESTPAC), US\$5K or more from national and other funding resources	Steering Group members	
Marine Hazards Forecasting and Mitigation in the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-MHWM)	1. 1st Workshop	Capacity Building	Workshop proceedings	August 2008, Vietnam	WESTPAC, SOA, TBN	30 from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Training Course Workshop	Capacity Building	Storm surge and tsunami numerical model	October 2009, China	WESTPAC, SOA	30 from WESTPAC Member States	
	3. Conference/3rd-Workshop	Capacity Building	Proceedings	November 2010, Japan	WESTPAC, SOA, TBN	30 from WESTPAC Member States	

Project	Activities				Funding Required	Participation	Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs	Data and place			
IOC/WESTPAC E-Bulletin	1. Meeting of Project Members	To formulate the direction and strategies	Project Policy	June 2008, 2 Days Bangkok	US\$4K for travel and meeting expenses	4 from WESTPAC Member States	
	2. Six E-Bulletins		E-Bulletin	September 2008-May 2010	US\$300 for honoraries	WESTPAC Member States	
	3. Project Meeting and Reporting	To Evaluate the Project and Report to IOC/WESTPAC	Final Report	May 2010	US\$4K for travel and meeting expenses	4 from WESTPAC Member States	

Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-VII.6

**CHANGES TO THE WESTPAC MEETING SCHEDULE
AND DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION**

The IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific,

Bearing in mind the need for a sufficient period of time between sessions of the Sub-Commission to allow a reasonable implementation of its activities,

Recalling the Recommendation SC-WESTPAC-I.3 in 1990 to have a three-year time span between its regular sessions,

Noting, however, that the planning cycle of Sub-Commission is not in line with that of IOC, which approves whole biennium Programme and Budget at the two yearly session of the Assembly with the result that it is impossible to harmonize planning and budgeting with the IOC and UNESCO and that this absence of harmonization harms WESTPAC and compromises prospects for the future,

Further noting that Resolution XXIII-6, adopted at the 23rd Session of IOC Assembly in 2005, instructs the IOC Executive Secretary to schedule the meetings of the Regional Subsidiary Bodies, where possible, to be in phase with the IOC planning cycles,

Also noting the decision of this Session to align the WESTPAC Programme and Budget to the IOC High-Level Objectives,

Decides to reschedule the period between Sessions from three years to two years beginning with the close of WESTPAC VII. Further, WESTPAC Sessions will be scheduled for the first quarter of the year so its decisions, recommendations, and reports can be forwarded to the IOC Executive Secretary in time for review and consideration by the Executive Committee; and,

Accepts with appreciation the offer by the Government of Indonesia to host the Eighth Session in the first quarter of 2010, subject to the final endorsement of the relevant authorities