

IOC Resolution EC-53/1

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (2021–2030)**

The Executive Council,

**Recalling** IOC Assembly [Resolution XXIX-1](#) proposing the establishment of an International (UN) Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and Assembly Resolution XXX-1 on Progress Report on the Preparation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development,

**Noting** the proclamation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) at its 72<sup>nd</sup> session through Resolution [A/RES/72/73](#) (therein the Decade), and the invitation to the IOC to prepare an implementation plan for the Decade in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies, funds, programmes, and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders,

**Further recalling** the invitation made to the IOC by the UNGA through Resolution [A/RES/74/19](#) to:

- (i) continue to provide information on the development of the implementation plan and present it to the UNGA at its 75<sup>th</sup> session,
- (ii) regularly consult with, and report to, Member States on the Decade and its implementation,

**Noting with satisfaction** that the Draft Decade Implementation Plan (DIP) (version 2.0) prepared by the IOC Secretariat with the support of the Executive Planning Group (EPG) was extensively reviewed by IOC Member States, ocean stakeholders and members of UN-Oceans, prior to its submission for consideration by the 75<sup>th</sup> session of the UNGA,

**Further noting** that the UNGA through Resolution [A/RES/75/239](#) welcomed the steps taken by IOC in the preparation of the DIP and took note with appreciation of that Plan (para 304),

**Welcomes** the progress achieved during the intersessional period, and in particular, the outcomes of the global consultation meetings, regional workshops, as well as the engagement activities with UN and non-UN ocean stakeholders, and the launch of the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Actions under the Decade;

**Expresses** confidence in the IOC Secretariat's ability to continue coordinating the Decade during its implementation phase (2021–2030) in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies, funds, programmes, and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders;

**Takes note** of the DIP as the basis for launching the Decade and establishing the governance arrangements and engagement mechanisms described therein;

**Thanks** the members of the EPG for their work in support of the preparation of the DIP in accordance with the terms of reference of the group ([IOC/EC-LI/2 Annex 4](#), Appendix 1);

**Requests** the EPG to serve as Interim Decade Advisory Board on the basis of the Revised Terms of Reference presented in Document IOC/EC-53/4.1Doc(3).rev, until the establishment of the Decade Advisory Board;

**Further requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to:

- (i) disseminate widely to UN and non-UN stakeholders the finalized DIP and its summary;
- (ii) present the draft Terms of Reference of the Decade Advisory Board to the IOC Assembly for its consideration at its 31<sup>st</sup> session;
- (iii) pursue the establishment of Decade arrangements as described in the DIP, in particular the Decade Coordination Unit within the IOC Secretariat;
- (iv) report back on the progress of operationalising the DIP and the endorsement of Decade Actions to the IOC Assembly at its 31<sup>st</sup> session and thereafter to subsequent IOC Governing Bodies sessions;

**Invites** institutional partners to act as Decade Collaborative Centres or Decade Implementing Partners on the basis of the draft guidance provided in Document IOC/EC-53/3.1.Inf(2) and **requests** the IOC Secretariat to report to IOC Governing Bodies on the establishment of such arrangements;

**Further invites** UN-Oceans partners, UN Member States, international scientific and academic organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders to support the Decade, contribute to its implementation by proposing Decade Actions in accordance with the DIP;

**Invites** Member States and partners to:

- (i) provide voluntary financial contributions to support the work of the IOC Secretariat in coordinating the Decade including in-kind support such as staff loans to the IOC Secretariat;
- (ii) offer to host and fund Decade actions and Decade Collaborative Centres as described in the DIP;
- (iii) establish national multi-stakeholder Decade coordination mechanisms with a view to stimulating national activities and international cooperation;

**Thanks** the Governments of Canada, the Republic of Korea, Japan, the Kingdom of Belgium (Government of Flanders), Norway, Sweden, Portugal, the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland, and the People's Republic of China as well as REV-Ocean for their financial contribution to the Decade;

**Further thanks** the Governments of Brazil, Canada, Denmark, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Norway and Mexico as well as the Secretariats of the UN Environment Programme (Nairobi Convention, Mediterranean Action Plan, Caribbean Environment Programme), the European Commission, the Ocean Frontier Institute (Canada), the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), the National Institute of Ocean Technology (India), the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), the Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM), the Danish Centre for Marine Research, the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM), the Research Council of Norway, Arctic Frontiers, the Pacific Community (SPC), the UN Global Compact, the Western

Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Velux Foundations, and the Carlsberg Foundation for their contribution to the organization of regional and global workshops during the preparatory phase of the Decade, as well as Egypt, for offering to host the African kick-off conference of the Decade in 2021 and Germany for offering to host the global kick-off events in 2021 and 2022.