



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

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IOC Circular Letter No 2835
(Available in French, Spanish, Russian)

IOC/VR/KY/AT/pbo
11 March 2021

To : Official National Coordinating Bodies for Liaison with the IOC in States Members
of the IOC

cc. : Officers of the Commission
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
Officers of Major IOC Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical and Regional)

Subject: Proposed arrangements for the 31st Session of the IOC Assembly

In my capacity as IOC Chairperson, I would like to follow up on the decision [EC-53/6](#) adopted by the IOC Executive Council at its 53rd session (3–9 February 2021), requesting that IOC Member States be consulted on the perspective of holding the 31st session of the IOC Assembly around the timeframe originally designated by the Assembly at its 30th session, i.e. over the period from 14 to 25 June 2021, recognizing the uncertainty that the Covid-19 pandemic still poses on the meetings *in praesentia*.

Following the online meeting of the IOC Officers and encouraged by the success of the on-line session of the Executive Council, I would like to invite you to hold the Assembly session online over the above-mentioned period, with one notable exception on one day – the 21st June 2021 - when the elections will be held *in praesentia* at the UNESCO Headquarters in full adherence to the IOC Rules of Procedure.

The draft agenda and preliminary timetable for the session focussing on items requiring decisions from the Assembly are attached herewith for your consideration.

Under the circumstances, the Officers recommend that the Ocean Science Day and IOC Memorial Lectures be exceptionally suspended this year, in order to allow optimal time for discussions and decision-making.

I welcome your comments on this proposal **by 31 March 2021 at the latest**. The Executive Secretary's communications will follow shortly after, along with all the technical guidelines aimed at facilitating your effective and efficient participation.

Chairperson

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I thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ariel Hernan Troisi". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'A' and 'T'.

Ariel Hernan Troisi
Chairperson

Enclosures: (2)

- Draft provisional agenda (IOC/A-31/2.1.Doc)
- Draft provisional timetable (IOC/A-31/2.1.Doc Add)



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

Thirty-first Session of the Assembly
UNESCO, 14–25 June 2021 (online)

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. OPENING

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

2.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF SESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

2.4 INTRODUCTION TO TIMETABLE AND DOCUMENTATION

3. IOC MATTERS AND REPORTS

3.1 STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

3.2 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED
SINCE THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY AND ON BUDGET
IMPLEMENTATION [Rule of Procedure 49.1]

3.3 REPORTS OF THE IOC SUB-COMMISSIONS AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES

3.3.1 IOCAFRICA-VI, 13-16 April 2021

3.3.2 WESTPAC-XIII, 27-29 April 2021

3.3.3 IOCARIBE-XVI, 3-6 May 2021

3.3.4 IOCINDIO-VIII

3.4 REPORTS OF OTHER IOC SUBSIDIARY BODIES

3.4.1 Warning and Mitigation Systems for Ocean Hazards

3.4.1.1 Regional Early Warning Services

3.4.1.2 Global Coordination of Warning and Mitigation Systems for Ocean Hazards

3.4.2 International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange: 26th Session of IODE, 20–23 April 2021

3.4.3 Harmful Algal Blooms: 15th Session of IPHAB, 23–25 March 2021

3.5 PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

3.5.1 Biennial assessment to be conducted by the Working Group on User Requirements and Contributions to GEBCO Products

3.5.2 Global Ocean Observing System Work Plan

3.5.3 Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy

3.5.4 IOC Ocean Literacy Action Plan and Strategy

3.5.5 Adoption of a Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Strategy and Report on the Establishment of the Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board

3.5.6 Status of the Regional Committee of the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO)

3.6 IOC REPORT TO THE 41ST GENERAL CONFERENCE OF UNESCO

3.7 REPORT ON THE DECADE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4. GOVERNANCE, PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING

4.1 DRAFT IOC MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY FOR 2022–2029 (41 C/4)

4.2 DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2022–2025 (41 C/5)

4.3 FOLLOW-UP TO RESOLUTION EC 53-2 ON REVIEW & UPDATE OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE TO ADAPT THEM TO ONLINE MEETINGS AND GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING ON IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

4.4 REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

4.5 ELECTIONS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIV COUNCIL

4.6 32ND SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY AND 55TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

5. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND MODALITIES FOR THE FINALISATION OF THE REPORT

6. CLOSURE



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

(of UNESCO)

Thirty-first Session of the Assembly

UNESCO, 14–25 June 2021 [Online session]

IOC/A-31/2.1Doc Add.

Paris, 2 March 2021

English only

DRAFT PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

🔴 Thursday 10 June (13.00-16.00): Officers Meeting

🟡 Friday 11 June (13.00-16.00): Intersessional Financial Advisory Group meeting

🔴 Deadline for Draft Resolutions: Thursday 10 June at 15.00

CET Time	Monday 14 June	Tuesday 15 June	Wednesday 16 June	Thursday 17 June	Friday 18 June
12.00 – 13.00	54th EC		Committee	Committee	Committee
13.00 – 14.00	1. Opening 2. Organization of the session (2.1–2.2) 3. Arrangements for IOC-31 (3.1) <u>3.2</u> Request for Suppl. Items 4. Dates & places next sessions 5. Adoption of the EC decisions 6. Closure	3. IOC Matters and Reports <u>3.1</u> Statement of the Chair <u>3.2</u> Report of the Executive Secretary (presentation) 4. Governance, Programming and Budgeting <u>4.1-4.2</u> (introduction by ES) <u>4.3</u> (introduction by the Chair of the Financial Committee)	<u>3.2</u> & <u>4.</u> (debate cont'd)	<u>3.3</u> Reports of Regional SUBS 3.3.1 IOCAFRIKA-VI 3.3.2 WESTPAC-XIII 3.3.3 IOCARIBE-XVI 3.3.4 IOCINDIO-VIII	3.4 Reports of other SUBS 3.4.1 Warning & mitigation for ocean hazards 3.4.1.1 Regional services (presentations) 3.4.1.2 Global coordination (presentations)
	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
15.00	31st ASSEMBLY 1. Opening 2. Organization of the Session (2.1 – 2.4)	<u>3.2</u> & <u>4.</u> (debate)	<u>3.6</u> IOC Report to 41 GC	<u>3.3</u> (debate)	3.4.1 (debate)
16.00 – 17.00		Committee*	🔴 Closing date for the nominations for elections (16h00)	Committee*	Committee*

CET Time	Monday 21 June	Tuesday 22 June	Wednesday 23 June	Thursday 24 June	Friday 25 June
12.00 – 13.00		Committee	Committee	Committee	Committee
13.00 – 14.00	4.5 Elections	<u>4.5</u> Elections (results) <u>3.4</u> Reports of other SUBS 3.4.2 IODE-26 3.4.3 IPHAB-15	<u>3.5</u> Programmatic Developments 3.5.3 CD Strategy 3.5.4 Ocean Literacy plan & Strategy	3.5.6 IOCINDIO Status <u>3.7</u> Decade implementation	<u>4.6</u> Next Sessions of IOC Governing Bodies 5. Adoption of Resolutions and Modalities of the Summary Report
		Break	Break	Break	Break
15.00 – 16.00		<u>3.5</u> Programmatic Developments 3.5.1 GEBCO products 3.5.2 GOOS Work Plan	3.5.5 WMO-IOC Collaborative Board Establishment and Strategy <u>4.4</u> Report of the Chair of Financial Committee	6. Closure	
16.00 – 17.00		Committee*	Committee*	Committee*	

* slots reserved for meetings of sessional committees, working groups or others to be scheduled at a later stage