



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 2887**  
(Available in English, French, Spanish)

IOC/VR/HE/FS/pbo  
22 April 2022

**To** : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC

**cc.** : Permanent Delegates/Observers Missions to UNESCO and  
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States  
Chair and Vice-Chairpersons of IOC  
Officers of Major Subsidiary Bodies of IOC

**Subject: Call to nominate members of the IOC Group of Experts  
on Ocean Literacy**

The IOC Group of Experts (GoE) on Ocean Literacy was established by the IOC Assembly at its 31<sup>st</sup> session through Decision A-31/3.5.4. The Group Terms of Reference are given in Annex to this Circular Letter. The Group members for the next four years are expected to be coming from a diverse range of disciplines and their main objective will be to provide guidance on the scoping, implementation and monitoring of the IOC Ocean Literacy portfolio of activities.

By way of this letter, Member States are invited to nominate candidates to the Group. For each candidate, a curriculum vitae and a short paper outlining expert's views on the future of ocean literacy are invited. Selection of Group members will be based on consideration of their expertise in the range of relevant disciplines and will take into account the needs of geographical and gender balance.

Please kindly send applications by email to the IOC Ocean Literacy Programme Specialist, Ms Francesca Santoro ([f.santoro@unesco.org](mailto:f.santoro@unesco.org)). The deadline for submissions is 27 May 2022.

I take this opportunity to thank IOC Member States which are already contributing to the IOC activities in this field. I am grateful for the attention you will give to this call for applications and remain,

Yours sincerely,

*[signed]*

Vladimir Ryabinin  
Executive Secretary

**Enclosure:** Terms of Reference of the IOC Group of Experts on Ocean Literacy (Dec. A-31/3.5.4)

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## **Terms of Reference of the IOC Group of Experts on Ocean Literacy**

(Decision A-31/3.5.4)

- (i) The Group will be composed of 20 experts from diverse and relevant disciplines and interested parties reflecting the multi-stakeholder nature of ocean literacy and taking into consideration geographical and gender balance. Experts will be selected following a call to Member States and partner organizations and suggestions from the IOC Secretariat. The Group of Experts will elect its Chair and Vice-chair;
- (ii) The Group of Experts will provide guidance in the scoping, implementation and monitoring of the IOC Ocean Literacy portfolio of activities, specifically in relation to:
  - a. the definition of good practices in Ocean Literacy based on lessons learned in Member States;
  - b. the development of Ocean Literacy global and regional programmes guided by the IOC Ocean Literacy Plan of Action ([IOC/A-31/3.5.4.Doc](#)) and the Ocean Literacy Framework of Action for the UN Decade of Ocean Science (IOC/INF-1400);
  - c. the coordination of Ocean Literacy networks at global, regional, national and local levels;
  - d. the identification of modalities for the mobilization of financial and in-kind resources to enable the implementation of global and regional Ocean Literacy activities;
  - e. the identification of synergies with relevant UNESCO Sectors, international organizations, academic institutions, NGOs and private sector associations;
  - f. the coordination of Ocean Literacy research activities relevant to the development of tools and methodologies and the assessment of impact of Ocean Literacy initiatives;
- (iii) The Group of Experts will produce regular reports and communications to the Ocean Literacy international community through newsletters, side events, etc.;
- (iv) The Group of Experts will provide guidance on the application and possible evolution of the Ocean Literacy Framework of Action for the UN Decade of Ocean Science in coordination with the Decade Advisory Board and the Decade Coordination Unit;
- (v) The Group of Experts will be established for an initial period of four years and will report to the IOC Assembly at its 33rd session, which will decide on its continuation or termination.