



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

UNESCO – 7 Place de Fontenoy - 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP, France
<http://ioc.unesco.org> - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 03 18
E-mail: v.ryabinin@unesco.org

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(Available in English and French)

IOC/PP/pp
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- To** : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC
- cc.** : Permanent Delegates / Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
Chair and Vice-Chairs of IOC and Major Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical and Regional)

Subject: Nomination of Experts for the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development following IOC Decision A-31/3.5.3

At its 29th Session in 2017, the IOC Assembly established the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development (Decision IOC-XXIX/10.1), primarily to assist the global and regional programmes with the implementation of capacity development (CD) needs assessments, the development of related work plans, mobilization of resources, and provide advice on relevant methods and tools to deliver CD. Referring to the necessary revision of the [IOC Capacity Development Strategy](#) (2015–2021), the validity of which has been extended to 2023, the Assembly, at its 31st Session, revised the terms of reference of the Group as contained in Decision A-31/3.5.3 copied hereafter. The Group is expected to submit the revised IOC Capacity Development Strategy to the Assembly at its 32nd Session (June 2023) for consideration and adoption.

In the wake of the revision of the mandate of the Group by the Assembly and taking into account that the composition of the Group dates back to 2017 (see IOC Circular letter [2680](#)), it is appropriate to renew the membership of the Group. For your reference and information, the list of current members is available at <https://www.oceanexpert.org/group/372>. The newly formed Group of Experts on Capacity Development will elect a chairperson at its first meeting scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2022.

Through this letter, I invite you to nominate suitable experts to serve in the above-mentioned Group. The IOC Secretariat will appreciate receiving nominations not later than 15 October 2022 accompanied by a brief biography highlighting relevant expertise and experience in Capacity Development. Kindly send your nominations and their complete information via email to Mr Peter Pissierssens (p.pissierssens@unesco.org), cc Ms Johanna Diwa (jp.diwa@unesco.org).

Chairperson

Mr Ariel Hernan TROISI
Technical Secretary
Navy Hydrographic Service
Av. Montes de Oca 2124
C1270ABV Buenos Aires
ARGENTINA

Executive Secretary

Dr Vladimir RYABININ
Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission — UNESCO
7 Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP
FRANCE

Vice-Chairpersons

Dr Marie-Alexandrine SICRE
Directrice de Recherche
Centre national de la recherche scientifique
(CNRS)
3 rue Michel Ange
75016 Paris
FRANCE

Dr Alexander FROLOV
Assistant to the President
National Research Center "Kurchatov Institute"
Academika Kurchatova pl., 1
123182 Moscow
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr Frederico Antonio SARAIVA NOGUEIRA
Navy Captain (Ret) Directorate
of Hydrography and Navigation
Rua Barao de Jaceguai S/N
24048-900 Niterói
BRAZIL

Dr Srinivasa Kumar TUMMALA
Director
Indian National Centre for Ocean
Information Services (INCOIS)
Pragathi Nagar (BO), Nizampet (SO)
Hyderabad 500090
INDIA

Dr Karim HILMI
Head of Oceanography Department
Institut National de Recherche
Halieutique (INRH)
02, Boulevard Sidi Abderrahmane
Ain Diab
20180 Casablanca
MOROCCO

National experts are expected to receive support from their national authorities and/or institutes to cover the costs of their mission to attend the Group meeting, which will be held in person if health and travel conditions allow.

Looking forward to your earliest reply and participation in this process, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary

Enclosures: IOC Decision IOC-XXIX/10.1 (2017)
IOC Decision A-31/3.5.3 (2021)

Decision IOC-XXIX/10.1 (2017)

IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development

The Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of Capacity Development as one of the six functions of the IOC Medium-Term Strategy (2014–2021), enabling all Member States to participate in, and benefit from, ocean research and services that are vital to sustainable development and human welfare on the planet,

Recalling the adoption, at its 28th Session, of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (2015–2021),

Welcoming the contributions of its Member States towards capacity development at the global and regional level through financial and in-kind contributions,

Stressing the need to share, across programmes and regions, experience and expertise in capacity development, and to coordinate efforts to increase efficiency and maximize impact,

Establishes the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development with the following terms of reference:

- (i) assist global and regional programmes with the implementation of capacity development needs assessments in a consistent manner;
- (ii) assist global and regional programmes with the development of programmatic and regionally relevant capacity development work plans based on the IOC CD strategy and related needs assessments, building on ongoing activities and making use of existing training and education facilities;
- (iii) assist with the mobilization of financial and in-kind resources to enable the implementation of global and regional capacity development work plans;
- (iv) provide advice to global and regional programmes on relevant methods and tools to improve the quality and impact of CD efforts;
- (v) advise the Assembly on, and start implementation of, the Transfer of Marine Technology Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) as requested by the *IOC Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology* (IOC/INF-1203), making use, to the largest extent possible, of existing data and information systems already available at IOC;

Invites Member States to nominate suitable candidate members for the Group;

Instructs the Group to report to each session of the Assembly;

Decides to allocate resources in the IOC Programme and Budget resolution XXIX-2 to cover a meeting of the group per biennium (\$ 30,000).

IOC Decision A-31/3.5.3 (2021)

Revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy

The Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of Capacity Development as one of the six functions of the IOC Medium-Term Strategy (2014–2021), enabling all Member States to participate in, and benefit from, ocean research and services that are vital to sustainable development and human welfare on the planet,

Recalling [Resolution XXVIII-2](#) by which it adopted the IOC Capacity Development Strategy (2015–2021) at its 28th session,

Having examined the Report of the GE-CD Task Team related to the revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy 2015–2021,

Decides to extend the current IOC Capacity Development Strategy until July 2023,

Decides also to revise the Terms of Reference of the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development as follows:

- (i) assist global and regional programmes with the implementation of capacity development needs assessments in a consistent manner;
- (ii) assist global and regional programmes with the development of programmatic and regionally relevant capacity development work plans based on the IOC CD strategy and related needs assessments, building on ongoing activities and making use of existing training and education facilities;
- (iii) provide advice to global and regional programmes on relevant methods and tools to improve the quality and impact of CD efforts;
- (iv) repeat the CD survey at regular intervals in 2022 and biannually thereafter, possibly including CD implementation impact monitoring/metrics, also taking into account other methods such as regional reviews, science conferences etc.;
- (v) ensure coordination of the work of the Group of Experts and its Task Teams with GOSR and CD aspects of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development;
- (vi) advise the Assembly on the Transfer of Marine Technology Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) as requested by the *IOC Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology (IOC/INF-1203)*, making use, to the largest extent possible, of existing data and information systems and building upon the Ocean InfoHub project (2020–2023);
- (vii) revise the IOC Capacity Development Strategy and prepare a proposal for submission to the IOC Assembly at its 32nd Session;
- (viii) prepare a proposal to promote visibility and reach of the revised IOC CD Strategy so that its target audience will read through and appreciate the document as a guide in implementing capacity development activities for submission and submit it to the IOC Assembly at its 32nd Session;

Calls on IOC's regional subsidiary bodies as well as regional components of global programmes to:

- (i) promote contributions to the CD survey;
- (ii) identify CD efforts of other organizations and seek complementary cooperation;
- (iii) link with other global, regional and national processes and strengthen the relationships with philanthropic, private partnerships and other regional organizations;

Invites Member States to:

- (i) participate actively in the co-development of IOC capacity development by designating focal points for IOC capacity development, and by nominating members of the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development;

- (ii) participate actively in IOC programmes, projects and steering groups;
- (iii) involve universities in IOC surveys on capacity development needs;
- (iv) contribute to IOC capacity development activities through financial and/or in-kind contributions;

Agrees that the regular budget for these activities will be identified as part of the Resolution on Governance, Programming and Budgeting Matters of the Commission (IOC Resolution A-31/2).