



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 2927
(Available in in English and French)

IOC/VR/MO/ic
16 January 2023

To : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC (IOC Member States)

cc. : Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission
Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of Major IOC Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical and Regional)
Partner Organizations in the region

Subject: Seventh Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA-VII), Nairobi, Kenya, 15–17 March 2023

On behalf of Prof. Kouadio Affian, IOCAFRICA Chairperson, I have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in the Seventh Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States, which will be hosted at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, Kenya on 15–17 March 2023.

The session will bring together representatives of IOC Member States and organizations working in the fields of marine science and management of ocean and coastal resources and environment active in the region (IOC national focal persons/institutions, national, regional and international organizations). IOCAFRICA is a facilitator of regional and international cooperation towards the understanding and management of the African oceans and coastal ecosystems. The Sub-Commission aims at building conditions for ensuring sustainable development and safety of coastal populations in the region taking into account priorities expressed by Member States.

At its forthcoming session, Member States will review the implementation status of the current IOCAFRICA-VI workplan for 2021–2023 (Recommendation IOCAFRICA-VI.4). They will deliberate on priorities and activities to be implemented over the period 2023–2025, as well as develop the IOCAFRICA Strategic Plan for 2023–2029 in the context of both the African Union Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015–2025) and the United Nations Decade for Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development (2021–2030).

Member States are expected to propose firm national commitments to the programmes and activities developed under the aegis of the IOC in the region and to ensure that adequate resources and means are available to effectively implement them.

Chairperson

Mr Ariel Hernan TROISI
Technical Secretary
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Av. Montes de Oca 2124
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Executive Secretary

Dr Vladimir RYABININ
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Vice-Chairpersons

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The Secretariat would greatly appreciate receiving confirmation of attendance through communication of the contact detail of your delegation (names, official addresses and designations (i.e., Head of Delegation, Alternate, Representative or Adviser) by 10 February 2023 at the latest (c/o Mr Mika Odido, Head of the Sub-Commission Office, at m.odido@unesco.org, cc: Ms Elena Iasyreva at e.iasyreva@unesco.org), in order to allow preparation of a comprehensive list of participants in advance of the session.

The election of the Officers of the Sub Commission (one Chairperson and three Vice-Chairpersons for a period of two years) will take place during this session. The current IOCAFRICA Officers, elected in 2021 have served for one intersessional period and are eligible for re-election. Relevant information and forms, the lists of geographical groups, and current IOCAFRICA Officers are attached. Candidatures accompanied by a CV must reach the IOCAFRICA secretariat not later than 15 March 2023 at the closure of business of the opening day. In this respect, I would like to encourage consultation and consensus within each geographical group and between geographical groups to take into account gender balance in the bureau of the sub-committee and to allow for election by acclamation.

I would like to take this opportunity of this letter to invite the Member States of the IOCAFRICA to:

- (i) check contact information of their national IOC focal points and coordinating body for liaison with the IOC (name, institutional affiliation and address—including email) available at <https://oceanexpert.org/doclist/78> and send updated information if needed by using the form attached to IOC Circular Letter [2634](#);
- (ii) provide details of their national ocean programmes and plans. This should include an outline of one key issue that IOCAFRICA should address. Common activities will then be collated to form the basis of the IOCAFRICA workplan for 2023–2025, ensuring alignment thereof with national priorities and plans.

The above information should be submitted to Mika Odido by email m.odido@unesco.org, not later than 15 February 2023 to enable the secretariat to collate, translate and circulate summaries before the session.

The Provisional Agenda (document IOCAFRICA-VII/1 Prov.) for the session is annexed to this letter. Further information and documents will be made available online at the meeting website as soon as they are ready (<https://on.unesco.org/iocafrika-7>). The working languages for the session will be English and French. The draft report will be prepared in English only during the session in view of its adoption by the Sub-commission. IOCAFRICA Officers will report on the session to the IOC Assembly at its 32nd session that is taking place next June at UNESCO/IOC Headquarters, Paris.

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary

Enclosures (2): Provisional Agenda for the Seventh session of IOCAFRICA (IOCAFRICA-VII/1 Prov.)
Information on the IOCAFRICA elections 2023 and nomination forms



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

(of UNESCO)

Seventh Session of the IOC Sub Commission for Africa and adjacent Island States

United Nations Office, Nairobi, Kenya, 15–17 March 2023

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME AND OPENING**
- 2. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**
 - 2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
 - 2.2 DESIGNATION OF RAPPORTEUR
 - 2.3 CONDUCT OF THE SESSION
- 3. INTERSESSIONAL REPORTS**
 - 3.1 STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON
 - 3.2 REPORT ON IOCAFRICA ACTIVITIES 2021–2023
 - 3.3 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN UNESCO AND IOC
 - 3.4 OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL OCEAN PROGRAMMES AND PLANS
- 4. DRAFT IOCAFRICA STRATEGIC PLAN 2023–2030**
 - 4.1 REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (2021–2030)
- 5. DEVELOPMENT OF IOCAFRICA WORK PLAN FOR 2023–2025**
 - 5.1 OCEAN OBSERVATIONS AND MONITORING
 - 5.2 OCEAN SCIENCES AND ASSESSMENTS
 - 5.3 OCEAN DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
 - 5.4 CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN MARINE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
- 6. MODALITIES OF IMPLEMENTATION**
 - 6.1 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION
 - 6.2 PARTNERSHIP AND LINKAGES
 - 6.3 PUBLIC AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY
 - 6.4 STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS
 - 6.5 MONITORING AND EVALUATION
- 7. ELECTION OF IOCAFRICA OFFICERS**
- 8. DATES AND PLACES OF THE 8th SESSION OF IOCAFRICA**

9. OTHER BUSSINESS
10. ADOPTION OF THE IOCAFRICA WORKPLAN AND BUDGET FOR 2021–2023
11. ADOPTION OF THE DECISIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY REPORT
12. CLOSURE



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

**ELECTIONS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE IOC SUB COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
AND THE ADJACENT ISLAND STATES**

Nominations

Nominations of individuals to either the post of Chairperson or the posts of Vice-chairpersons shall be submitted by Member States through the officially designated national coordinating body specified for liaison with the Commission (Rule 26.2), namely through the IOC Focal Point in the Member State or the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO.

Nominations shall be submitted in writing using **Form A** (Chairperson) or **Form B** (Vice-chairperson), and **must reach the Nominations Committee not later than 17:30 on 15 March 2023**.

Each nomination shall contain a declaration from the candidate that he/she is prepared to stand for the post for which has been nominated and is willing to take on the obligations that would devolve upon him/her, should he/she be elected.

Each candidate for chairperson must be seconded by two Member States of the IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States, from different electoral groups than that of the nominating Member State. In the case of nominations for Vice-Chairperson, the two seconders should be of the same Electoral Group as that of the nominee's Member State.

Elections

Should voting be necessary, decisions shall be made by a simple majority of the valid votes cast (Technical arrangements 2.20(iv)), by secret ballot.

IOCAFRICA ELECTORAL GROUPS

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C
Angola	Comoros	Algeria
Benin* (Vice Chair)	Djibouti	Cabo Verde
Cameroon	Eritrea	Egypt* (Vice Chair)
Congo	Ethiopia	Gambia
Cote d'Ivoire** (Chair)	Kenya	Guinea-Bissau
DR Congo	Mauritius	Libya
Gabon	Madagascar	Mauritania
Ghana	Mozambique* (Vice Chair)	Morocco
Guinea	Seychelles	Senegal
Namibia	South Africa	Tunisia
Nigeria	Tanzania	
Togo	Somalia	
Sierra Leone	Sudan	

LIST CURRENT IOCAFRICA OFFICERS.

Prof. Kouadio AFFIAN (*Elected 2021, eligible for re-election*)
IOCAFRICA Chair
Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Dr Ir. Zacharie SOHOU (*Elected 2021, eligible for re-election*)
IOCAFRICA Vice Chair Group A
l'Institut de Recherches Halieutiques et Océanologiques du Bénin (IRHOB)
Cotonou Benin

Ms Cândida Sete (*Elected 2021, eligible for re-election*)
IOCAFRICA Vice Chair Group B
Mozambique Oceanographic Institute
Maputo - Mozambique

Dr Suzan M. El-Gharabawy (*Elected 2021, eligible for re-election*)
IOCAFRICA Vice Chair Group C
National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries
Alexandria- Egypt

IOC Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States

Elections

Form A – Chairperson

Name of Member State:

Name of Nominee:

I declare that I am prepared to stand for election to the post of Chairperson of the IOC Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States and, if elected, to take an active part in the work of the Sub Commission.

Signature of the Nominee:

Secunder 1

Secunder 2

Member State of the IOCAFRICA

Name in capitals

Position

Signature

Date sent to the IOC Secretariat Date and time received by the IOC Secretariat

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IOC Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States

Elections

Form B – Vice-chairperson

Name of Member State:

Name of Nominee:

Electoral Group:

I declare that I am prepared to stand for election to the post of Vice-chairperson of the IOC Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States and, if elected, to take an active part in the work of the Sub Commission.

Signature of the Nominee:

Seconder 1¹

Seconder 2*

Member State of the IOCAFRICA

Name in capitals

Position

Signature

Date sent to the IOC Secretariat Date and time received by the IOC Secretariat

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¹ should be of the same Electoral Group as that of the nominee's Member State.