

# 17<sup>th</sup> SESSION IOCARIBE



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Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

Sub-Commission for the Caribbean  
and Adjacent Regions

Subcomisión para el Caribe y  
Regiones Adyacentes

Task Force  
For the Tropical Americas and the Caribbean Region  
IOCARIBE of IOC UNESCO

Item 5.4 IOCARIBE XVII



2021 United Nations Decade  
2030 of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

Bogotá, Colombia  
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## Key Milestones to Date



2021 United Nations Decade  
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- A virtual meeting for the Western Tropical Atlantic (WTA-Ocean Decade) was held on April 28-29, 2020 to establish regional priorities
- A Western Tropical Atlantic Regional Planning Group (WTA RPG) was established in October 2020 for two years to advance and coordinate strategic partnerships and actions
- Established Seven Working Groups and organised Seven Co-design Workshops for the Tropical Americas and the Caribbean (TAC) Region (July – October 2021)
- A TAC Regional Kick-Off Conference in December 2021
- Eight projects for endorsement as Decade Actions were submitted to the Ocean Decade call for Action 02/2021 and seven proposals were endorsed as Decade Actions



In order to build on the above achievements and strengthen the mandate and membership of the RPG, it is now proposed to transform this group into a regional **Task Force to provide strategic advice on implementation of the Ocean Decade in the TAC region.**

# The Role and Membership of the TAC Ocean Decade Task Force

The Decade TAC Task Force is established as a technical advisory body that will provide strategic advice to the Secretariat and Governing Bodies of IOC of UNESCO Subcommission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE).

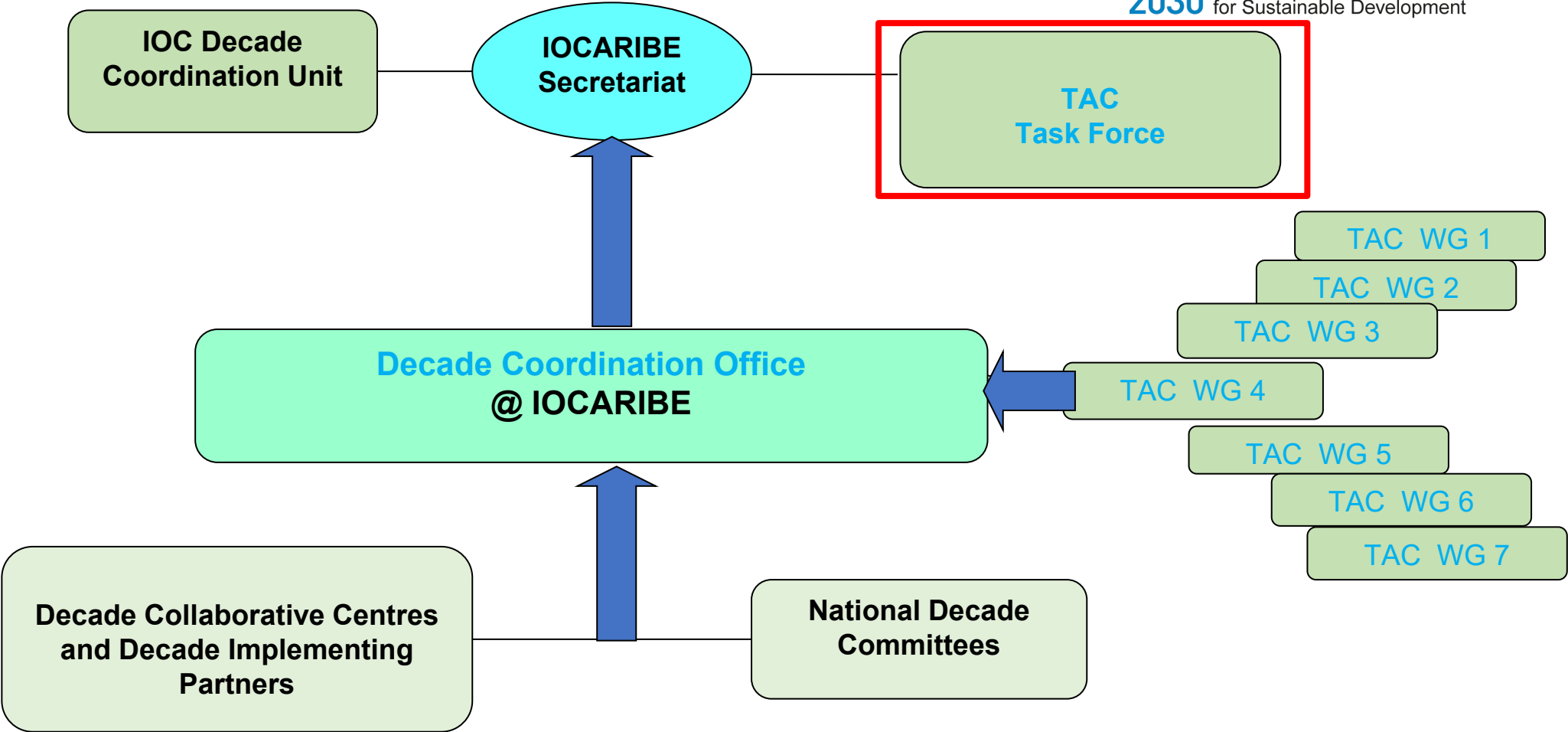
15 expert members that will be nominated by organisations or self-nominated from diverse sectors (government, private sector, philanthropy, civil society, and the scientific community) and selected by IOC Secretariat in consultation with IOC Officers

6 representatives of regional institutions

# TAC Task Force in the DCO Structure



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# The Role of the TAC Ocean Decade Task Force



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- (i) Advise IOCARIBE on the engagement and outreach strategy of the Decade;
- (ii) Provide a strategic vision, direction, and coordination of specific actions to IOCARIBE and to the TAC Working Groups;
- (iii) Facilitate and provide support to the development of co-designed programmes, projects and initiatives for submission in response to Calls for Decade Actions;
- (iv) Support socialization / communication on the Ocean Decade in the TAC Region;
- (v) Identify multisector/multistakeholder engagement and outreach activities to engage further regional stakeholders outside the TAC Task Force and raise awareness of the Decade;
- (vi) Identify opportunities, jointly with TAC Working Groups, for integrated regional programmes, projects, and activities;
- (vii) Provide guidance and support on the mobilization of financial and in-kind resources to support TAC Ocean Actions implementation; and
- (viii) Establish specific / thematic working groups as deemed necessary.



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2030 for Sustainable Development

## GOVERNANCE

The Executive Secretary of IOC/UNESCO will appoint two Co-Chairs amongst the members of the Task Force for a period of one year (12 months) taking into consideration gender and geographical balance in this selection.

IOCARIBE will act as the Secretariat, while the TAC Decade Coordination Office is established, and will provide administrative, technical and editorial support to the TAC Decade Taskforce.



## Meetings of the TAC Decade Task Force



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- The TAC Decade Task Force shall meet four (4) times per year, with at least one (1) in-person meeting annually when possible. Additional in-person or virtual meetings will be held as necessary.
- The Co-chairs of the will be primarily responsible for the development of the TAC Decade Task Force Meeting Agenda and directing the TA Decade Task Force meetings.
- All TAC Decade Task Force Members can recommend agenda items.
- The TAC Decade Task Force may invite the Working Group Leads and external experts as needed to address specific issues or tasks. The decision to invite these external experts would be a decision of the TAC Decade Taskforce.



## Decision-making process and organization of work



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The TAC Decade Task Force shall **operate by consensus**.

English will be the primary working language with accommodations for Spanish and French when staffing / financing permit.

### **Next Steps:**

Finalisation of TORs following 17<sup>th</sup> Session of IOCARIBE

Opening of call for nominations (June & July 2023)

Selection of members (August 2023)

First Taskforce Meeting (September 2023)



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Thank you to all RPG  
members and Working  
Groups!