



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 2960
(Available in English only)

IOC/VR/EH/DCS/FC
14 September 2023

To : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC

C.c. : 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
Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
GRA Council

**Subject: Hosting of the Pacific Islands – Global Ocean Observing System
Regional Alliance (PI-GOOS) Secretariat/Office**

I have the great pleasure to inform you that the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has been selected to host the Pacific Islands – Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Regional Alliance (PI-GOOS) Secretariat/Office.

IOC/GOOS Office received several strong applications in response to the call for Expressions of Interest to host the PI-GOOS Secretariat/Office ([IOC CL-2922](#)), which is an indication of the high level of interest across the Pacific Islands in advancing sustained ocean observations to address ocean management, coastal hazards warnings, and sustainable development for coastal and island communities. The PI-GOOS Regional Alliance will play a vital role in advancing the sustained ocean observing capacity of the region and ensuring that this fit-for-purpose system meets the needs of the Pacific Islands countries and is an integrated part of the global ocean observing system. Following a review process and selection of SPC as the host of the PI-GOOS Office for the PI-GOOS region, the GOOS Steering Committee (SC) accepted this decision in May of 2023.

As a first step, SPC proposes to rejuvenate PI-GOOS by installing a new governance structure composed of regional partners, re-establish the PI-GOOS coordinator role within SPC, and provide secretariat/office support to PI-GOOS. The new PI-GOOS governance will include a steering committee composed of regional organizations' representatives ensuring that PI-GOOS closely collaborates with the Pacific Islands Marine and Ocean Services Panel of the Pacific Meteorological Council, hosted at SPREP, which will increase the collaborative activities of IOC-UNESCO and WMO in the Pacific regions, and provide a venue for PI-GOOS to report to countries.

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SPC intends to take stock on the past years' activity and collate lessons learned. An assessment will also be carried out regarding needs and benefits for sustained ocean observation in the Pacific. SPC will host the PI-GOOS Office in Fiji, with site options still being reviewed and discussed internally to ensure selection of optimal location. Detailed information about new SPC PI-GOOS activities will be shared at next GOOS Regional Alliance (GRA) Council Meeting and other relevant meetings.

Please contact Dr Jérôme Aucan (jeromea@spc.int), Head-Pacific Community Centre for Ocean Sciences (PCCOS), Pacific Community and Mr Denis Chang Seng (d.changseng@unesco.org), the focal point for the GOOS Regional Alliances, with any questions.

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary