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PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ



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Joint IOC-WMO-UNEP Circular Letter No. 2284
(Available in English, French, Spanish and Russian)*

15 December 2008

To: IOC Member States
National I-GOOS Representatives
Permanent Representatives of WMO Members
Focal points for UNEP Regional Seas Programmes

cc: Secretary-General, WMO
Executive Director, UNEP
Executive Director, ICSU
Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, IOC
Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, I-GOOS
Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, GCOS, GTOS, JCOMM, IODE, IOC Scientific and Regional Committees
Permanent Delegations and Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States

Subject: Ninth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP Intergovernmental Committee for the Global Ocean Observing System (I-GOOS-IX), 10 – 12 June 2009, Paris, France

Action required: To submit the name(s) of Representatives by 1 March 2009

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the GOOS sponsoring agencies, I have pleasure in inviting you to be represented at the Ninth Session of the IOC-WMO-UNEP Intergovernmental Committee for GOOS (I-GOOS-IX), to be held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France, from 10 to 12 June 2009, just prior to the Twenty-fifth Session of the IOC Assembly.

* English version is being despatched. Other versions will follow as soon as available.

I remind member states wishing to participate in I-GOOS-IX that they are required to designate an official representative to the meeting. *Member States are requested to inform the secretariat by email followed, no later than 1 March 2009, as well as by a hardcopy letter signed by the relevant national representative to the IOC Assembly or permanent UNESCO delegation. The secretariat contact for all communications regarding designating national representatives to I-GOOS is Thorkild Aarup, t.aarup@unesco.org, with copy to Ho Hien Lam, hh.lam@unesco.org (for local arrangements).*

Documents on the meeting website www.ioc-goos.org/igoos9, including the currently available provisional agenda and timetable, will continue to evolve in response to member state inputs, under the guidance of the chair, until roughly four weeks prior to the I-GOOS-IX meeting. *The secretariat contact for inputs to the meeting agenda and documents is Keith Alverson (k.alverson@unesco.org).* As of 15 May 2009, the meeting documents and website will be considered final. Hardcopies of meeting documents will not be distributed, however the web based agenda and attached documents will be available to delegates over Wi-Fi during the meeting.

National reporting on contributions to GOOS will be based on the reports on national implementation of the global observing systems for climate by the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, available at the link www.ioc-goos.org/igoos9reporting. These reports cover the open-ocean component of GOOS. If you wish to provide additional information on national GOOS implementation or if your nation has not submitted a report to the UNFCCC, please do so by following the suggested UNFCCC reporting guidelines for the ocean observing system (available at the link above) for the open-ocean component of GOOS, and a narrative form for reporting of national implementation towards the Implementation Strategy for the coastal module of GOOS (www.ioc-goos.org/goos-148). *These reports should be submitted to Albert Fischer (a.fischer@unesco.org) by 15 May 2009.*

Finally, I draw your attention to the fact that a Chair and four Vice-Chairs of I-GOOS will need to be elected at I-GOOS-IX. According to the I-GOOS Terms of Reference, as adopted by the IOC Resolution XXIII-5, a Chair and four Vice-Chairs are to be elected and serve for a two-year term, extendable to a maximum of four years. In this context, I remind you that the Chair and two Vice-Chairs from France, China, and the USA have served two terms and are not available for re-election, while the Vice-Chairs from Côte d'Ivoire and Peru are eligible for re-election to a second term. Countries wishing to present candidates to the elections of Chair and Vice-Chairs of I-GOOS are invited to do so. **The candidatures must reach the IOC Secretariat imperatively before Wednesday 10 June 2009 at 05:30 p.m.** *The secretariat contact regarding potential candidatures for elections is Thorkild Aarup (t.aarup@unesco.org).*

I very much encourage strong national engagement in preparations for I-GOOS-IX and to welcoming your delegates to IOC.

Yours faithfully,

[Signed]

Patricio Bernal
Assistant Director-General, UNESCO
Executive Secretary, IOC