

Participants Statement

Western Indian Ocean Regional Focus Group Meeting to help plan the International Indian Ocean Expedition 50th Anniversary Initiative (IIOE-2), Quatre Bornes, Mauritius, 6 and 7 March 2014.

The participants of the IIOE-2 Western Indian Ocean Regional Focus Group Meeting held during 6 & 7 March 2014 at Quatre Bornes in Mauritius, after recognizing the frank and successful work done so far, are pleased to thank the organizers, the sponsors and the host, the Mauritius Prime Minister's Office through the Head of the Office for Ocean Affairs and Development.

We strongly support the establishment of an IIOE-2 for 2015-20, as a unique opportunity for regional collaboration in marine research, training, capacity-building and societal application, in alignment with the Decision of the 27th meeting of the 146 Member States of the Assembly of the IOC of UNESCO in 2013. That Decision called for an IIOE-2 proposal to be addressed at the 47th meeting of the Executive Council of the IOC of UNESCO in 2014.

We reaffirm our commitment to undertake the IIOE-2 under a spirit of mutual cooperation and partnership and we support this important scientific endeavor to enhance our understanding of the Indian Ocean for the betterment of the environment per se and of the human communities that rely on and are influenced by the Ocean.

We urge and will endeavor to work with our own national Governments, relevant institutions and scientific communities to support IIOE-2 through opportunities available to them, including the 47th Meeting of the Executive Council of the IOC of UNESCO.

To this end, we will endeavor to catalyze and harness national coordination in our countries to promote coherent and integrated engagement in the IIOE-2.

We urge prospective stakeholders in IIOE-2 from countries that will bring ocean observing, associated infrastructure, research and related capacities to the Indian Ocean under the IIOE-2, to facilitate the collaborative engagement of those stakeholders that may not be able to engage in that same manner.

This should be realized through facilitation of collegial interactions, collaborative working relationships, and mutual and synergistic engagement in planning exercises, at both strategic and tactical levels, both in advance of the establishment of the IIOE-2 and, thence, under the framework of governance and administration during the IIOE-2.

Statement finalised on 25 March 2014

Participant List

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Participant's name		Country or organisation of origin
Blivi	Adote	Togo; Vice-Chair IOC/UNESCO
Rezah	Badal	Mauritius
Lynnath	Beckley	Australia
Peter	Burkill	SCOR; United Kingdom
Vahid	Chegini	I.R. Iran
Nick	D'Adamo	Meeting Chair; IOC Perth Programme Office
Julius	Francis	WIOMSA
Calvin	Gerry	Seychelles
Ashley	Johnson	South Africa
Johnson	Kazungu	Kenya
Desiderius	Masalu	Tanzania
Yukio	Masumoto	Japan
Fialho	Nahema	Mozambique
Njike	Ngaha	Cameroun
Mika	Odido	Secretariat, IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States
Man Wai	Rabenevanana	Madagascar
M	Ramana	Mauritius
Mike	Roberts	Republic of South Africa
Alakendra	Roychoudhury	Republic of South Africa
Jun	Sun	China
Observers		
Sam Bateman		University of Wollongong, Australia
B. Rajahbalee-Cader)		Mauritius
R. Virasamy		Mauritius
P. Mussai		Mauritius
R. S. Mungra		Mauritius
J. I. Mosaheb		Mauritius
S. Facknath		Mauritius
R. Bhagooli		Mauritius
K. Narrain		Mauritius
M. Singh		Mauritius
R. MoothienPillay		Mauritius
D. Bissessur		Mauritius
S. D. Jowahir		Mauritius
I. I. Ashraf		Mauritius
B. Motah		Mauritius
B. Lalljee		Mauritius
N.Dussooa		Mauritius