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RESOLUTION OF THE SCOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (adopted 29 May 2009)

On the occasion of the Third Open Science Meeting of the Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics (GLOBEC) project, the Executive Committee of the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) notes with great appreciation the successful conclusion of the project. SCOR is pleased to have been a co-sponsor of GLOBEC with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) since 1992 and with the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) since 1995. The results presented at the open science meeting and published in many peer-reviewed articles over the life of GLOBEC demonstrate that GLOBEC has significantly improved our understanding of ocean ecosystems and key species, and how the climate and other factors (including humans) affect marine life.

Many individuals and organizations have been responsible for the great achievements of GLOBEC. The SCOR Executive Committee commends the chairs of the international GLOBEC Scientific Steering Committee (SSC): Brian Rothschild, Roger Harris, Cisco Werner, and Ian Perry, and all the committee members who selflessly volunteered their time and energy to implement the ambitious set of GLOBEC activities internationally. IPO duties were handled on a part-time basis by Elizabeth (Tidmarsh) Gross at the beginning of the project, but it is safe to say that the project did not reach its full potential until a fully staffed international project office, with Manuel Barange as the Executive Officer, was set up in 1999. Dr. Barange has served in an exemplary manner in guiding the day-to-day operations of the project, seeking funding for it, liaising with related organizations and projects, and maintaining continuity of project activities between SSC meetings. He managed the project with great vision, wisdom, and enthusiasm.

The SCOR Executive Committee thanks its sister organizations, IGBP and IOC, for their cooperation in overseeing the project. IGBP's participation in GLOBEC has helped integrate the project's activities and results into broader Earth system understanding. IOC's participation has helped link GLOBEC with the community of users of the research results generated by the project.

Finally, but not least, the SCOR Executive Committee thanks the many financial sponsors of GLOBEC, particularly the U.K. Natural Environment Research Council, the University of Plymouth, and the Plymouth Marine Laboratory for funding and hosting the GLOBEC IPO since 1999. IPOs are vital to the success of the large-scale ocean research projects and their support is a major commitment for a nation to undertake. SCOR also thanks other financial sponsors of international GLOBEC, particularly the U.S. National Science Foundation, for their significant financial support of the GLOBEC SSC and its subcommittees. SCOR thanks the many nations that funded national research and other activities that contributed to the success of the international project. GLOBEC has demonstrated once again that committed scientists and sponsors are vital ingredients to make a large field research project successful.