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Subject: SOLAS support for SCOR Working Group on Dissolved N₂O and CH₄ measurements:
Working towards a global network of ocean time series measurements of N₂O and CH₄

Dear Ed,

With this letter SOLAS expresses strong support for the proposal to establish a SCOR Working Group on Dissolved N₂O and CH₄ measurements, submitted by Hermann Bange, Sam Wilson, and others. The proposal is a response to the need for intercalibration and standardization of protocols for the measurement of oceanic dissolved N₂O and CH₄. This effort will enhance the scientific value of the existing database for these greenhouse gases, and improve the quality of the data going forward. Intercalibration and standardization will improve the utility of the database both for the study of processes controlling the distribution and cycling of these gases and for the detection of future ocean change. This is a frontier issue scientifically and one of the scientific priorities for SOLAS.

The SOLAS IPO, as you know, has limited financial resources with which it must support activities across the full scope of the SOLAS Science Plan. As a result, there are insufficient resources available for SOLAS to fund the proposed activity. SOLAS will support the group to the best of its ability, ensure access to the communications and organizational capabilities of the IPO, and help link the Working Group's activities to other ongoing SOLAS planning activities and scientific meetings. We expect that regular communiqués on the group's activities can be published via the SOLAS Newsletter and e-Bulletin.

The international team assembled for this Working Group is well qualified to carry out its mission and we hope that SCOR will be able to support the proposal. I look forward to this becoming one more area in which SOLAS and SCOR can continue our productive cooperation.

With very best regards,



Eric S. Saltzman
Chair, SOLAS Scientific Steering Committee