

5.0 FUTURE MEETINGS

5.1 SYMPOSIA

The First Announcement has been issued of the Symposium on the Biology of the Indian Ocean with particular reference to the International Indian Ocean Expedition, to be held in Kiel, Federal Republic of Germany, 31 March-6 April 1971. The Symposium is being organized by SCOR and IBP/PM, with the assistance of FAO, UNESCO and IABO. Program arrangements are being made by Dr. Humphrey on behalf of SCOR and Professor Krey on behalf of IBP/PM.

The Executive Committee commended Dr. Humphrey and Professor Krey on the valuable work they had done in putting together this important symposium and agreed to pursue negotiations with FAO and UNESCO on the necessary financial support. The desirability and feasibility of publishing the invited papers should also be explored with the conveners and with UNESCO, FAO, IBP and IABO.

5.2 JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC ASSEMBLY

Since the last Executive Meeting, the Second Announcement has been printed and distributed by SCOR. A Program, listing speakers and the titles of their lectures, is to be issued by the Japanese Organizing Committee in June. FAO, through its Fishery Resources Division, has agreed to assist in the compiling and printing of abstracts of all invited papers in time for distribution at the opening of the Assembly.

The conveners of all symposia have been selected, and the invitation by them of speakers is well in hand. In order to facilitate the compilation of abstracts and programs, and the estimation of required travel expenses, it is essential to obtain promptly from members of the International Steering Committee a complete list of their speakers and topics.

The principal problem facing the organizers of the Tokyo meeting is the shortage of "international" funds. National Committees have been asked to help by supporting from national sources as many participants as possible. The IOC has adopted a resolution endorsing the Assembly and urging member states and international organizations to provide the necessary financial support. Although UNESCO, FAO and WMO have not made an adequate budgetary provision for the Assembly, it is likely that support for several symposia will be forthcoming. The Executive Committee agreed to request ICSU to provide \$2500 to assist the associations in funding their invited speakers.

It was noted that arrangements should be made for the General Session "International Union of Marine Sciences?" scheduled for the afternoon of 22 September. It seemed appropriate for SCOR to take the responsibility for organizing this session, in consultation with other organizations concerned.

5.3 BUSINESS MEETINGS

The 15th Executive Meeting, following the 10th General Session, should be in May 1971. The President was requested to explore possible sites for this meeting and to report to the 10th General Meeting. The 11th General Meeting will be in the United Kingdom, possibly in Oban, in September 1972.

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A number of resolutions dealing with various aspects of ocean affairs were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 24th Session. These are reproduced in Annex IX. A list of future meetings of SCOR and associated organizations is given in Annex X.

Petrology of Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks of the Ocean Floor - Royal Society,
London, 12-14 November 1969

Inland Seas - Upper Mantle Committee, Madrid, 4-6 September 1969

Physical Variability in the North Atlantic - International Council for the Exploration
of the Sea, Dublin, 25-27 September 1969.

JOINT OCEANOGRAPHIC ASSEMBLY

In 1967, IAPSO proposed that consideration be given to forming an International Union of Marine Sciences. One consequence of this proposal was that IAPSO, SCOR, IABO and CMG decided to convene a Joint Oceanographic Assembly in September 1970. The Japan Science Council and the Oceanographic Society of Japan have made it possible for the meeting to be held in Tokyo.

SCOR organized a meeting in Tokyo, 28 March 1969, to discuss organization of the Assembly. A preliminary program was developed, and an International Steering Committee was established. Subsequently, First and Second Announcements were printed and distributed by SCOR. During the IOC VI Session, a resolution (VI-21) was adopted commending plans for the Assembly and urging members and international organizations to provide the necessary financial support.

The Assembly is important to IOC for two reasons. First, after the Second International Oceanographic Congress, it was generally agreed that in the future, such congresses should preferably be organized by nongovernmental scientific bodies, with financial support from inter-governmental ones. Thus, in Resolution VI-21, IOC decided "to consider the Joint Oceanographic Assembly as a desirable approach to the problem of organizing world oceanographic meetings of broad scope, such as the International Oceanographic Congresses in the past".

In the second place, the Assembly will consider the desirability of an International Union of Marine Sciences and of alternative ways of improving the arrangements for marine science within ICSU. These arrangements have a direct bearing on the means whereby scientific advice is provided to IOC. If, as seems likely, the alternative is selected of broadening SCOR to give it greater responsibilities for integrating the activities of the various ICSU bodies concerned with marine science, SCOR will be in a better position to serve as a scientific advisory body to IOC.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Since the initiation of IOC and the major expansion of UNESCO oceanographic activities in 1961, SCOR has devoted an ever increasing portion of its energies and resources to matters directly related to UNESCO or IOC programs. Critics of this practice have suggested that SCOR has, in the process, become a captive of UNESCO/IOC and no longer gives adequate attention to the more general problems of marine science.

It is of course true that the efforts of SCOR are limited by manpower and funds, so that the more attention paid to UNESCO/IOC problems, the less can be given to other matters. On the other hand, there are only certain types of problems that can be effectively tackled by SCOR and its working groups. The present set of problems has been selected for action through the initiative of SCOR National Committees as well as of UNESCO/IOC, and is believed to represent a proper mix of scientific questions, of broad interest to marine scientists as well as of specific interest to UNESCO/IOC. As SCOR develops closer links with other bodies concerned with various aspects of marine science, as envisioned in the proposals for a broadened SCOR, there will be an increased capability to give proper attention to the broad scope of problems of interest to marine scientists.

Until recently, the efforts of SCOR have been principally limited by the availability of scientists willing to participate in working groups and other activities. In 1970, it seems likely that funds will also limit these efforts. The true cost of SCOR's work is not reflected in the budget. For example, sea trials such as those conducted by Working Groups 15 and 21 entail ship operating expenses of the order of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The budget does not show the salaries of participating scientists, contributed by their employers, nor the contributions of national committees or of cooperating organizations, especially UNESCO, to a number of special projects.

Of the sums actually spent by SCOR in 1969, less than one third have been provided by UNESCO, more than 40% have come from national committees, and the rest have been drawn from reserve. Despite the increasing requirements of IOC and the inflationary increases in costs, the amount of the UNESCO contract has remained constant during recent years, and no increase has been provided for 1970.

In 1970, further sea trials by Working Groups 15 and 21, and organization of the Joint Oceanographic Assembly will leave only limited funds for other activities of SCOR. By 1971, it is anticipated that an increased schedule of national contributions will be in effect. It is also hoped that UNESCO will provide a significant increase in the amount of its contract, in recognition of the importance of SCOR's role in the expanding programs of UNESCO and IOC.

ANNEX IX

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY XXIV SESSION RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2560 (XXIV). Marine science

The General Assembly,

Recalling the considerations set forth in its resolution 2172 (XXI) of 6 December 1966,

Having noted with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Marine science and technology: survey and proposals",¹ submitted in response to resolution 2172 (XXI),

Noting also the note by the Secretary-General on the establishment of an intersecretariat committee,² which arose out of the suggestion of the Secretary-General in his report on marine science and technology,

Recognizing the growing awareness of the importance of the oceans to the progress of mankind,

Aware of the need to obtain more information concerning the oceans and their resources,

Recalling the request in its resolution 2414 (XXIII) of 17 December 1968 that the Secretary-General present a comprehensive outline of the scope of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanic exploration and research, of which the international decade of ocean exploration will be an important element, taking into account the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in co-operation with other interested international organizations,

Recalling also the request in its resolution 2467 D (XXIII) of 21 December 1968 that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission intensify its activities in the scientific field, co-operate with the Secretary-General in the preparation of the comprehensive outline, and report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session on progress made in the implementation of that resolution,

Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1470 (XLVII) of 17 November 1969, by which the Council transmitted the comprehensive outline to the General Assembly,

1. Notes with appreciation the comprehensive outline of the scope of a long-term and expanded programme of oceanic exploration and research, of which the international decade of ocean exploration will be an important element, forwarded by the Chairman of the Intergovernmen-