

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

COMMITTEE ON OCEANOGRAPHY  
2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

28 April 1961

FILE	633-425
- 5 MAY 1961	
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Dr. G. F. Humphrey  
President of SCOR  
C. S. I. R. O.  
Division of Fisheries and Oceanography  
Cronulla, New South Wales  
Australia

Dear Dr. Humphrey:

The Committee on Oceanography of the National Academy of Sciences, as the U. S. National Committee to SCOR, wishes to comment on the international exchange of oceanographic data. The exchange of data through World Data Centers A and B has been useful and should be continued; however, in order to ensure that such exchange is both useful and timely, we feel that the question of continuation together with the arrangements for exchange, should be considered periodically by an appropriate international group. We believe that as a general principle all types of oceanographic data should be included in the exchange arrangements.

Agreements to exchange data, since they often involve commitments by governments, are probably best arranged by an international oceanographic organization upon which governments are represented. The new Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO seems an appropriate body to have international responsibility for the development and implementation of data exchange agreements. We recommend that SCOR recognize the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission as having this responsibility. We further urge that SCOR take the necessary action through ICSU in order to implement this recommendation.

Sincerely yours,



Harrison Brown, Chairman  
Committee on Oceanography

HB:p  
cc: D. Bronk  
H. Odishaw

2 MAY 1967

Ref. 033.425  
GPH/CV

The Director,  
Office of Oceanography,  
UNESCO  
PARIS  
FRANCE

Dear Dr Wooster,

On my way back to Australia, I stopped at Scripps and discussed the publication of Indian Ocean data in OOP with Reid, Arthur, and one other whose name I did not catch. They were interested to hear the proposal, but suggested that because the Californian presses were working to capacity and because the data would go to NODC, Washington, it would be better to use IBM print-out facilities (? for subsequent photo-lithography) and have the whole job done by NODC.

It seems, then, that there are technical details to discuss before I can write to national committees and ask for data to be released. I would be grateful if you and the Scripps people could settle the details and then let me know so I can tell the committees what we wish them to do and what the publication procedure might be. Can I pass this on to you, please?

Yours sincerely,



(G.F. HUMPHREY)  
President of SCOR

Copy to Dr R. Revelle, Scripps, La Jolla, Calif.  
Mr J.L. Reid, Scripps.

Ref. 033.425  
GFH/MM

9 MAY 1967

The Chairman,  
Committee on Oceanography,  
2101 Constitution Avenue,  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C. U.S.A.

Dear Dr Brown,

The views on data exchange in your letter of April 28 are the same as my personal ones and I hope that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission will agree to take action in this very important matter.

As you know, the question of data exchange and data-centres has been discussed by scientific societies such as IAFD, by international scientific organizations such as SCOR, and by intergovernmental bodies such as UNESCO and FAO. None of these has been able to develop any action and the IGY examples of data-centres are not acceptable to a sufficiently large majority of workers.

Following your request, I shall now ask our Secretary to prepare a short statement on data-centres and data exchange and to place this statement before UNESCO, requesting that the matter be placed on the agenda for the IOC.

Yours sincerely,

*A*

(G.F. HUMPHREY)  
President of SCOR

Copy to Dr. Bohnecke.

*going with another letter*

✓

UNION GÉODÉSIQUE ET GÉOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE  
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS

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Paris, 4 June 1961

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Dr. G.E. Humphrey  
CSIRO  
Division of Fisheries and Oceanography  
Cronulla - N.S.W.  
Australie

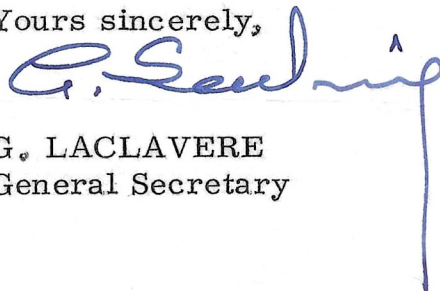
Dear Humphrey,

I have received a letter from Professor Kort (copy enclosed) referring to the decision taken by CIG to revise the Guide to World Data Centres. It was agreed by CIG that the Guides for Oceanography and Rockets and Satellites, which are not in the CIG disciplines, should not be included. Professor Kort who represents SCOR on the CIG has asked me to distribute the enclosed letter. I feel, however, that this is more within the SCOR-IAPO domain than that of CIG. Under the circumstance I should appreciate your comments.

*not enclosed ??*

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,



G. LACLAVÈRE  
General Secretary

March 29, 1961

N 644 océan - 131

Mr. G. Laclavère,  
General Secretary,  
C I G  
140 rue de Grenelle,  
Paris 7<sup>e</sup>  
France

Ent	25 AVR 1961
Dossier no	1109
pièce no	2864

Dear Mr. Laclavère,

Répondu le 26/4

In connection with "Guide" on Oceanography after the IGY and IGC I wish to inform you the following.

I think it possible to accept the rules and regulations of "Guide", compiled during the IGY and IGC, as a basis, as the exchange of data which was carried on according to the demands of this reference book fully satisfied all the countries. I should like to suggest this to all the participating committees of the countries working in the field of oceanography.

Allow me to ask you to send a copy of the enclosed letter to the respective countries through the Secretariate. I would also ask you to attach to this letter an extract from the Guide of the IGY on oceanography. Please send me copies of all remarks and suggestions you will receive from the National Committees for the purpose of preparing the final draft of "Guide" in order to submit it to the CIG.

I shall soon send you a comprehensive list of Soviet sea level stations which will participate in the world network of stations.

Sincerely yours,



Prof. V. Kort  
Reporter on Oceanography,  
CIG

25 AVH 1961  
no 1109  
283

President of National Geophysical Committee

Dear Colleague,

Répondu le 26/4

Now that the IGY and IGC are over, it is necessary to discuss the form and extent of data obtained during the oceanographic expeditions to be sent to the World Data Centres. The experience of the IGY and IGC has shown that the rules and regulations contained in "Guide" satisfied those who work in the field of oceanography. However, there were some criticism on unnecessary extensive treatment of some aspects. Besides it would be advisable to discuss the possibility of including in "Guide" data on primary production and changing the form of presenting data on bottom topography. Probably, the best way of presenting these data would be by means of bottom profiles which have been practised by Soviet and American institutes.

Please, send me as soon as possible your opinion on the contents of the oceanographic section in "Guide" and also send to the General Secretary a comprehensive list of sea level stations.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Guide of the IGY on oceanography.

Sincerely yours,



Prof. V. Kort  
Reporter on Oceanography,  
CIG

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

COMMITTEE ON OCEANOGRAPHY  
2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

June 8, 1961

FILE	033-425
	19 JUN 1961
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Dr. G. F. Humphrey  
C/-C.S.I.R.O. Marine Laboratory  
P. O. Box 21 Cronulla  
N.S.W., Australia

Dear Dr. Humphrey:

Thank you for your letter of 9 May concerning international data exchange agreements. We are pleased to learn that you agree the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission should be the responsible organization in arranging for such agreements and to know that SCOR will ask UNESCO to take appropriate steps to place this item on the agenda for the forthcoming IOC meeting.

Since SCOR advises both UNESCO and ICSU, perhaps a similar note should also be sent to ICSU asking their concurrence. Thus, if ICSU agrees with SCOR's recommendation on this matter, ICSU could also urge UNESCO to use the good offices of the IOC to develop such exchange agreements.

Sincerely yours,



Harrison Brown  
Chairman  
Committee on Oceanography

HB:h

COPY : Dr Bohnecke

Ref. 033.425  
GFH/MM

22 JUN 1967

The Chairman,  
Committee on Oceanography,  
2101 Constitution Avenue,  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C. U.S.A.

Dear Dr Brown,

I was glad to receive the comments in your letter of June 8 on my proposal of May 9 for dealing with the data exchange agreements by referring the whole question to the IOC.

I think that UNESCO will act simply at SCOR's request without ICSU having to write also. However, I shall refer this question to our Secretary, Dr Bohnecke, so that he can get ICSU support if he thinks necessary.

Yours sincerely,

A

(G.F. HUMPHREY)  
President of SCOR

Added to Dr Bohnecke's copy -

Dr Bohnecke

Brown thinks that ICSU should write to UNESCO as well as you sending the request mentioned in my letter of May 9. I think it is enough if you send a statement on what the present position (no agreement) is to UNESCO saying that this is such a big question IOC should handle it rather than other bodies continuing to discuss it without reaching any workable agreement.

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