

the East Asian part of the system remains substandard.

Regional IOC programs ranging from the Western Pacific (WESTPAC), the Southern Ocean (IOCSOC), the Caribbean (IOCARIBE), the North and Central Western Indian Ocean (IOC-INCWIO), and from the south-west Atlantic and the central eastern Atlantic reported on various activities and workshops that had been held. Dale Krause, the Director of the UNESCO's Marine Science Division, reviewed the Division's activities in promoting marine science in developing countries and cooperating with non-governmental marine science organizations.

Christophe Billard, Chairman of the Drifting Buoy Cooperation Panel, emphasized the importance of both the technical issues of drifting buoys (how well they work) as well as the legal issues (what happens when a buoy enters waters under national jurisdiction). These issues were debated at length by the Council and a number of recommendations made.

IOC funding has remained approximately level since 1981, and this has led to frustration among many members, who feel that this level of funding is insufficient to the needs of the Commission. Both the U.S. and the U.K., although no longer member states of UNESCO, have made voluntary compensatory payments. If IOC programs are to meet the needs of the new large programs for ocean services, then there will have to be budget increases. Whether these are likely is not certain in the current economic situation.

The Council urged member states to try to provide support for scientists from developing countries for participation in the Joint Oceanographic Assembly. The JOA will be held in Acapulco, Mexico in August of this year. Siedler noted that the JOAs are the only major interdisciplinary international congresses in marine science, and that this one will be the first to be convened in a developing country.

In preparation for next year's meeting, Manuel Murillo, First Vice-Chairman of the IOC, proposed that the theme of the Bruun Memorial Lectures was agreed to be the application of new technology in ocean monitoring. Four specific topics were proposed: Application of acoustic technology, applications of multi-beam scanners in ocean mapping, applications of remotely operated vehicles for the study of the ocean bottom, and the use of satellite-measured ocean color for study of biological productivity. Countries were asked to nominate speak-

ers and to agree to provide their travel to the meeting if the speaker were chosen.

Perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of the meeting were the consultations among delegations about the selection of a new secretary for the Commission. Dr. Ruivo will be retiring at the end of this year, and a number of candidates for the position have been identified. The U.S. delegation, in order to get to know the candidates better, invited each to lunch on different days.

A final decision will be made by the UNESCO Director-General, Frederico Mayor, within the next few months.

A highlight of the meeting was the (no-host) fiftieth birthday party for Lou Brown, held at the Nuit de St. Jean Restaurant. An international group gathered on March 11 to honor Lou and his many contributions to fostering international oceanography over the years.

In this observer's opinion, the discussions and actions taken at the meeting showed a healthy progress toward closer integration of intergovernmental mechanisms with the needs of the research community.

Table of Acronyms not defined in the text:

NOAA—National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

TOGA—Tropical Oceans & Global Atmosphere

WOCE—World Ocean Circulation Experiment

SCOR—Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research

IGOSS—Integrated Ocean Services System

GIPME—Global Investigation of Pollution in the Marine Environment

NODC—National Oceanographic Data Center

FAO-IOC-UN—United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

IOC/UN—Joint program between the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the United Nations Economics & Technology Branch

IOC/WMO—Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission/World Meteorological Organization

UNESCO—United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization

CCCCO—Committee on Climatic Changes & the Ocean

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THE COASTAL PHYSICAL OCEANOGRAPHY PROGRAM (CoPO)

During January, 1988, a contingent of about 120 United States coastal physical oceanographers and a few associates from other disciplines met to consider plans for the next decade and beyond. The group identified important major problems and sought ways to expedite their solution. Tentatively, the emphasis is on mass and momentum exchanges from the surf zone, across the shelf, and out to the open ocean on time scales of hours to years. A summary of the meeting is in preparation, and this report will be broadly circulated to the oceanographic community.

CoPO is only a first step in creating a coherent plan for coastal oceanography as a whole. A broader plan must be created that encompasses participation of meteorologists and biological, chemical, and geological oceanographers. Long-term measurement programs envisioned by CoPO present a natural opportunity for studies involving all of these disciplines. Over the next years, CoPO leadership will try to coordinate activities with large programs such as WOCE, and with the funding agencies. The detailed CoPO program must take on a focus reflecting high-priority science with substantial interdisciplinary content. These interactions will be initiated by circulation of the CoPO report and by encouraging small, informal workshops.

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