



United Nations
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Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

IOC's Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA)

**LME:LEARN First African
Regional Network meeting**

2-4 August 2017, Zanzibar, Tanzania



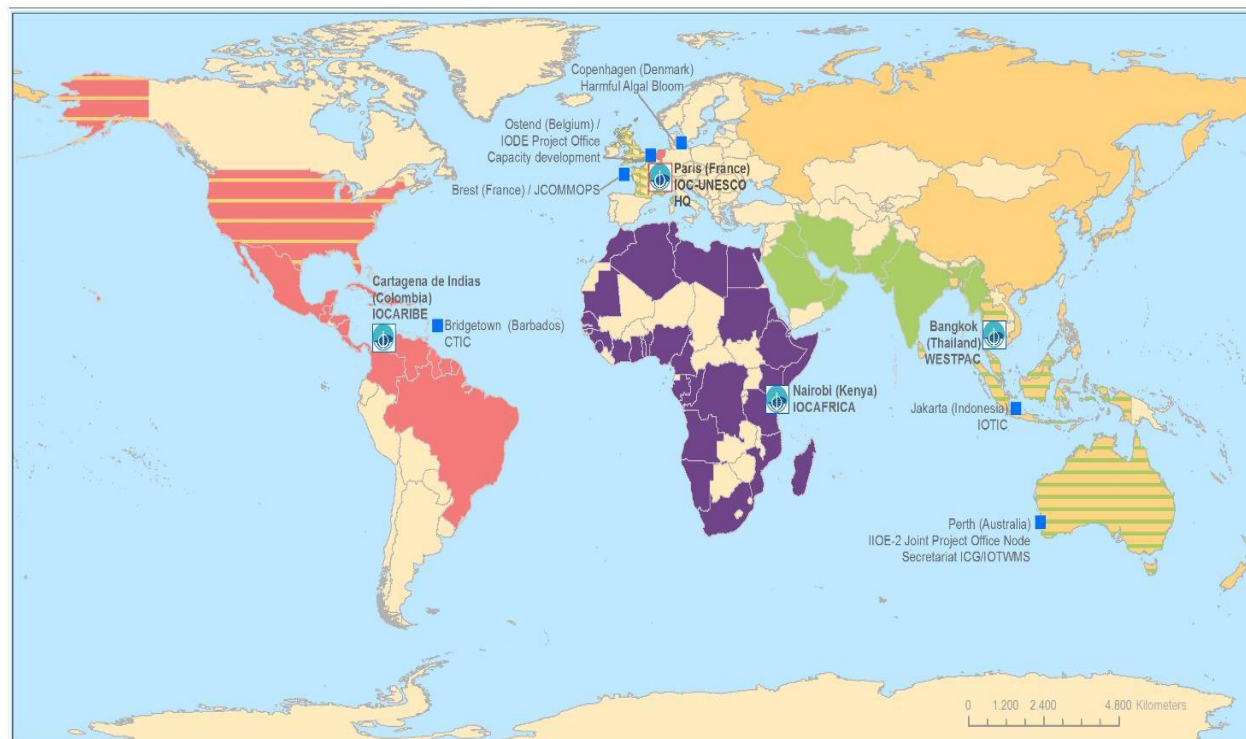
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..Promote international cooperation and to coordinate programmes in research, services and capacity building to learn more about the nature and resources of the oceans and coastal areas, and to apply that knowledge for the improvement of management, sustainable development, the protection of the marine environment, and the decision making processes of its Member States.

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO IOC Sub-commissions, Programme and Project Offices



IOC-UNESCO/MPR, 2016

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the IOC-UNESCO.

IOCAFRICA Member States
IOCARIBE Member States
IOCINDIO Member States
WESTPAC Member States

IOC-UNESCO Secretariat
IOC Sub-Commissions
IOC Programme and Project Offices

IOCAFRICA Mission



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- **Established July 2011, and officially launched May 2012.**

Promote regional and international cooperation for the understanding and management of the African oceans and coastal ecosystems, in order to ensure sustainable development and safety of the coastal populations, taking into account the priorities of Member States from Africa

Location of IOCAFRICA Secretariat
UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa
UN Offices in Nairobi, Kenya



IOCAFRICA Areas of Focus



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1. Ocean Observations and Monitoring
2. Ocean Sciences and Assessments
3. Ocean Data and Information Management
4. Capacity Development in Marine Science and Technology
5. Public Awareness and Science-Policy Interface

Ocean Observations and Monitoring



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- ✓ **Surveys and monitoring of essential oceanographic and meteorological parameters,**
- ✓ **Inventory of previous ocean related hazards and extreme events (frequency, intensity, etc.) and mapping of vulnerable areas**
- ✓ **Survey and mapping of marine ecosystems to facilitate and support the development of ecosystem services**

Ocean Sciences and Assessments



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- ✓ **Climate change and vulnerability, ocean acidification**
- ✓ **Ocean modelling and forecasting (including extreme weather events such as storm surges)**
- ✓ **Monitoring trends in ecosystem degradation**
- ✓ **Monitoring of Harmful Algal Blooms and biomarker indicators**
- ✓ **Marine Biodiversity and baseline surveys**
- ✓ **Marine Spatial Planning to zone different activities**

Ocean Data and Information Management



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- ✓ Improving access to ocean data and information
- ✓ Updating the African Coastal and Marine Atlases
- ✓ Developing a marine biodiversity and biogeography programme
- ✓ Preparation of ocean data and information products for Sustainable Development of the Ocean and Coastal regions Updating of the databases created (experts, institutions, and projects)
- ✓ Developing and African Ocean Data portal

Capacity Development



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- ✓ **Development of an IOCAFRICA Capacity Development portal**
- ✓ **Continuous professional development for marine scientists from the region**
- ✓ **Strengthening and development of regional training centers**
- ✓ **Strengthening ocean science programmes in African Universities Mentorship and programmes targeting youth and female scientists**
- ✓ **Organize training courses and workshops on the following topics: Operational oceanography, Ocean modeling and forecasting, Marine biodiversity, Marine spatial planning, and Identification of HABs**

Public Awareness and Science Policy Interface



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- ✓ Support for activities to mark World Ocean Day and African Day of Oceans and Seas
- ✓ Developing partnerships and linkages with other organizations, programmes and projects
- ✓ Public Awareness and advocacy activities
- ✓ Preparation of technical/media briefs on priority issues
- ✓ **Pan African Conference on Marine Sciences and Technology in 2018 (including development of concept note, identification of potential partners, and establishment of scientific committee).**

The session welcomed the offer of Egypt to host the conference in Sharm El Sheikh.

A background image showing the silhouettes of several people standing on a sandy beach, looking out at the ocean during a sunset. The sky is a warm orange and yellow, and the water reflects the light. The people are standing in a line, and their reflections are visible in the wet sand.

One Ocean – One Planet

Thank you!

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