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SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS FROM THE FIRST SESSION
OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
COMMISSION, UNESCO, OCTOBER, 1961.

"Sir:

I have the honour to transmit to you, under separate cover, a copy of the Summary Report on the First Session of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, held at Unesco House in Paris on 19-27 October, 1961.

Several of the resolutions adopted by the Commission relate to programmes of intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations. Although the full text of these resolutions is given in the Report, for your convenience I have summarized below their pertinent sections:

Analysis of IOC resolutions as related to intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations:

Resolution 1 - Relation between IOC and other organizations

- (a) Invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with oceanography in its various disciplines to co-operate with the Commission to the fullest possible extent.
- (b) Requests the Bureau and Secretary to seek and receive advice of those organizations which now advise Unesco on oceanographic matters and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations of a world-wide or regional nature, which could contribute to the development of international programmes in oceanography.

Resolution 3 - Co-operative international oceanographic programmes

- (a) Recommends that countries or organizations initiating international oceanographic programmes, convene working groups consisting of all interested members and bodies to explore avenues of planning, co-ordination and co-operation (including consultation with appropriate national and international organizations).

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Resolution 4 - Indian Ocean Expedition

- (a) Instructs the Secretary of IOC to assume such co-ordinating functions with respect to the Indian Ocean Expedition as can be worked out in consultation with SCOR and other appropriate bodies.

Resolution 5 - Aids to navigation

- (a) Recommends that IHB, IMCO and ICAO be requested through their member governments to co-operate with IOC in the development and establishment of a single national and international ground-based long distance radio navigation aid.

Resolution 7 - Fixed stations

- (a) Requests the Bureau to establish a working group of experts from Member States, WMO and other appropriate organizations to study the existing network of fixed stations and needs for extending it and to prepare proposals for meeting these needs, reporting to the next session of IOC.

Resolution 9 - Exchange of oceanographic data

- (a) Urges member countries to participate with IHB in co-operation with World Data Centres A and B for Oceanography, in the preparation of large-scale bathymetric plotting sheets for the world ocean.
- (b) Recommends to the Governments of the United States of America, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United Kingdom that they appoint representatives of World Data Centre A, World Data Centre B and the Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level to a working group of experts on the organization of oceanographic data exchange, and invites ICES, IHB and WMO to designate representatives to this working group.
- (c) Requests the Secretary and Bureau of IOC to seek advice from appropriate bodies on the volume and nature of data to be exchanged.

Resolution 10 - Co-ordination of national and regional programmes

- (a) Regional organizations, among others, should submit to the Secretariat of IOC information on existing regional programmes, plans of cruises of international interest, reports on results of cruises, descriptions of newly developed instruments and techniques.
- (b) The Secretariat of the IOC in consultation with the Bureau of the Commission, SCOR and other appropriate agencies, should consider the feasibility and practicability of the creation of the international pool of scientific equipment and study means whereby such a pool can be created.

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Resolution 11 - Standardization and intercalibration

(a) Requests SCOR to undertake the following task:

Appoint as soon as possible working groups for the purpose of examining, summarizing and criticizing the present oceanographic methods and equipment in common use to determine where these methods or equipment do not provide universally usable, accurate, data, or where such data cannot presently be utilized to the utmost, and to recommend by report to the IOC appropriate steps whereby these methods or equipment should be made universally usable. This may in some cases be accomplished by standardization or by intercalibration, or by such methods as these experts may determine.

Additional copies of the Report and further information about the work of the Commission can be obtained from this office.

Yours truly,

(Signed)
Warren S. Wooster,
Secretary,
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission"

8 February, 1962.