

**JOINT WMO-IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION
FOR OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE
METEOROLOGY (JCOMM)**

Submitted by: **JCOMM-4/Doc. 4**
WMO Secretary-General
and UNESCO/IOC
Executive Secretary

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**REVIEW OF DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF WMO AND
UNESCO/IOC RELATED TO THE COMMISSION**

SUMMARY

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Decisions of the WMO and IOC governing bodies affecting the work plans of the Commission;
2. IOC financial and staff support for JCOMM following the UNESCO budget reduction for 2012-2013, with a provisional allocation for activities at 20% of planned.

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

The Commission is requested to:

- (a) Consider ways of working that would improve the ratio of available secretariat funding between governance and activities in the future;
- (b) Request Members / Member States to consider extrabudgetary funding and in kind contributions to achieve the JCOMM work programme;
- (c) Approve the draft text for inclusion in the general summary of JCOMM-4 given in the Appendix.

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APPENDIX: DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY OF JCOMM-4

4 REVIEW OF DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF WMO AND IOC RELATED TO THE COMMISSION (*agenda item 4*)

4.1 The Commission noted that the Forty-third Session of the IOC Executive Council (June 2010) and the 26th Session of the IOC Assembly (June 2011) had acknowledged progress made under JCOMM.

4.2 The Commission further noted that the General Conference of UNESCO at its Thirty-sixth session (Paris, 25 October - 15 November 2011) approved a zero nominal growth budget for UNESCO, with a budgetary allocation to the IOC of \$10,405,400, and planned activity support to JCOMM from IOC of \$170,000. However, following the General Conference vote admitting Palestine as a Member State of UNESCO, the United States of America and Israel have withheld their assessed contributions (22.38% of UNESCO totals), leading to a budget deficit for 2011 and a projected budget shortfall for 2012-2013. To restore cash-flow stability and to eliminate the deficits for both 2011 and the next two years, UNESCO effected a budget reduction of 29% of the approved budget. For the IOC, even with utilizing what little flexibility there is in staff allocation, the reduction translates into a 77% cut to resources for activities. For IOC Secretariat support to JCOMM, the allocation for 2012-2013 was provisionally set at \$34,000 or 20% of planned.

4.3 Under the circumstances, the Commission appreciated in particular the Republic of Korea's contribution to maintaining IOC's responsibility to host this Fourth Session of JCOMM (JCOMM-4, 23-31 May 2012). Voluntary contributions came from the Korea Meteorological Administration, Yeosu City, Jeollanamdo Province, and the Expo 2012, Yeosu, Korea Organizing Committee. The Commission noted the total cost to the IOC and WMO Secretariats and host country of the JCOMM-4 session (for staff travel, in-session interpretation and translation, pre-session translation, and report preparation - not including in-kind salary and hospitality costs) was estimated at \$400 000, and requested the Management Committee and the Secretariats to explore ways of working that would improve the ratio of funding between governance and activities in the future.

4.4 The Commission was pleased to note that the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress had reaffirmed the success of a jointly sponsored technical commission in bringing together the marine meteorological and oceanographic communities, and integrating operational marine activities. The Commission noted that Congress approved regular budget funding for activities falling within the WMO's Marine Meteorology and Oceanography programme at a similar level as in the previous four-year financial period (2008-2011); however, Congress also highlighted new directions and priorities for the Organization that would affect how these regular budget funds could best be utilized. The Commission took note of the requests by Congress on intersessional activities, and made decisions accordingly under agenda items 5 to 12.

4.5 The Commission noted with satisfaction the reaffirmed support of WMO Congress for JCOMM's project-oriented approach to address specific, defined, and time-bound activities. The Commission requested the Management Committee and the Secretariats to revise the JCOMM Operating Plan for the intersessional period to reflect this approach.

4.6 The Commission noted priorities of WMO which would impact the intersessional work of JCOMM, such as a full integration of the Quality Management Framework (QMF) / Quality Management System (QMS) into the wider WMO Strategic Planning, as well as support for Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The Commission agreed that focused efforts should be made to ensure concrete results in these areas, while recognizing the need for additional resources in order for JCOMM to carry out its ongoing work as well as emerging priority requirements. In light of the limited resources, particularly at IOC, the Commission urged Members

/ Member States to contribute extrabudgetary funding for JCOMM, and in-kind contributions, including secondments, to enable the IOC and WMO Secretariats to implement the programme for JCOMM, foreseen for the coming intersessional period.

REFERENCES FOR DOC. 4 (Not to be included in the final Meeting Report):

1. Report of the Forty-third Session of the Executive Council, IOC/EC-XLIII/3 (Paris, July 2010)
2. Report of the Twenty-sixth Session of the Assembly, IOC-XXVI/3 (Paris, July 2011)
3. Records and Proceedings of the 36th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO (October-November 2011), 2012
4. Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress (WMO-No. 1077)
5. **JCOMM-4/BM. 4:** Review of Decisions of the Governing Bodies of WMO and IOC related to the Commission