

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

between

The Secretariat
of the Convention on Biological Diversity

and

The Secretariat
of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

Recalling that article 24, paragraph 1d, of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) empowers the Secretariat to co-ordinate with other relevant international bodies and, in particular, to enter into such administrative and contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions,

Recalling further that paragraph 2 of the decision II/13 of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD stresses the need to make mutually supportive the implementation of activities undertaken by the CBD and by other international and regional conventions and agreements related to biological diversity and its components,

Recalling further that decision III/21 of the COP - emphasising paragraph 4 of the decision II/13 of COP II - requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-ordinate with the secretariats of relevant biological diversity-related conventions, institutions and processes, with a view to, inter alia: facilitating the exchange of information and experience; exploring the possibility of co-ordinating their respective programmes of work; and consulting on how such bodies can contribute to the implementation of the provisions of the CBD,

Recalling further that decision III/21 of the COP also encourages the further development of co-operative arrangements at the scientific and technical level with appropriate biological diversity-related institutions,

Recalling further that paragraph 13 of the decision II/10 invites international and regional bodies responsible for legal instruments, agreements and programmes - which address activities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity - to review their programmes to improve the existing measures and to develop new actions to promote conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity,

Recalling also that article 1, paragraph 3, of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) specifies that the Commission shall seek to collaborate with all those international organisations that are concerned with its work, especially with those organisations of the United Nations system which are prepared to contribute to the Commission Secretariat, to sustain the work of the Commission through the relevant parts of the programmes of such organisations, and to use the Commission for advice and review in the area of marine science,

Noting that the Commission, through the IOC-NOAA *Ad Hoc* Consultation on Marine Biodiversity (3-5 May 1995), reviewed its programmes with the purpose to develop actions to promote the conservation and the sustainable use of marine biological diversity and related strategies,

Recalling that the Assembly of the Commission at its Eighteenth Session (Paris, June 1995) adopted the Resolution XVIII-9 on Marine Biodiversity which, *inter alia*, emphasises the importance of re-evaluating the IOC programmes and activities to review the scope for enhancing marine biodiversity studies and recognises that IOC has a substantial role to play in providing the COP, through its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), with advice on scientific issues concerning marine biodiversity,

Noting that the Commission and the Convention Secretariat have regularly provided the COP with information,

Recognising that the points of contact between the two organisations shall be the Executive Secretaries of the CBD and of the IOC,

Recognising that the Convention Secretariat and the Commission Secretariat wish to further develop co-operation between themselves and thereby enhance co-operation between the Executive Secretary of the CBD and the Executive Secretary of the IOC, agree as follows:

I. Institutional Aspects of Co-operation

Aspects of institutional co-operation include:

- a. a mutual participation of the representatives of the Secretariats to their respective relevant meetings;
- b. a joint notification of national level focal points, in each respective Member States and Contracting Parties, of the co-operative activity between the two Secretariats, seeking to promote the focal points' consultation and co-operation in general and in particular in those Member States and Contracting Parties where the focal points are different;

- c. to investigate areas of the Convention's work programme for which the IOC could be delegated a lead role; and
- d. to jointly encourage the use of the roster of experts on marine and coastal biodiversity of the CBD and the IOCs' groups of experts to provide scientific, technical and technological advice to the Secretariats.

II. Exchange of information

- a. The Secretariats will establish procedures on regular exchanges of information in their respective fields of action, developing a process by which the staff of both institutions have the opportunity to meet and inform one another about relevant work;
- b. In particular, the Secretariats will focus on methods to exchange information on marine and coastal biodiversity, contained in their databases, and in the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, including the roster of experts on marine and coastal biodiversity; and
- c. exchange of views in the course of co-operation during the preparation of their respective work programmes.

III. Co-ordination of activities

- a. To co-operate in the development of joint activities in the field of coastal and marine biodiversity which includes, *inter alia*:
 - capacity building (e.g. training courses and workshops);
 - the identification of assessment and monitoring indicators;
 - the compilation of a Global Biodiversity Outlook;
 - to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Jakarta Mandate on issues regarding, *inter alia*: integrated marine and coastal area management; alien species; effects of pollution on marine and coastal biodiversity and any other topic the Secretariats will jointly identify.

4. Consultation, reporting and further guidance

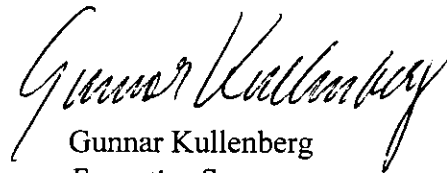
The Secretariats will arrange further consultations in order to implement this Memorandum of Co-operation. They will also report the measures taken on this issues to their respective governing bodies and seeking further guidance on new areas of co-operation.

5. Review, amendment and termination

The present Memorandum may be reviewed and amended following the request of either party giving one-month of written notice.



Calestous Juma
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity



Gunnar Kullenberg
Executive Secretary
Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission

Date: July 1, 1997

Date: 14 Sept 1997