INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

Forty-sixth Session of the Executive Council

SUMMARY REPORT

1. OPENING

The Chair, Mr Sang-Kyung Byun, opened the 46th Session of the Executive Council at 10.20h in Room IV on Tuesday 25 June 2013. He welcomed the participants and briefly referred to the documentation prepared for this session of the IOC Executive Council, which can be found on the IOC website (http://ioc-unesco.org/ec-46). He informed the Council that, in accordance with Rule of Procedure No. 12(2), the Council was acting as the Steering Committee for the 27th Session of the Assembly.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Executive Council considered the Draft Provisional Agenda of the present session (doc. IOC/EC-XLVI/1 prov.) and adopted the Agenda of its 46th Session (Annex I to the present summary report).

EC-XLVI, Dec. 2.1

**Agenda**

The Executive Council adopts the agenda as set out in document IOC/EC-XLV/1 Prov.

2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

The Executive Council was invited to designate the Rapporteur for the present session. Tanzania proposed, and India seconded, Dr Terry Schaefer (United States of America) as Rapporteur for the present session. Dr Schaefer accepted this invitation.

EC-XLVI, Dec. 2.2

**Rapporteur**

The Executive Council designates Dr Terry Schaefer (United States of America) Rapporteur for
its present session to assist the Chair and the Executive Secretary in the preparation of the summary report of the Session. Thomas Gross will be the editor of the report for the Secretariat.

3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 27TH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

3.1 DESIGNATION OF STATUTORY COMMITTEES

The Chair reminded the Executive Council that, in the designation of the three Statutory Committees for the Assembly (Nominations, Resolutions and Financial Committees), it may submit proposals on their composition, but that the ultimate decision as to that composition, including the Chairship of each Statutory Committee, remains entirely with the Assembly. He then invited Member States to declare their wish to participate in the Statutory Committees bearing in mind the need to ensure an appropriate linguistic and geographic balance within each Committee.

EC-XLVI, Dec. 3.1

**Sessional Committees**

Pursuant to Rule of Procedure No. 12(2) the Executive Council, acting as the Steering Committee of the Assembly, recommends to the Assembly the Chairpersons and an initial list of Member States having declared their interest in participating in each of the following committees:

Financial Committee: under the chairship of Peter Haugan (Norway) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Germany, Canada, China, Mexico, Kenya, Portugal, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Australia, U.S.A., France, Grenada, Russian Federation, India, Thailand, Egypt, Kuwait, Japan. Ms Ksenia Yvinec will provide the Secretariat support to the Financial Committee.

Resolutions Committee: under the chairship of Peter Dexter, (Australia) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Cameroon, Chile, Canada, Mexico, Norway, Republic of Korea, Argentina, France, U.S.A., Spain, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Japan, India, Russian Federation, Turkey, Thailand, Nigeria, China. Julian Barbière will provide the Secretariat support to the Resolutions Committee.

Nominations Committee: under the chairship of Javier Valladares, ex-IOC Chair, with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Republic of Korea, U.K., U.S.A, France, China, Germany. Thorkild Aarup will provide the Secretariat support to the Nominations Committee.

3.2 CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

The Chair informed the Executive Council that, under Rules of Procedure 8, 9 and 11.2, dealing with the preparation of the agenda for the Assembly, no request for a supplementary item was received at the Secretariat by 26 April 2013 (two months before the date of the opening of the 27th Session.)

Portugal made a request to the Chair of IOC that an agenda item on the Future of IOC would be inserted in the agenda of the Executive Council for further inclusion in the provisional agenda of the 27th Session of the Assembly (See the letter in annex to the report). There was consensus that the Assembly should address the proposed items.
EC-XLVI, Dec.3.2

The Executive Council,

Recommends to the 27th Assembly to form a sessional open ended working group to discuss the issues raised by Portugal on the Future of IOC and subsequently report to the Assembly.

3.3 SESSIONAL WORKING GROUPS

EC-XLVI, Dec. 3.3

Sessional Working Groups

The Executive Council,

Having examined the revised provisional agenda for the 27th session of the Assembly,

With a concern to ensure a smooth running of the Assembly, and

With no prejudice to decision of the Assembly and its chair on establishing a sessional working group as needed during the discussion of any agenda item,

Recommends to the Assembly the establishment of the following working group(s) at the beginning of its session under agenda item 2.3:

A sessional working group on the “Development of a New Capacity Development Strategy” (item 5.5.1) under the chairship of Adote Blivi (Togo) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Cameroon, Egypt, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Tanzania, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Portugal, Ecuador, Brazil, U.S.A., Spain, Australia, France, Russian Federation, India, Thailand, U.K., South Africa, Canada, Norway, Indonesia, Japan, Cuba, China, Peru, Belgium, Chile. Mitrasen Bhikajee will provide the Secretariat support to the group.

A sessional working group on the “Future of IOC” under the chairship of Javier Valladares, ex-IOC Chair, with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: Germany, Canada, Mexico, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Norway, China, Tanzania, Portugal, Bulgaria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Ecuador, U.S.A., Russian Federation, France, Grenada, India, Turkey, Indonesia, Japan, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Thailand, U.K., South Africa, Cuba, Togo. Bernardo Aliaga will provide Secretariat support to the group.

3.4 TIMETABLE

EC-XLVI, Dec. 3.4

Timetable for the 27th session of the Assembly

The Executive Council,

Taking into consideration the comments made by the Officers, the reporting of sessional working groups and statutory committees in plenary and scheduled invitation of speakers,

Accepts the provisional timetable for the 27th session of the Assembly as set out in document IOC/EC-XLV/1 Prov.Add.Rev. with modifications.

**EC-XLVI, Dec. 4.**

**Dates and places of next sessions of the Executive Council and Assembly**

The Executive Council,

Recalling the recommendation made by the Executive Council at its 45th session in 2012 to the Assembly (EC-XLV/Dec.5.6) to reconsider the dates of the 47th session of the Executive Council, provisionally scheduled to start on Tuesday 24 June 2014 at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris,

Taking into account both the level of funding provided for the organization of the IOC governing body sessions in the next C/5, and the new programming cycle of UNESCO,

Considering the experience gained at the 45th session of the Executive Council scheduled over three days (26–28 June 2012) under cost-saving measures,

Recommends to the Assembly to carefully consider the items to be on the agenda of the 47th session of the Executive Council during its work so that it fits in a session of a duration not longer than 3.5 consecutive working days;

Recommends also to the Assembly to identify any potential calendar conflicts with important meetings over the proposed period for the 47th session of the Executive Council of 30 June–3 July 2014, for 3.5 days, in UNESCO Headquarters, Paris and a period to be decided in June 2015 for the 28th session of the Assembly to be preceded by a one-day meeting of the Executive Council (48th session);

The Chair invited Member States to propose Roger Revelle Memorial lectures for 47th Executive Council meeting in 2014. He also asked Member States to propose both female and male lecturers.

The U.S.A. proposed Dr Richard Feely to lecture on Ocean Chemistry and Ocean Acidification.

Colombia proposed Dr Sandra Bessudo to lecture on the subject of Protected Marine Areas-Malpelo, one of UNESCO’s World Heritage marine sites.

The Chair recalled the interest of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) to propose a lecture on the subject of the Cariaco Time Series.

The Chair invited Member States to propose themes for the IOC Bruun lectures at the 28th session of the Assembly.

Canada proposed Dr Robie MacDonald to lecture on Sea Ice.

The Chair invited Member States to propose themes for the IOC Panikkar lectures at the 28th session of the Assembly.

Canada proposed Dr Eddy Carmack to lecture on Canadian Ranger Ocean Watch.
The U.S.A. suggested a subject to consider be the impact of IOC on capacity building for Tsunami Warning System within a region.

The U.S.A. proposed Dr Scott Glenn, University of Rutgers, to lecture on the Challenger Glider Mission.

Portugal noting the announcement of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the International Indian Ocean Expedition, suggested that a lecture on the International Indian Ocean Expedition, referring to what was done and what is new, could be considered.

5. REVISED SCHEDULE FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF THE IOC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

By IOC Circular letter 2474 dated 25 February 2013, the Executive Secretary informed the Member States of the extension of her appointment as Assistant Director-General and Executive Secretary of the IOC until 11 January 2015. This implies the preparation of a new timeline for the recruitment process so that Member States have enough time to evaluate candidates before they express their opinion at an in camera session of the 47th session of the Executive Council in June 2014, as established in the procedure (see document IOC/EC-XXXIX/2 Annex 5).

The Executive Council discussed the proposed schedule for the recruitment of the IOC Executive Secretary. Some Member States also requested clarification on the recruitment process and Portugal submitted a summary of its intervention (see annex). The Executive Secretary committed to communicating and involving the Member States in the process as appropriate. The Decision and the annexed timeline were amended and accepted.

**EC-XLVI, Dec. 5.**

Revised schedule for the recruitment of the IOC Executive Secretary

The Executive Council,

Having examined document IOC/EC-XXXIX/2 Annex 5,

Recalling Decision 3.2V of the 45th Session of the Executive Council (EC-XLV/Dec.3.2V),

Agrees with the amended timeline in annex to this decision;

Requests the Secretariat in close consultation with the officers to:

(i) review and update the post announcement for Executive Secretary of IOC in what concerns its functions and the agreed post grade of ADG, common to the United System, acting at the service of the Commission;

(ii) include this as an agenda item for the 47th Session of the Executive Council and prepare the necessary documents.

Annex to EC-XLVI, Dec.5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 November 2013</td>
<td>External announcement of the post (60 days)</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 January 2014</td>
<td>Deadline for applications (midnight Paris time)</td>
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<td>1 February – 24 March 2014</td>
<td>Pre-selection in agreement with IOC/EC-XXXIX/2 Annex 5:</td>
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<td>Technical screening by HRM/IOC Secretariat.</td>
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<td>Selection of a list of highly qualified applicants by a panel consisting of IOC Officers, Past Chairman, Executive Secretaries ex-officio.</td>
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<td>24 March 2014</td>
<td>Communication of Dossiers to all Member States of IOC three months prior to the 48th Session of the Executive Council in June (tentative date).</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 June 2014 (tentative)</td>
<td>The Executive Council at its 47th Session meets in camera to finalize the list of candidates to be sent to the Director General.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 June – 30 November 2014</td>
<td>The Director-General decides and appoints the Executive Secretary following consultation with the Executive Council of the Commission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 January 2015</td>
<td>Newly designated Executive Secretary assumes his/her duties in Paris.</td>
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6. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT

EC-XLVI, Dec. 6.

The Executive Council,

Having considered the draft summary report of the session (IOC/EC-XLVI/3s prov.) presented to it in plenary session at 17:00 on 25 June 2013,

Adopts the summary report of its 46th session as the Executive Council recommendations to the Assembly at its 27th session.

7. CLOSURE

The Chairman closed the 46th session of the Executive Council at 18:05 on 25 June 2013.
From: Prof. Mario Ruivo
Chairman of the Portuguese Committee for IOC

To: Dr. Sang-Kyung Byun
Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

Lisboa, 21/06/2013

Subject: Proposal for inclusion of an item on the Future of IOC in the Provisional Agenda of the 46th Executive Council of IOC

Mr. Chairperson

As you are aware by some of our exchanges of views and by the positions expressed by Portugal at the sessions of the Governing Bodies of the commission, we are deeply concerned with the future of IOC which, in our judgment, requires urgent corrective measures.

We noted with dismay that guidelines and decisions to this effect have not succeeded. This applies namely to the recognized need to clarify the present relationship of IOC with UNESCO which is affecting the work and special status of the commission as a “body with functional autonomy”.

The same applies to the progressive sliding of the designation of the IOC Executive Secretary (specifically defined in the post announcement of 2008, under Terms and conditions, “at grade of Assistant Director General, common to the United Nations System”, into Assistant Director General for IOC-UNESCO and Assistant Director-General, UNESCO.

The inappropriate use of this double-title is affecting the channels of command, image, as well as the working procedures of the Commission and its role as a “joint specialized mechanism” at the service of its Member States and of the United Nations System.

We are therefore proposing that the Governing Bodies of the Commission consider undertaking an in-depth assessment of the situation with a view to identify consensual measures to overcome the present difficulties.

Accordingly, we propose that a specific sub-item on the Future of IOC be included under item 3.2 “Consideration of requests for supplementary items” of the Provisional Agenda of the 46th Executive Council, for further inclusion in the Provisional Agenda of the 27th session of the Assembly.

Yours sincerely, Mario Ruivo, Chairman, Portuguese Committee for IOC

c/o: Members of the Bureau of IOC
Prof. Adote Blim Blivi
Direct. Peter Haugan
Prof. Yutaka Michida

Direct. Atanas Palazov
GOOS Rio. Frederico A. Saraiva Nogueira
–Executive Secretary of IOC

Dra. Wendy Watson-Wright
Item 5- Revised Schedule for the recruitment of the IOC Executive Secretary

1. The Executive Secretary was recruited during 2009, in order to start her functions beginning 2010. The post announcement was for the recruitment of the Executive Secretary of the IOC, under post SC-079.

2. The 45th Executive Council (2012) approved decision 3.2 (V), which includes the following points:
   a) The timeline of the process for the recruitment of the IOC Secretariat;
   b) Noted the need to review and update the post announcement for the Executive Secretariat of IOC in what concerns its functions and the agreed post grade of ADG, common to the United Nation System, acting at the service of the Commission.
   c) Agreed the suggested timeline and requested the Secretariat to include this as an agenda item for the 46th session of the Executive Council, and prepare the necessary documents.

3. IOC Circular letter no 2474, of 25/02/2013 (Invitation to the 27th Session of the IOC Assembly and 46th Session of the IOC Executive Council) states:

   "Before concluding, I wish to inform you that the DG has decided to extend my appointment as Assistant Director General of UNESCO and Executive Secretary of IOC from November 2013 until 11 January 2015. As this decision has an impact on the recruitment process of the new IOC Executive Secretary, a new timeline for the process and complete documentation on the matter will be examined by the Executive Council at this session under item 5 of the provisional agenda”.

4. Document IOC/EC-XLVI/2/PROV (Annotated Provisional Agenda) - item 5- the information on the extension of the mandate of the present Executive Secretary recalls the information mentioned above, and includes a draft decision on this matter, which basically follows the content of the decision already approved by the 45th Executive Council.

Confronted with these informations, which in our assessment of the situation are contradictory with the guidelines provided by the decision adopted at the 45th session of the Executive Council, we would appreciate clarification on the decision making process that was followed and the rationale supporting it.