To: Official National Coordinating Bodies for Liaison with the IOC in the Western Pacific

Cc: Permanent Delegates/Observers Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States in Western Pacific; National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States in Western Pacific IOC; WESTPAC Officers and other IOC Member States

Subject: WESTPAC Training Course on Climate Change – IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate, Qingdao, China, 7–18 September 2015

Action required: To nominate one or more participants to the Training Course, preferably no later than 20 July 2015

You may recall that in 2010 the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO approved by resolution EC-XLIII.2 the establishment of a Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate (hereinafter referred to as “ODC Centre”) at the First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration of China.

Since its inauguration on 9 June 2011, the ODC Centre organized four training courses on: Ocean Models (10–16 June 2011); Ocean Dynamics (16–22 July 2012); Air-Sea Interaction and Modeling (12–23 August 2013); and Climate Models (3–14 November 2014) in accordance with its establishment agreement and objectives:

“the objectives of the Centre shall be to enhance the regional research capacity and capability on ocean dynamics, air-sea interactions, climate change and numerical modeling through, among others, provisions of regular training courses in English once a year to around 15-20 junior scientists and doctoral/master students mainly from the developing Member States of IOC in the Western Pacific”.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the fifth training course at the ODC Centre is being scheduled from 7 to 18 September 2015 upon the kind invitation of the Government of China. It will focus on Climate Change. Following the constructive suggestions and overwhelming expression of
interest received from the previous trainings, this training course will last for two weeks with the number of trainees limited to 30.

The training is designed to comprehensively improve understanding of climate change and practice of prediction on climate change, covering the ocean-atmosphere coupled climate models, abrupt climate change, sea level rise, and anthropogenic effects on the climate change. Seven experts in this field from different countries will give lectures as part of this training course. General information is provided in Annex I to this letter. Updated information will be available, in due course, at the WESTPAC website (http://iocwestpac.org), and at the website of the ODC Centre (http://www.fio.org.cn/en/training_center/index.htm). The training course will be conducted in English.

On behalf of IOC, I encourage you to nominate one or more qualified trainees to attend this training course using the attached application form (Annex II). Priority will be given to young scientists and junior technical staff who have experience in climate modeling or have master/doctoral degree in related fields. Some limited funding to support participants from developing countries is available from the Centre. A selection committee will be established to review applications. Please send application forms duly completed to Dr Xunqiang Yin from ODC with a copy to Ms Nachapa Saransuth from the WESTPAC Office. Their contact information is given at the end of the attached general information (Annex 1). The deadline for receiving applications is 20 July 2015.

I take this opportunity to thank you once again for your cooperation and look forward to the active participation of suitable trainees from your country in this training course.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary

Annexes (2):
I. General Information on the Training Course
II. Application Form
ANNEX I

WESTPAC TRAINING COURSE ON CLIMATE CHANGE
UNESCO/IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate
Qingdao, China, 7-18 September 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION

Introduction

The UNESCO/IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate (hereinafter referred to as “ODC Center”) was officially established through one Agreement signed by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO and the host institute, the First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration (FO, SOA) of China, at the Eighth Intergovernmental Session of UNESCO/IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-VIII) in Bali, Indonesia in May 2010.

As the first UNESCO/IOC Regional Training and Research Center, ODC center was inaugurated on 9 June 2011 at the host institute of the First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration of China. During the past 4 years, 4 training courses with the subjects of Ocean Modeling, Ocean Dynamics, Air-sea Interaction and Climate Models respectively had been held successfully. Totally, 204 trainees from 28 countries have been trained.

As per the Agreement, “the objectives of the Center shall be to enhance the regional research capacity and capability on ocean dynamics, air-sea interactions, climate change and numerical modeling through, among others, provisions of regular training courses in English once a year to around 15-20 junior scientists and doctoral/master students mainly from the developing member states of IOC in the Western Pacific.”

The Climate and Ocean - Variability, Predictability, and Change (CLIVAR) project will co-organize the training course this year by inviting some of its panel members to lecture at the course, and co-organizing a workshop as part of the training course. CLIVAR, one of four core projects of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), was launched in 1995 and its mission is “to understand the dynamics, the interaction, and the predictability of the coupled ocean-atmosphere system”. Capacity Development is a key activity within CLIVAR, through provision of training courses and summer schools, and by entraining early career scientists (ECS) to the Young Earth System Scientists (YESS) community (www.yess-community.org). CLIVAR is a partner of the YESS community, an initiative led by ECSs to establish an early career network that reaches out to all young scientists in the climate related natural sciences, with additional focus on the socio-economic fields that deal with climate change questions.

To this end, with the constructive suggestions and overwhelming interests received from the previous training courses, this Training Course on Climate Change will be held on 7-18 September 2015.

Objectives and Scope of the Training course

This training course is designed to develop the capacity of member states in the Western Pacific (suitable candidates from outside the region will also be welcome), who are involved in the research and analysis of climate using numeric models and observations. The training will cover topics related to the ocean-atmosphere coupled climate models, abrupt climate change, sea level rising, anthropogenic effects on the climate change, and practice of prediction of climate change.

Expected Outcomes

In addition to establishing the regional network of ocean research, the trainees are expected to improve their understanding of climate change and practice of prediction on climate change, enhance their ability in studying the climate. By attending the workshop, which is organized as part of the training course, trainees will also gain knowledge of the WESTPAC and CLIVAR structure and expose the possibility of further developing joint programmes between WESTPAC and CLIVAR.
Date and Venue

The training course will be conducted from 7 to 18 September 2015 in Qingdao, China. More information about this center and this training course can be found on the website of WESTPAC (http://iocwestpac.org) and the website of the ODC Center at http://www.fio.org.cn/en/training_center/index.htm.

Lecturers and Agenda for the Training Course

Experienced experts on climate model within and outside the region will serve as lecturers of this training course. Lecturers are listed as follows. Detailed agenda for the training course will be updated on the website of WESTPAC (http://iocwestpac.org) and the website of the ODC Center (http://www.fio.org.cn/en/training_center/index.htm). CLIVAR will list the training course on its website (http://www.clivar.org). As part of activities celebrating the CLIVAR's 20 years' anniversary, a half-day workshop will be co-organized during the training course. Some WESTPAC experts and CLIVAR members will join and introduce their respective research activities on climate and ocean.

Prof Detlef STAMMER
Oceanography, Remote Sensing of the Earth System and Coupled Climate Assimilation, Universität Hamburg, Germany

Prof Cavaleri LUIGI
Institute of Marine Sciences, Venice, Italy

Prof Fangli QIAO
The First Institute of Oceanography, SOA, China

Prof Kun YANG
Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Prof Song YANG
School of Environmental Science and Engineering of Sun Tat-Sen University, China

Prof Annalisa BRACCO
School of Earth and Atmospheric Science, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA

Prof Zhaohua WU
Department of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Science, College of Arts and Sciences, Florida State University, USA

Working Language

The training course will be conducted in English.

Trainees

Trainees will be selected mainly from WESTPAC member states with priority given to those young scientists and junior technical staff who have experience in studying the climate system and/or have Doctoral degrees in related major. The applicants should have a good command of English.

Financial Assistance for Participants

The ODC Center will provide financial support for about 15 trainees mainly from developing countries. A selection committee will be set-up with a view to selecting the most qualified experts among applications to receive financial assistance. The information filled in the attached application form will be of great help for the selection process.

Deadline for Application

The filled-in application form shall be sent to Dr Xunqiang Yin and with a copy to Ms Nachapa Saransuth at the following addresses no later than 20 July 2015. All applicants will be informed of the final selection result no later than 25 July 2015. A certain number of self-funded applicants will be also selected to take part in this training course.

Visa

Selected trainees traveling to China probably need to apply for entry visa to China in accordance with relevant laws and regulations. Please check the visa requirements with the
Chinese Embassy/Consulate in your country and apply for it as soon as possible. The local secretariat (Dr Xunqiang Yin) will be glad to provide you any assistance upon your request.

**Contacting Information**

Dr Xunqiang Yin  
UNESCO/IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate  
First Institute of Oceanography  
Qingdao, P. R. China  
Tel/Fax: +86-532-8896 7415  
E-mail: odc_center@fio.org.cn

Ms Nachapa Saransuth  
Programme Assistant  
UNESCO/IOC Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)  
Tel: +66 2 141 1288  
Fax: +66 2 143 9245  
E-mail: n.saransuth@unesco.org
WESTPAC TRAINING COURSE ON CLIMATE CHANGE
UNESCO/IoC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate
Qingdao, China, 7–18 September 2015

APPLICATION FORM

The Government of ................................................................. proposes the nomination of the following expert to participate in the Training Course.

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<td>Contact person, in case of emergency</td>
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<td>Dietary Restriction</td>
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Brief statement of research activities that is linked to this training course, and related publication if any (This part is crucial for qualifying, so separate pages could be annexed to this form)

Please provide with name and E-mail address of two referees whom can be contacted to support your application

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Financial assistance

- [ ] I could cover my expense.
- [ ] I would apply for the financial assistance.
  - [ ] Fully (including round trip airfare, accommodation);
  - [ ] On airfare in the amount of US$____
  - [ ] On accommodation.

Date: ........................................ (Signature of Head/Director of the Institution)

Please return the completed form with your CV (with a 2-inch photo), by fax or e-mail to the following address before 20 July 2015:

Dr Xunqiang Yin  
UNESCO/IoC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate  
First Institute of Oceanography, China  
Tel/Fax: +86-532-88967415; E-mail: odc_center@fio.org.cn

With a copy to:  
Ms Nachapa Saransuth, IOC Regional Office for WESTPAC  
Fax: +66 2 143 9245; E-mail: n.saransuth@unesco.org