IOC Circular Letter No. 2664
(English only)

10 March 2017

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; Other IOC Member States IOC and WESTPAC Officers

Subject: WESTPAC Training Course on Development of Coupled Regional Ocean Models—IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate, Qingdao, China, 12-23 June 2017

Action required: To nominate one or more participants to the Training Course, preferably no later than 10 April 2017

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 six training courses on: Ocean Models (10–16 June 2011); Ocean Dynamics (16-22 July 2012); Air-Sea Interaction and Modelling (12–23 August 2013); and Climate Models (3-14 November 2014); Climate Change (7-18 September 2015); and Ocean Dynamics and Multi-scales Interaction (5-16 September 2016) 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 modelling 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”.

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SOUTH AFRICA
I have the pleasure to inform you that the seventh training course at the ODC Centre is being scheduled from 12 to 23 June 2017 upon the kind invitation of the Government of China. It will focus on development of coupled regional ocean models. 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 35.

The training is designed to comprehensively improve understanding of regional surface wave model, tide model, ocean circulation model and their coupling. Seven experts in this field from different countries will give lectures as part of this training course. A general information note is appended hereafter. Information will be regularly updated on the WESTPAC website (http://iocwestpac.org), and on 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 coupled regional ocean models 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 general information Annex. The deadline for receiving applications is 10 April 2017.

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

Enclosures (2): I. General Information on the Training Course
II. Application Form
WESTPAC TRAINING COURSE ON DEVELOPMENT OF COUPLED REGIONAL OCEAN MODELS
UNESCO/IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate
Qingdao, China, 12-23 June 2017

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 (FIO, 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 6 years, 6 training courses with the subjects of Ocean Modeling, Ocean Dynamics, Air-sea Interaction and Modelling, Climate Models, Climate Change and Ocean Dynamics and Multi-scales Interaction respectively had been held successfully. Totally, 276 trainees from 32 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.”

To this end, with the constructive suggestions and overwhelming interests received from the previous training courses, this Training Course on Development of Coupled Regional Ocean Models will be held on 12-23 June 2017.

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 development of coupled regional ocean models. The training will cover topics related to regional surface wave model, tide model, ocean circulation model and their coupling.

Expected Outcomes
In addition to establishing the regional network of ocean research, the trainees are expected to improve their understanding of the wave-tide-circulation coupled model and practices on the simulation in regional and coastal regions.

Date and Venue
The training course will be conducted from 12 to 23 June 2017 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 coupled regional ocean models 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).
Prof Jianping GAN  
Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, China

Prof Tal EZER  
Old Dominion University, USA

Prof Xiaobiao XU  
Florida State University, USA

Prof Fangli QIAO  
First Institute of Oceanography, SOA, China

Prof YU-HENG TSENG  
National Center for Atmospheric Research, USA

Prof Luigi CAVALERI  
National Research Council - Institute of Marine Sciences, Italy

Prof Qiang WANG  
Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany

**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 coupled regional ocean models 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 **10 April 2017**. All applicants will be informed of the final selection result no later than **30 April 2017**. 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  
Program 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 DEVELOPMENT OF COUPLED REGIONAL OCEAN MODELS  
UNESCO/IOC Regional Training and Research Center on Ocean Dynamics and Climate  
Qingdao, China, 12-23 June 2017

APPLICATION FORM

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family name</th>
<th>☐ Dr / ☐ Mr / ☐ Ms</th>
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<td>Years of experience in current job</td>
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<td>Tel. number(s)</td>
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<td>Contact person, in case of emergency</td>
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<td>Dietary Restriction</td>
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<td>☐ Other, please specify</td>
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<td>Major and/or Research Area</td>
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<td>Previous Training Courses/Workshops</td>
<td>☐ No ☐ Yes, please specify the workshop titles:</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 10 April 2017:

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