Resolution XXX-2 adopted by the IOC Assembly at its 30th session (26 June–4 July 2019) established the Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board as a high-level coordination mechanism to maximize opportunities to co-design, co-develop and implement joint scientific and technical work, across oceanography and meteorology that ultimately will improve the provision of information and services for societal benefit.

The mandate of the Collaborative Board is to coordinate the collaborative development, integration and implementation of activities carried out by World Meteorological Organization and IOC, providing WMO and IOC governing bodies with strategic advice on joint work to achieve relevant objectives; to review workplans and provide technical and scientific recommendations for WMO and IOC subsidiary bodies and programmes, including proposing cross-cutting projects; and to engage in liaison or consultation with relevant stakeholders.

The membership of the Collaborative Board is defined by Resolution XXX-2, and is largely designated by the IOC Chairperson and WMO President. From the IOC side, the membership of the Collaborative Board shall be constituted by:

a) representatives of its scientific and technical bodies and programmes, with five members designated by the IOC Chairperson, representing the leadership of activities in observing system, data and information management, forecasting systems, early warning and services, and research;

b) at-large representatives of IOC Member States, taking into account overall geographical balance, with three representatives of IOC Member States designated by the IOC Chairperson in consultation with the IOC Officers;
c) the IOC co-chair of the Collaborative Board, an IOC Vice-Chairperson, who for the intersessional period starting on April 2020 will be Ms Monika Breuch-Moritz (Germany).

The Collaborative Board anticipates an initial in-person meeting in April 2020, but it is important to establish its membership quickly in order to empower the Board to meet virtually and engage in transition planning. I recall that by April 2020, the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) will be disbanded, and essential functions and groups taken up by other bodies and programmes.

With this letter, I seek your nominations for the three at-large representatives of IOC Member States to the Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board. In anticipation of the geographic balance of the representatives of scientific and technical bodies and programmes and the IOC co-chair, nominations from IOC Electoral Groups III and V are particularly encouraged. As always, your help in achieving UNESCO’s priority for gender equality through nominations is welcome. I recall that nominations are for persons to serve in their individual capacity, and that the three members will be designated by the IOC Chairperson in consultation with the IOC Officers.

Please convey your nominations for at-large representatives of the Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board in writing, with a short CV or biography attached, to Albert Fischer (a.fischer@unesco.org) by 21 October 2019.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary