Resolution XXIV-12

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE IOC ADVISORY BODY OF EXPERTS ON THE LAW OF THE SEA (IOC/ABE-LOS VII)

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission,

Acknowledging the value of the role of the IOC Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (IOC/ABE-LOS) and the progress made by IOC/ABE-LOS at its 7th Meeting (Libreville, Gabon, 19–23 March 2007),

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/61/222, paragraphs 14 and 110, which acknowledges the work done by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO through its Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea,

Recalling further IOC Resolutions XXII-12, XXIII-8 and XXIII-9, EC-XXXVII.8 and EC-XXXIX.7, which specified the mandate of IOC/ABE-LOS with respect to its work on:

(i) the practice of Member States with respect to Parts XIII and XIV of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

(ii) the dissemination and implementation of the “Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology”

(iii) the procedure for the application of Article 247 of UNCLOS by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

(iv) the IOC legal framework that is applicable to the collection of oceanographic data within the context of UNCLOS,

Endorses the IOC/ABE-LOS VII Report and welcomes the Recommendations in the Annex of this Resolution;

Decides:

(i) that IOC/ABE-LOS pursue its work on the “IOC legal framework for the collection of oceanographic data within the context of UNCLOS” in close cooperation with I-GOOS and the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs/Division for Oceans Affairs and Law of the Sea (UN/OLA/DOALOS); and request it to come up with consensual text as soon as practicable;
(ii) that IOC/ABE-LOS should contribute, as required, to the updating of the document "Marine Scientific Research: A Guide for the Implementation of Relevant Provisions of UNCLOS", in close cooperation with the UN/OLA/DOALOS;

Urges Member States to provide financial support for the organization of the 8th Meeting of the IOC Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea, to supplement regular funds.

Annex to Resolution XXIV-12

Recommendations

The Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea at its 7th meeting (IOC/ABE-LOS VII) recommended that:

1. The IOC Assembly be informed that the progress made in the preparation of the “Draft Guidelines, within the context of UNCLOS, for the collection of oceanographic data by specific means” reflects the relevance of the IOC programmes in strengthening the international cooperation devoted to promoting a global understanding of the ocean and to contributing to short-term warnings, weather forecasts and climate prediction.

2. The IOC Members States fully participate in the IOC/ABE-LOS sessions, through the participation of their experts in law of the sea and in marine scientific research, as prescribed in IOC Resolution XIX-19, including in the intersessional activities, to stimulate its work and facilitate the accomplishment of the ongoing work on the draft Guidelines, preferably at its Eighth Session (2008).

3. The IOC Executive Secretary disseminates the “Procedure for the application of Article 247 of UNCLOS by the IOC” and assists Member States in the implementation of that Procedure.

4. The IOC Member States acknowledge the “Orientation Guide” and participate actively in the implementation of the “Roster of Experts for advice or guidance on the development of legislation and practice regarding marine scientific research and transfer of marine technology” and contribute to the multi-donor funds established for this purpose.

5. The Assembly, at its 24th Session, highlight the value of the role of IOC/ABE-LOS as a contributor to the work of IOC in the implementation of UNCLOS and other relevant UN Conventions and Agreements and to the promotion of international cooperation, in conformity with international law, as regard to scientific activities related to the ocean.