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INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)

**Sixteenth Session of the UNESCO IOC Sub-Commission
for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE)**

(Online Meeting May 3-6, 2021)

Covers all items of the Revised Provisional Agenda

PROVISIONAL ACTION PAPER

This Action Paper provides the information necessary for effective participation in the discussion of the agenda items. This information includes: (i) identification of relevant documentation; (ii) identification, under each substantive agenda item, of the issue before the Session and the expected decision or draft recommendations when available to date; (iii) background information.

This Action Paper provides also the basis of the draft summary report of the session. It is written in past tense to streamline the reporting process. A summary of the discussion that led to decisions under each agenda item will be prepared by the Secretariat and the Rapporteur and will complete the draft summary report. Draft decisions and recommendations are proposed in the document in order to focus the debate of each agenda item without prejudice to the prerogatives of any Member State, partner organization, Officer or the IOCARIBE Secretary.

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1. OPENING

1. The Chairperson of the IOC (of UNESCO) Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions IOCARIBE, Mr. Arnulfo Sanchez (Panama) opened the online session of the Sixteenth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions SC-IOCARIBE-XVI at 09.00 hrs on May 3, 2021.
2. Mr. Sanchez introduced Licenciada Elvia Bustavino, Secretary General of the Autoridad Maritima of Panama. She addressed the Session and welcomed participants and delegations to the Sixteenth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions.
3. IOC Executive Secretary and UNESCO ADG/IOC, Mr. Vladimir Ryabinin addressed the Session in representation of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

[Rule of Procedure 8]

<u>Working documents:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/1 Prov. Rev.	Revised Provisional Agenda
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/1 Add. Prov.	Revised Provisional Timetable
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE- XVI/2 prov.	Provisional Action Paper (<i>this document</i>)
<u>Report:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBEXV/3 Prov.	Executive Summary Report of the Fifteenth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions Aruba, May 6 – 10, 2019
<u>References:</u>	IOC/EC-53/SR Prov.	Fifty-third Session of the Executive Council Paris, 3–9 February 2021 [Online session]
	IOC-XXX/3	Thirtieth Session of the Assembly, Paris, 26 June – 4 July 2019

4. The IOCARIBE Chairperson, Mr. Arnulfo Sanchez introduced this item. The Provisional Agenda and Timetable were submitted to the Session for adoption.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 2.

The Sub-Commission,

I. Agenda

1. Adopts the agenda and the timetable of work as set out in document IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/1 Prov. [with the following additional modifications:]

5. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR
[Rule of Procedure 25.4]

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 2.2

II. Rapporteur

2. On a proposal of [country], seconded by [countries],
3. Designates _____ of [country] Rapporteur for its present session to assist the Chairperson and the Executive Secretary in the preparation of the draft provisional report of the Session;

6. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

2.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF INTRASESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
[Rule of Procedure 12]

7. The IOCARIBE Secretary, Mr. Cesar Toro introduced this item. The Session will be requested to work in Plenary as far as possible. However, where deemed necessary, the Session will be requested to constitute open-ended working groups.
8. He invited the Sub-commission to form three sessional committees, the Financial Committee, the Recommendations Committee and the Elections Committee, and invited proposals for sessional working groups.
9. These Working Groups may be formed to deal with specific questions arising from Agenda Items. Considering that the Session is online, these Drafting Groups shall meet after Plenary. Their product shall serve as the basis for and to facilitate the debate in Plenary. He then invited nominations for sessional working groups.
10. The IOCARIBE Secretary informed the Session that for this purpose a form would be available for countries to nominate and register to each of the Committees established. A slide with instructions and the deadline for receiving nominations will be put on screen and link on the chat. Nominations will open until noon on Monday 3 May, 2021. He also informed about the dates the Committees would meet. The Financial Committee will have its first meeting on Monday 3 May at 12:15 pm.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 2.3

The Sub commission,

III. Sessional Committees and Working Groups

4. Establishes the following sessional open-ended committees and referred to them the

following agenda items and responsibilities:

5. Financial Committee (to examine the financial implications of draft recommendations, and the financial strategy for project and programme implementation –item 8.1 Programme and Budget and propose a comprehensive draft recommendation : under the chairmanship [name] (country) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: _____.
6. Recommendations Committee (to report on all draft recommendations duly presented for consideration at the session –item 10: under the chairmanship of [name] (country) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: _____.
7. Elections Committee (to examine all proposals of candidates for the elections to the chair and vice-chairs at the present session, and to report on them –item 8.2): under the chairmanship of [name] (country) with the following Member States declaring their wish to participate: _____. IOCARIBE Secretary provides the Secretariat support to the Nominations Committee.

11. The representatives of __ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

2.4 INTRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTATION AND TIMETABLE

<u>Working documents:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/1 Add. Prov. Rev.	Revised Provisional Timetable
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/1 Add Prov Rev. 2	Revised 2 Timetable
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/1 Prov. Rev.	Revised Provisional Agenda
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/4 Prov.	Provisional List of Documents
<u>Information:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XV/Inf.1	Technical & Practical Requirements
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XV/Inf.1 Add.	Template for submission of written records to the IOCARIBE Summary Report
	IOC/INF 1148	IOC Statutes
	IOC/INF 1166	IOC Rules of Procedure

12. The IOCARIBE Secretary introduced this item. He briefly reviewed the list of working documents and reminded the Session that the report would be focused on recommendations. The Secretary reminded that draft recommendations would be discussed at the Recommendations committee. The Action Paper was intentionally drafted as a pre-report in order to streamline the reporting process during the session. Member States that wished to have specific, particularly important, plenary interventions recorded, were invited to provide written records thereof in one of the three languages of the Sub-commission, to be annexed to the report, in their original language as an informational annex to this report. A template and a dedicated e-mail address (p.wills-velez@unesco.org) was set up to this end (IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/Inf. 1 Add.). He reminded Member States that all documents for the Session are available at <https://oceanexpert.org/event/2992>

13. He informed the Session that a slide would be made available to be projected with the session page link to access documentation as well as it would be provided at the chat for reference.
14. The translation and the adoption of the report in two languages would be done by correspondence after the session.

3. IOCARIBE MATTERS AND REPORTS

3.1 STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

<u>Information:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/Inf.3	Statement of the Chairperson on the State of the Sub-Commission
<u>Information:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBEXV/3 Prov.	Executive Summary Report of the Fifteenth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions Aruba, May 6 – 10, 2019

15. In accordance with rule of procedure 8.1(a), Mr. Arnulfo Sanchez (Panama) the IOCARIBE Chairperson, delivered an oral statement on recent developments in the work of the Sub-Commission since the Fifteenth Session of IOCARIBE (Aruba, May 6 – 10, 2019) and perspectives for the coming years.

3.2 IOCARIBE SECRETARY'S REPORT ON THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED SINCE THE FIFTEENTH SESSION AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

<u>Working documents:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/2 Annex 1	Secretary's Report work accomplished since Fifteenth Session on Programme and Budget
<u>Information:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XV/3 Prov.	Executive Summary Report of the Fifteenth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions Aruba, May 6 – 10, 2019

16. The IOCARIBE Secretary introduced this agenda item. He referred to the programme progress and to the implementation of decisions and recommendations during the period 2019 – 2021, particularly those made at the Fifteenth Session of the Sub-Commission held in Aruba, May 2019.
17. In particular he mentioned those initiatives for Disaster Risk Reduction and Ecosystem-based management, including: (i) IOCARIBE-GOOS establishment of a pilot project on Improvement of Hurricane Observing Forecasting Capacity; (ii) development of an operational region-wide information and forecasting system for sargassum and oil spills; and (iii) development of a guide on best management practices for sargassum events in the coastal environment; iv) HAB-ANCA initiative in the IOCARIBE Region to implement the IOC Ciguatera Strategy. IOCARIBE Member States, expert networks, and education and research institutions are focusing on their contribution to the UN Decade, and to the SDG 14 implementation progress and challenges.
18. He referred to The UN Decade of Ocean Science Regional virtual Workshop for the Western Tropical Atlantic (WTA), 28–29 April 2020, that provided a regional contribution to the UN Decade with a focus on IOCARIBE countries' and territories' needs and priorities in terms of transforming knowledge systems; accelerating transfer of technology; enabling training and

education; fostering science-policy dialogues, and enabling scientific solutions to the Region's socio-economic challenges.

19. IOCARIBE, as the WTA Ocean Decade Coordination mechanism has the overall responsibility for formulation of principles and strategy, and for planning and coordination of the Ocean Decade in the Western Tropical Atlantic region in consultation with the many leading UN, NGO, science, regional organisations, private sector, indigenous and local communities and other stakeholders of the region.
20. He reported that IOCARIBE established on October 2020 a Regional Planning Group (WTA RPG) for the WTA-Ocean Decade to advance and coordinate strategic partnerships and actions for Western Tropical Atlantic engagement in the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). The WTA RPG established eight Working Groups to promote multi-disciplinary and inclusive co-design and implementation partnerships to achieve each societal outcome and Capacity Development, recognizing the importance of the work of the Working Groups as the core of its strategy for advancing the Decade in the Western Tropical Atlantic Region.
21. The IOCARIBE Secretary highlighted key achievements, including the progress made i) in the development of an operational region-wide information and forecasting system for sargassum and oil spills; where IOCARIBE, GEO Blue Planet and other partners developed a Tropical Atlantic Sargassum Information Hub to improve communication among stakeholders, and increase visibility of sargassum activities. The Sargassum Information Hub was launched on July 2020 ((sargassumhub.org); ii) A Regional Pilot Programme for Satellite Oil Spill monitoring for the wider Caribbean region is the first step for the development of a coordinated region-wide monitoring and forecasting system that started March 2021. Trinidad and Tobago has been selected as a test area given its abundance of oil facilities and monitoring needs; iii) Caribbean Marine Atlas (CMA) MS and Partners aimed to consolidate the CMA sustainability and ensuring continuity and upgrading of the CMA2 by hosting, operating, and maintaining the CMA2 at INVEMAR facilities; and to strengthen links and develop synergies with projects and programmes. Particularly, with i) CMA – CLME+ project ii) IHO Meso-American Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission (MACHC), IOCARIBE contribution to the SeaBed 2030 programme; iii) the Sargassum Information and Forecasting System; and iv) with the newly started IOC of UNESCO Ocean InfoHub project. He highlighted the significant contribution of the OTGA Regional Training Centre established at INVEMAR to the capacity development of MS in ocean sciences.
22. He mentioned that as part of IOCARIBE efforts and partnerships with CLME+, UN and Regional organisations and national agencies, the Sub-commission developed in cooperation with University of Ghent (Belgium) the CLME+ Training and Capacity Development (TCD) Portal that was launched 15th December 2020 to bridge the information gap between "those (marine practitioners) in search of training opportunities" and "those providing training and capacity building initiatives" (clmeplus.mainetraining.org).
23. He also stressed the importance of the IOCARIBE and IHO Meso-American and Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission – MACHC partnership. IOCARIBE and MACHC Member States developed a joint strategy (December 2020, January 2021) to complete baseline seabed map of the MACHC/ IOCARIBE Region by 2030 that informs the sustainable, multi-purpose use of this region of the Ocean, as a contribution to the Nippon Foundation GEBCO Seabed 2030 Project and the UN Decade. IOCARIBE and MACHC have identified respective capacity development training offerings for 2020 and 2021 and considered co-sponsoring those of common interest to avoid duplication of effort and maximize impact. In 2020 they agreed on a MACHC-IOCARIBE Seabed 2030 Work Plan for 2021; and as a part of their contribution to SEABED 2030, they will be sharing, delivery and management of marine spatial data holdings through pilot projects with partners such as the IOC/IODE and the IOCARIBE Caribbean Marine Atlas.

24. As well, IOCARIBE is developing jointly with MS national Agencies and Institutions, the LAC Regional Node for the IOC Ocean Information Hub (LAC OceanInfo Hub) with the technical support of IODE and the financial support of the Government of Flanders (Kingdom of Belgium).
25. He referred to the Sub-commission's financial situation and confirmed that the IOCARIBE Secretariat has been implementing the workplans in accordance with the budgetary allocations. He commented on the current financial situation for UNESCO, IOC and its Subsidiary Bodies including IOCARIBE and highlighted the work achieved by the Sub-commission despite financial difficulties and constraints. He also mentioned the financial and planning impact of Covid-19 on the IOCARIBE activities development and implementation and stressed that the staffing situation at the Secretariat remains critical.
26. He mentioned the support provided to the Sub-commission by several member states and the secondment of professionals as an example of such support. Particularly, the support provided by Colombia that is hosting the Secretariat and is seconding two professionals who are working at the Secretariat and also highlighted the contributions from Barbados, the Government of Flanders (The Kingdom of Belgium), Mexico, Panama, Korea, the EU, and US. Co-operation and partnerships with other UN Agencies and Programmes such as WMO, UNEP, UN-ISDR, UNDP, UNOPS, IAEA, the World Bank International, regional organizations (GOs and NGOs), and the work with national agencies facilitated programme and project implementation.
27. The IOCARIBE Secretary highlighted the importance of partnerships for programme implementation and financial support and urged Member States to keep constant communication with their UNESCO National Commissions, who are critical in budget discussions at UNESCO Governing Bodies.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 3.2

Report of the IOCARIBE Secretary on Programme and Budget

The Sub-commission,

1. Having examined document IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/2 Annex 1,
2. Takes note of the report of the IOCARIBE Secretary on programme and budget implementation, including the report on budget execution 2019-2021.

28. The representatives of __ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

4. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

4.1 IOC MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGY 2014-2021 AND DRAFT MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY 2022 - 2029

<u>Working document:</u>	IOC/INF 1314	IOC Medium Term Strategy 2014 - 2021
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	IOC/EC-53/5.1 Doc (1)	Draft Medium-Term Strategy for 2022 - 2029
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29. The IOC Executive Secretary, Mr. Vladimir Ryabinin introduced this agenda item.
30. He referred to the Draft IOC Medium-Term Strategy for 2022–2029 (41 C/4) and reminded Member States that the document, already reviewed by the IOC Assembly at its 30th session in 2019, builds on the current IOC Medium-term Strategy, 2014–2021 (IOC/INF-1314), preserving the comprehensive framework of six functions for its implementation, while at the same time attempting to further clarify and sharpen the proposed vision statement and five High-Level Objectives of the Commission.
31. He reminded the Assembly that the next draft will be circulated to Intersessional Financial Advisory Group (IFAG) in the intersessional period leading to the 43rd session of the Executive Council in 2020 and the final adoption of the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2022–2029 by the 31st session of the IOC Assembly in 2021. He also mentioned that this process should lead the reflection across the IOC on how the core IOC programmes and initiatives can contribute to the objectives of the Decade; and submit to the IOC Assembly, at its 30th session, an overview of such an IOC programmatic contribution, building on document IOC/INF-1357 and consistent with the steps for the preparation of the next IOC Medium-Term Strategy for 2022–2029.
32. The representatives of __ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

4.2 IOC CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

<u>Information Document:</u>	IOC/INF-1332	IOC Capacity Development Strategy
	IOC/INF-1396	GE-CD Task Team Report relating to the revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy 2015-2021
<u>Reference:</u>	Workshop Report	IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development Second Meeting (Online February 2021)

33. Mr. Ariel Troisi, IOC Chairman and Co-chair of the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development introduced this agenda item. He referred to the work of the IOC Group of Experts on Capacity Development, to the recommendations and findings provided by the GE-CD Task Team relating to the revision of the IOC Capacity Development Strategy 2015-2021; the challenges and objectives promoted by the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the outcomes of the 2nd GE-CD Survey, and to the extension of the current Strategy until 2023.
34. The representatives of __ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

4.3 UPDATED IOCARIBE MEDIUM TERM STRATEGIC SCIENCE PLAN

<u>Working document:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XIV/6 Prov	IOCARIBE Medium Term Strategic Science Plan 2017 – 2026
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35. Mr. Francisco Brizuela, IOCARIBE Vice-Chair introduced this Agenda Item.
36. He referred to the IOCARIBE Medium Term Strategic Science Plan (2017-2026) its goals and Main Lines of Action of the Plan: i) Oceans and Climate, ii) Ocean Ecosystem Science, including Science for Large Marine Ecosystem Management, iii) Marine Science for Integrated Coastal Area Management and iv) Extreme Natural Hazards. He described the purpose of the Plan that includes providing / facilitating / catalyzing science for decision making process for marine stewardship and societal benefit.
37. He stressed the need to take into consideration existing Environmental Agreements in the region to provide necessary science and capacity development for IOCARIBE Member States to contribute to the achievement of proposed goals of the Agenda 2030. He recognized that IOC Science scope is broad, in the IOCARIBE Region it is necessary to aligned and recognize the region’s priorities.
38. He reiterated on the need to update the plan to include main actions and engagement of the Sub commission in the Un Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).
39. The updating process of the Science Plan will be led by one of the IOCARIBE Vice-Chairs. For that purpose, a working group should be established and will work online and by e-mail. The updated version of the IOCARIBE Science Plan will be circulated by e-mail to Member States for their approval and endorsement.
40. The representatives of __ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

5. IOCARIBE WESTERN TROPICAL ATLANTIC (WTA) COORDINATION MECHANISM AND CONTRIBUTION TO UN DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (2021-2030)

<i>Reference Document:</i>	UN Decade Implementation Plan	Implementation Plan of the Decade (Summary)
	WTA Framework UN Decade	Framework & Outcomes Western Tropical Atlantic UN Decade

41. Mr. Arthur Paterson, IOCARIBE Vice-Chair introduced this Agenda. He gave a general overview about the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021 – 2030) and highlighted the main purpose of this session dedicated to the Decade. Mr. Paterson acted as Moderator for this Session dedicated to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.
42. He recalled that, in December 2017, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development from 2021 to 2030, building on the efforts of IOC Member States and the IOC Secretariat. The period 2018–2020 focused on the preparation of the Decade Implementation Plan under the guidance of the Decade Executive Planning Group. The Decade commenced on 1 January 2021.
43. He recalled that this is the second IOCARIBE formal discussion on the UN Decade in the past 4 years. IOCARIBE’s first substantive introduction to the Decade was in 2019. Since that time:

- The Decade Implementation Plan was completed and accepted by the UN General Assembly
- IOCARIBE took a lead role in the region with UN Environment and others to coordinate partners to host the April 2020 Western Tropical Atlantic Workshop which Lorna Innis described, and
- launched numerous seminars and outreach on Decade organizational processes, such as co-design, youth engagement, and much more.

44. This session arrives at a critical juncture We are moving from a 3-4 year global planning phase and public visibility process to an engagement and empowerment phase in which no one is left behind.

45. Member States, regional stakeholders together are considering how to enhance their collaboration to apply transformative science to achieve the SDGs not just Goal 14 but all the goals for which ocean science has a direct impact on human welfare, jobs, regional environment concerns and planetary processes essential for maintaining life as we know it today.

46. Our goal today is to inform you as to the diverse avenues in which IOCARIBE Member States and the broad suite of stakeholders can join the Decade process and at the same time build the IOCARIBE program to achieve the SDGs and associated capacity development through all activities.

47. The main objective of this Decade Session was to inspire IOCARIBE Member States to self-organize their participation in the Decade through Informing countries on practical ways to become involved in the Decade by:

- Creating national committees
- Define needs and capacity requirements and strengths as the engine for partnership with others within and beyond borders.
- Co-designing with partners across the region (and beyond) to leverage capabilities to achieve national science, policy, management and SDG goals.
- Build synergies/intersections to capitalize existing strengths across disciplines and boundaries – “We can do more together than we can do alone.”
- Develop diverse partnerships. They are the strong ones: inclusive, diverse, equity, youth, gender, local and indigenous.
- Put in place a process that will last a Decade, will raise capacity, engage, and empower, and solve problems.

48. He stressed that the Regional Planning Thematic Working Groups will be an instrumental mechanism for Member States to engage with partners across the region.

49. Mr. Paterson introduced Mr. Ariel Troisi, the current Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to refer the Sub-commission’s participation in the Decade.

50. Following the Decade Regional Planning workshops that were held throughout 2019 and 2020, informal stakeholders’ platforms have been established in several regions to advance the identification of regional initiatives and programmes for the Ocean Decade.

51. He referred to the importance of the National Decade Committees (NDC) which have been / will be established to facilitate national coordination of Decade activities. These national multi-agency and multi-stakeholder platforms involve the national political and scientific institutions and actors concerned by the ocean and its management. Existing national coordinating mechanisms can provide the basis for performing such functions. The NDC will engage the national ocean community (a wide variety of local and sub-national stakeholders) and facilitate co-design of initiatives (programmes, projects, and contributions) across groups of stakeholders that can be endorsed as Decade Actions. They will also facilitate hosting of sub-regional or regional meetings related to the Decade.

52. Lastly, Mr. Troisi made a reference to the impact of Covid - 19 on regional activities.

53. Several National Decade Committees have been established in the Western Tropical Atlantic Region. Following Member States were invited to present their experiences Brazil, Colombia and Mexico.

5.1 UN OCEAN DECADE WESTERN TROPICAL ATLANTIC (WTA) REGIONAL PLANNING WORKSHOP. Regional Dialogue, setting priorities, defining needs and partnership building.

<i>Reference Document:</i>	WTA Workshop Report	Western Tropical Atlantic Workshop Report (Virtual Meeting, 28-29 April, 2020)
	WTA Report Co-Design Meeting	Co-Designing the Ocean Science we need for the Western Tropical Atlantic (WTA)

54. Mrs. Lorna Inniss, Coordinator, UN Environment Programme’s Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean (UNEP) introduced this Agenda Item.

55. As part of the Preparatory Process of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) a virtual meeting for the Western Tropical Atlantic (WTA-Ocean Decade) was held on April 28-29, 2020. This meeting was coordinated by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission’s (IOC of UNESCO) Sub-Commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions - IOCARIBE Secretariat. It was hosted by UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico) and co-organized by the Government of Mexico with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) as coordinating body for The Decade and the Secretariat of the Cartagena Convention (UN Environment). Over 600 scientists, policymakers, program managers, and government officials, representatives from tourism and maritime sectors, private enterprises, non-governmental organizations, and communicators engaged before and during the meeting.

56. She recalled that regional priorities were established, and new and expanded stakeholders and partnerships were identified through the WTA questionnaires, presentations and messaging. IOCARIBE and the WTA Steering Committee seek to maintain momentum and coordinate the follow-up including establishment of a formal regional coordination process.

57. Mrs. Inniss referred to the importance of taking advantage of every opportunity to mobilize countries to implement what they say they would do on meetings and referred to the need to focus on the Grand Actions and Grand Challenges agreed during the Western Tropical Atlantic Workshop and how we would like to commit Member States on the Intergovernmental process. This meeting brings an excellent platform to involve MS and establish partnerships.

58. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

5.2 WESTERN TROPICAL ATLANTIC (WTA) REGIONAL PLANNING GROUP

<u>Reference Document:</u>	WTA Terms of Reference	Terms of Reference of the WTA Regional Planning Group
	WTA Members	UN Decade WTA Regional Planning Group Members

59. Mr. Arthur Paterson, IOCARIBE Vice-Chair introduced this agenda item.

60. He informed the Session that as instructed by Recommendation SC-IOCARIBE.XV.2 May 2019 for the UN Decade in the Region, the IOCARIBE Secretary, in consultation with the IOCARIBE Officers and members of the WTA Steering Committee, agreed to establish a Regional Planning Group (WAT RPG) for the UN Decade of Ocean Science to advance and coordinate strategic partnerships and actions for Western Tropical Atlantic engagement in the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)

61. The main objectives of the WTA Planning Group are: (i) Advance and coordinate Strategic Partnerships and Actions; (ii) Advise IOCARIBE and the IOC of UNESCO and its Governing Bodies on the WTA preparatory process for the UN Decade of Ocean Science; (iii) Continue socialization / communication on the UN Decade in/for the WTA region with existing networks, institutions, experts and stakeholders; (iv) Establish Working Groups (WGs) clustered around the seven societal outcomes and the cross-cutting issues identified in the Implementation Plan; (v) Identify opportunities, jointly with WGs, for integrated regional programmes, projects, and activities as well as for engagement and support at the global, regional and national scales to advance the seven societal outcomes and the cross-cutting issues identified in the Implementation Plan and in the WTA Regional Workshop; (vi) Define an action plan and timetable, including the planning of a regional Ocean Decade launch event in 2021 and mobilize financial resources and involvement of potential funding leaders secure renewed funding.

62. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

5.3 WESTERN TROPICAL ATLANTIC WORKING GROUPS: ACTION PLAN

<u>Reference Document:</u>	RPG Working Group Action Plan	Draft Western Tropical Atlantic WTA Decade Regional Planning Group Action Plan
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63. Mrs. Christa G. von Hillebrandt-Andrade, Manager Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, International Tsunami Information Center and Member of the UN Decade Executive Planning Group EPG introduced this agenda item.

64. She gave a general overview about the Regional Planning Thematic Working Groups and their role. She highlighted the co-design concept, partnership aspects and the need for inspiring ocean for literacy and policy outreach.

65. After her presentation she introduced the Leaders of the Working Groups to give a presentation about their group composition/gaps by country, describe their grand challenge and provide the audience a “chart” on how they can engage practically within their theme, and bring their experts to the table to design activities at national and regional levels that can achieve national SDG goals.
66. The Leaders of the Regional Planning Thematic WTA Working Groups presented their overview as follows:
- A Clean Ocean: Ms. Lorna Inniss
 - A healthy and resilient ocean: Mr. Francisco Arias
 - A predicted ocean: Mr. Marck Oduber
 - A safe ocean: Mrs. Christa von Hillebrandt
 - A sustainably harvested and productive ocean: Mr. Alejandro Acosta
 - A transparent and accessible ocean: Mr. Albert Martis and Mr. Edgard Cabrera
 - Capacity Development Mrs. Elva Escobar and Mr. Ariel Troisi
67. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

5.4 EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC ACTIVITIES

<u>Reference Document:</u>	Report	Co-Designing the Ocean Science we need for the Eastern Tropical Pacific (Virtual Meeting 28 January 10:00am – 12:00pm)
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68. Mrs. Elva Escobar from the National University of Mexico UNAM and member of the UN Decade Executive Planning Group (EPG) and WTA RPG introduced this agenda item.
69. As part of the Ocean Decade Virtual Series, a Meeting was convened for Co-designing the Ocean Science we need for the Eastern Tropical Pacific on January 28, 2021 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030.
70. The recommendations of this virtual event recognized that continuous co-design is required for success of long-term actions involving fishermen, governmental sectors, and the best science and technology available. Recognizing unique opportunities and the timing is relevant for funding specific processes in addition to motivation and commitment. These recommendations will be fundamental to bring forward transformative Co-Design in the region during the next decade.
71. Main next steps were defined by the need of regional actions and a regional strategic plan that includes training sessions and actions in partnership with multi-stakeholder and user’s participation to explore major investments for science ocean observing systems. With an appropriate use of research, reaching the decision making, establishing knowledge sharing and data platforms and connecting communities, private sector, current and new partners.

72. On her intervention Mrs. Escobar highlighted on the importance to co-develop science in relation to the region's major needs and recommendations and the gaps observed in many of the ocean decade outputs. She emphasized on science's central role in society, the ocean solutions to challenges and to benefit people, nature and the economy and consider engaging traditional knowledge holders and gender to be able to achieve the Ocean we want for sustainable development.
73. She stressed on the importance of capacity development and ocean literacy to promote an ocean science culture so people are better informed on opportunities with a healthier ocean, sustainable use of marine resources in the region and mentioned some examples.
74. Mrs. Escobar referred to the Early Careers Ocean Professionals (ECOPS) in activities and projects dedicated to the promotion of science as a lever of action to build sustainable societies.
75. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

RECOMMENDATION PROPOSED FOR AGENDA ITEMS 5.1 – 5.4

5.5 UN DECADE KICK-OFF CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS (OCTOBER 2021)

76. Mr. Arnulfo Sanchez, IOCARIBE Chairperson introduced this agenda item.
77. He referred to the Session about the kick-off event of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development is planned to take place in Berlin, Germany, from the 31st of May to the 2nd of June 2021. It will be hosted by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany.
78. IOCARIBE Chairperson informed about the activities and events organised by the WTA Regional Planning Group in preparation of the UN Decade Regional Kick-off Conference to be held in conjunction with IOCARIBE International Ocean Science Conference scheduled for October 2021.
79. The activities include a series of workshops, webinars and other events organised by WTA Working Groups where stakeholders, experts, socio-economic partners, national, regional and UN organisations, industry and the private sector, indigenous and local communities will jointly co-design those transformative actions needed to respond to the Region needs.
80. He invited all MS to contribute to the Conference preparation, provide recommendations and suggestions, and actively work nationally and regionally promoting the UN Decade and connecting their national science and socio-economic plans with the UN Decade.
81. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

5.6 IOCARIBE, UN OCEAN DECADE AND SUSTAINABLE OCEAN ECONOMY

82. Mr. Marck Oduber, IOC Vice-Chair introduced this agenda item.
83. He referred to the importance of the Sustainable Ocean Economy and its implications for the Small Island States and countries in general in the IOCARIBE Region. He referred to the initiatives currently going on in the IOCARIBE Region and introduced the panellists to oversee this segment during the Session.

5.6.1 Tourism and recreation opportunities in oceans and coasts

84. This item was divided into two sections: (i) "Blue tourism: Opportunities in Oceans and Coasts in the Caribbean" presented by Mr. Jorge Ridderstaat, Assistant Professor, of The University of Central Florida, at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management Tourism. His presentation focused on the possibilities of the ocean and coastal use from a tourism perspective. He also emphasized some preconditions to consider when developing or expanding this opportunity. Specifically, he discussed the sustainability issue and the socio-economic context of Caribbean destinations that need to be considered; and (ii) "Opportunities and gaps for enabling a Blue Economy in the Caribbean" introduced by Mr. Andrés Cisneros-Montemayor, Deputy Director and Principal Investigator, Nippon Foundation Ocean Nexus Program.: A Blue Economy aims to establish ocean sectors that are socially equitable, environmentally sustainable, and economically viable. The Caribbean region has deep relationships with ocean environments and has been a leader in planning for future ocean development. Mr. Cisneros-Montemayor talk draws from recent multidisciplinary research to highlight key opportunities and gaps to help that process.

5.6.2 Enhance the resilience of oceans, and coasts

85. Mr. Gerald Singh, Assistant Professor Department of Geography, Memorial University of Newfoundland introduced this item and his talk "Building capacity for coastal sustainable development facing global change in the Caribbean" complemented some of the other talks, including on climate impacts and sustainable ocean economy. He focused on governance frameworks to allow for coordinated action to build resilient and sustainable coastal systems and development.

5.6.3 Climate Change (e.g. carbon sequestration and conversion, renewable energy)

86. Mr. Leonard A. Nurse, Retired Professor, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados from CERMES introduced this agenda item with a presentation titled "The Ocean: Climate change impacts and opportunities, with special reference to the Caribbean."
87. He focused on key impacts of climate change and climate variability on ocean processes and resources critical marine ecosystems that support the economies and livelihoods of Caribbean peoples. In alignment with the principles of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the viability and use of nature-based approaches to respond to these risks were discussed, and opportunities for optimizing some as yet unexploited and under-utilized ocean energy resources were explored.

5.6.4 Enhancing IOCARIBE exposure in Sustainable Ocean Economy

88. Mr. Andrei Moarcas Environment & Energy Officer at the Association of the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTA) introduced this agenda item with a presentation titled "Realising the Potential of the Overseas Countries and Territories for Sustainable Blue Growth - an OCTA Study." The presentation included a short description of OCTA, its vision and its actions. He provided a general outline of the work currently being undertaken on a Study

covering the Overseas Countries and Territories, aiming to clarify the current status and the next steps to be taken for OCTs to accelerate the full transition towards Sustainable Ocean Economy. The transition to a more integrated ocean-based economy is an achievable objective for most countries and the Study can serve as a source of inspiration for other economies in the region.

89. The IOCARIBE Secretary discussed the opportunities a sustainable ocean economy represents to IOCARIBE Member States, and in particular Island States most of them classified as middle-income countries and highly dependent on ocean and coastal resources. He referred to high socio-economic disruption produced by the pandemic that also showed the possibility of a healthy and productive ocean. He related the present situation and the ocean sciences contribution to the recovery of the region and the potential of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.
90. The IOCARIBE Chairman invited MS to consider developing IOCARIBE initiatives responding and supporting the Region sustainable ocean economy.

RECOMMENDATION PROPOSED FOR AGENDA ITEM 5.6

91. The representatives of __ Member States and Organizations took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

6. REVIEW AND REPORTING OF REGIONAL PROGRAMMES, PROJECTS AND WORKING GROUPS APRIL 2019 – APRIL 2021

92. The IOCARIBE Secretary introduced this agenda item.
93. He explained the Session that considering that the Session is being held online due to the Covid-19 pandemic and due to time constraints, programme leaders will report summarizing all achievements, highlighting strategic directions for the new biennium (2021-2022) and Programme links and contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). Presentations under this Agenda item will be conducted in accordance to following themes: i) Ocean Research; ii) Observing and Early Warning Systems and Services; iii) Assessment Information for Policy and Sustainable Management and Governance. The summary reports will be published in the event webpage.
94. Regional Project Coordinators will address the Session as follows:
- (i) Ocean Research

Programme	Coordinator / Leader in charge of presenting the report	Ref. Recommendation IOCARIBE XV
Harmful Algae Blooms in the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (HAB-ANCA)	Mr. Ernesto Mancera, Universidad Nacional de Colombia	Recommendation SC-IOCARIBE -XV.4 Harmful Algae Blooms in the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (HACA)

Ocean Acidification	Mrs.. Katherina Schoo, IOC/UNESCO	Recommendation SC- IOCARIBE - XV.5 Ocean Acidification
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(ii) Observing and Early Warning Systems and Services

Programme	Coordinator / Leader in charge of presenting the report	Ref. Recommendation IOCARIBE XV
Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE):	Mr. Peter Pissierssens, IODE Coordinator	Recommendation SC- IOCARIBE - XV.6 International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) in the IOCARIBE Region
Caribbean Marine Atlas (CMA)	Mr. Francisco Arias (Carolina Garcia) INVEMAR	
Ocean Teacher Global Academy (OTGA)	Mrs. Paula Sierra, INVEMAR	
IOC Ocean Info Hub and LAC Ocean Info Hub	Mr. Frederico Saraiva Nogueira, Brazilian Navy	
MACHC & IOCARIBE Seabed 2030 Strategy	Mr Cesar Toro IOCARIBE Secretary	Recommendation SC- IOCARIBE- XV.7 SEABED 2030 and Meso-American- Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission
MACHC-IOCARIBE Seabed 2030 Work Plan for 2021	Mrs. Cecilia Cortina, MACHC Coordinator for the Seabed 2030	
International Bathymetric Chart for the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico IBCCA	Mr. Dagoberto David, CIOH	
New Initiatives within IOCARIBE-GOOS to improve Member States Ocean Observing, Monitoring and Forecasting Capacity. New Pilot Proposal	Mr. Scott Glenn, Rutgers University	Recommendation SC- IOCARIBE- XV.8 Initiatives to Improve Member States Hurricane Observing Forecasting Capacity
Sargassum and Oil Spills Monitoring & Forecasting System	Mrs. Emily Smail , Director GEO Blue Planet Initiative	Recommendation SC- IOCARIBE- XV.9 Sargassum and Oil Spill Monitoring

Coastal Inundation Forecasting Initiative in the Caribbean (CIFI-C)	Mr. Albert Martis Meteorological Department Curacao	
ICG/CARIBE-EWS – IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions	Mrs. Silvia Chacon, Chair ICG/CARIBE-EWS	Recommendation SC-IOCARIBE- XV.10 IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE-EWS)

(iii) Assessment Information for Policy and Sustainable Management and Governance.

Programme	Coordinator / Leader in charge of presenting the report	Ref. Recommendation IOCARIBE XV
Ocean Literacy	Mrs. Francesca Santoro IOC/UNESCO	Recommendation SC-IOCARIBE - XV.3 Ocean Literacy
Marine Spatial Planning and Sustainable Ocean Economy	Mr. Marck Oduber IOCARIBE Vice-Chair (to be reported under Agenda Item 5.6)	
Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystems (CLME+)	Mr. Patrick Debels, Project Coordinator	Recommendation SC-IOCARIBE - XV.11 Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME+)

88. After the review of the regional programmes of the Sub commission, the Chairman informed the Session about proposed actions and recommendations. Those proposed recommendations will be reviewed by the Recommendations Committee.

89. The representatives of __ Member States and Organizations took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

7. INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

7.1 STATUS OF COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

90. The IOCARIBE Secretary Mr. Cesar Toro introduced this agenda item. He provided a general introduction on the progress made in the established cooperation with international organizations and other regional programmes.

91. The Sub-Commission in close coordination with IOC continues actively to enhance and strengthen links with other United Nations Programmes and other international and regional organizations.
92. Representatives from cooperating Organizations present at the Session, University of Rutgers, Texas A & M, University of West Indies, CERMES, KIOST, Air Centre, UNEP CAR-RCU, CARICOM, CRFM among others were invited to provide information about their Organization's programmes which complement those of IOC and IOCARIBE and about on-going cooperation.

8. ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

8.1 REPORT BY FINANCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ON PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR JUNE 2021 – MAY 2023

<u>Working documents:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/2 Annex 1	Report of the Chair of the Financial Committee on Programme and Budget
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93. The Chairman of the Financial Committee introduced this agenda item.
94. He referred to the current financial situation for UNESCO, IOC and its Subsidiary Bodies including IOCARIBE and highlighted the work achieved by the Sub-commission despite financial difficulties and constraints. He mentioned the support provided to the Subcommission by several member states and the secondment of professionals as an example of such support.
95. The Chairman of the Financial Committee stressed that under all present budgetary scenarios the impact on the work of the Subcommission is significantly high and urged Member States to support the Subcommission by providing in-kind and in-cash extrabudgetary funds, and staff secondments needed to implement the Subcommission programmes as recommended by Member States.
96. He informed the Session about main discussions and thanked Member States that participated in the work of the Committee. He then presented the proposed Draft Recommendation for consideration by the IOCARIBE Sub-commission.
97. The Sub commission thanked the Chair of the Financial Committee for leading the work of the Committee.
98. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI , Recom.

Report of the IOCARIBE Secretary on Programme and Budget

The Sub-commission,

1. Having examined document IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/2 Annex 1,
2. Takes note of the report of the Chair of the Financial Committee on draft IOCARIBE programme and budget 2021-2023 budget, ...

8.2 ELECTIONS OF THE BOARD OF OFFICERS OF THE SUB-COMMISSION

[Rules of Procedure No. 25(3) and Appendix I]

[On 6 May, 2021 the Sub-Commission is expected to elect its Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons (Rules of Procedure 13 and 17) for a two-year period (intersessional)].

8.2.1 Election of the Chairperson of the Sub-commission

8.2.2 Election of the Vice-Chairpersons of the Sub-commission

<u>Information:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/Inf. 2	Procedure for Elections of the Officers of the IOCARIBE Sub-Commission
	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI/Inf. 2 (1)	Procedure for Elections On-Line

99. The Chairperson of the Nominations Committee introduced this item. The Committee will work in conformity with the technical arrangements for the elections of the Officers of the Sub-Commission as laid down in Appendix I of the Rules of Procedure. The list of nominations (to be received by 18.00 hours local time on 3 May, 2021) was put before the Sub-commission.
100. Considering that IOCARIBE Member States cannot hold in person meetings due to the most exceptional circumstances caused by COVID 19, and that at every biennial meeting of the Sub-commission a new Board of Officers should be elected, and that in case there are more candidates than seats in the Board, elections should be called and effected by the use of electronic voting. In order to ensure transparency and secrecy of the elections, an online electronic voting system with two options is proposed. Which option will be used should be decided by the Sub-commission on due course.
101. The Chairperson of the Nominations Committee thanked former members of the Board for the great work accomplished during their term and asked them to take the floor to address the Session. The Chairperson of the Nominations Committee congratulated the newly elected Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons and asked them to take the floor.
102. The Sub-commission congratulated newly elected Officers.
103. The representatives of ___ Member States took the floor. The following Member States chose to provide records of their plenary intervention on this agenda item for the informational annex to the meeting report: _____.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 8.2

IOCARIBE Sub-commission Elections 2021

The Sub-commission,

I. Election of the Chair of the Sub-Commission

1. Taking note that:

(i)

(ii)

2. Elects _____ (country)

II. Election of the Vice-chairs of the Sub-Commission

3. Taking note that:

(i)

(ii)

4. Elects

- _____ (country)

- _____ (country)

- _____ (country)

8.3 DATES AND PLACES OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE SUB-COMMISSION

[Statutes, Art. 6C.7; Rule of procedure 19.2]

104. The IOCARIBE Chairperson introduced this item.

105. He recalled that Regional Sub-Commissions of IOC should meet every two (2) years, preferably before the IOC Assembly, to review their activities and timely submit their Recommendations and budgetary request to the main governing body of IOC.

106. The IOCARIBE Chairperson requested Member States to present their nominations to host the 17th Session of the IOCARIBE Sub-Commission during the first quarter of 2023.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 8.3

Dates and Place of next Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions IOCARIBE

The Sub-commission,

1. Decides to hold:

(i) The 17th Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions IOCARIBE in the first quarter 2023 at a place to be decided,

2. Calls on the Member States to consider the possibility of hosting this session or providing voluntary extrabudgetary contributions to allow its effective organization.

9. OTHER MATTERS

10. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>Working document:</u>	IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XIV/ Addendum 1	Addendum for Adoption Decisions and Recommendations
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107. The Chairperson of the Recommendations Committee reported to the Sub-Commission on the work of the Committee during the session.
108. The Chairperson of the Session invited the Sub-Commission to adopt the Draft Recommendations of its present Session.

IOC/SC-IOCARIBE-XVI, Recom. 9

Adoption Decisions Recommendations

The Sub-Commission,

1. Adopts the Recommendations and Draft Summary Report for the present session;
2. Requests the IOCARIBE Secretary to circulate the summary report to Member States within one month after the closure of the session.

11. CLOSURE

109. The Sub-commission met in plenary session during four days from May 3 to May 6, 2021, considered 36 items on its agenda and approved ___ decisions and ___ recommendations.
110. The Chairperson of the IOCARIBE Sub-commission closed the Sixteenth Session of the IOC Sub-commission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions IOCARIBE at xx on May 6, 2021.