



**Thirty-second session of the IOC Assembly
Paris, 21 - 30 June 2023**

**Item 4.5 Status of the Regional Committee of the
Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO)**

4.5 STATUS OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE CENTRAL INDIAN OCEAN (IOCINDIO)



Thirty-first session of the IOC Assembly (online)

IOC-31 (online)

Meeting

25 June 2021



Decision A-31/3.5.6

... To pursue further towards the establishment of the IOC Sub-Commission, as a framework to improve coordination of IOC Member States in the region and to ensure implementation of IOC programmes in the Indian Ocean **with a view to presenting a draft resolution to the Assembly of IOC at its 32nd Session**

Establish an intersessional Working Group in order to complete the work on: terms of reference; determination of the geographic scope; programme of work; the proposed projects and funding support; and mechanisms for coordination with adjacent Sub-Commissions; etc.

Report to the Executive Council, at its 55th session, on the status of implementation of this decision.

IOC CL No 2872



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION Océanographique Intergouvernementale
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات
政府间海洋学委员会

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IOC Circular Letter No 2872
(also available in French)

IOC/VR/YX/JA/pbo
4 January 2022

To : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States
Chair of IOC, Vice-Chairs, Chairs of IOCAFRICA, IOCINDIO, and WESTPAC

cc. : National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States

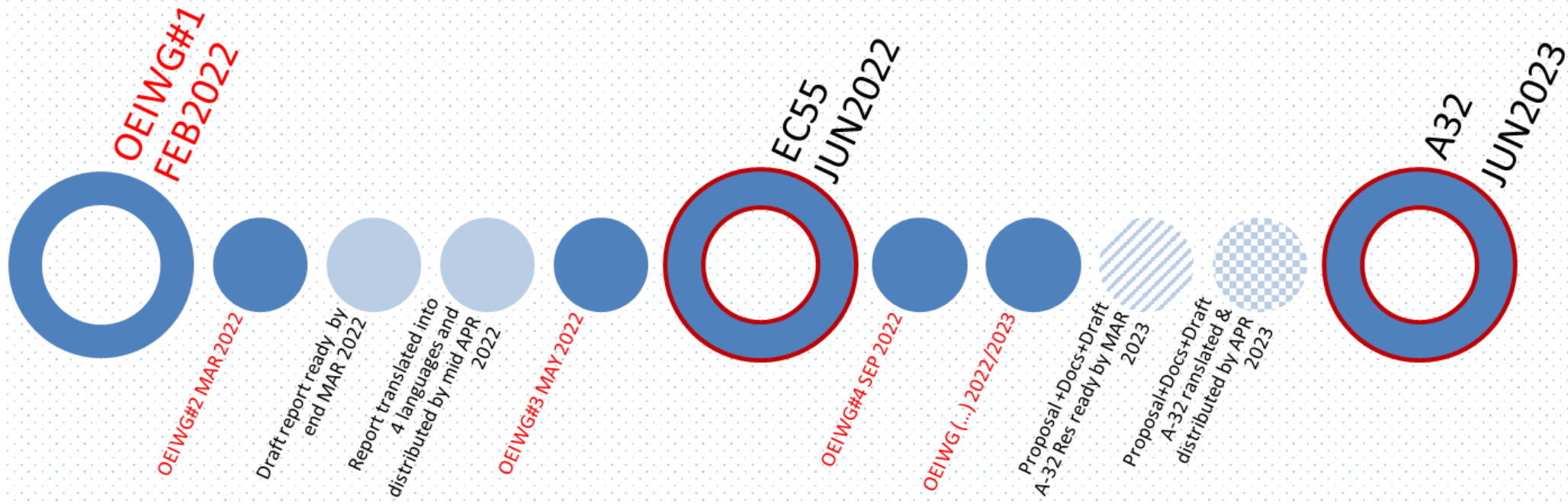
Subject: Invitation to Member States to nominate members of the open-ended
intersessional Working Group on the Status of the IOC Regional Committee
for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO)

By this letter, I wish to recall that the IOC Assembly at its thirty-first Session, online (UNESCO, Paris, 14–25 June 2021), discussed the proposal of IOCINDIO Chair Rear Admiral (Retd) Khurshed Alam to change the status of IOCINDIO into an IOC Sub-Commission. That proposal was based on a corresponding Recommendation of IOCINDIO at its 8th Session, which was reflected in the Action Paper ([IOC/A-31/AP_rev2](#)) for the Assembly. The related Assembly working document is [IOC/A-31/3.5.6.Doc](#). Both documents are available in the four working languages of the Commission.

After the initial discussion of the above proposal in the plenary meeting of the Assembly, then in three meetings of a sessional dedicated working group and the concluding discussion in plenary meeting, the Assembly adopted IOC Decision A-31/3.5.6. The Revised Summary Report of the IOC 31st Assembly is available [online](#) and contains a summary of the item discussion and the decision.

Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, France, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kenya, Kuwait, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States of America as well as the Vice-Chair of electoral Group IV of IOC, the Chairpersons of IOCAFRICA and WESTPAC, the former Officers of IOCINDIO, the Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC) based in Seychelles, and observers

28 MS + neighboring RSB + observers





55th Session of the IOC
Executive Council at UNESCO

HQ

EC-55

Meeting

13 - 17 June 2022



3.5.2 Progress Report of the Intersessional Open-ended Working Group on the Status of the Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO)



Decision IOC/EC-55/3.5.2.

... Notes the ongoing consultations, ...

Welcomes and appreciates the comments and inputs of IOCAFRICA and WESTPAC in the Working Group deliberations;

Invites the WG to continue its consultations with the IOC Sub-commissions and to submit its final report and recommendation, avoiding duplications and respecting geographic coverage of other Sub-commissions, for consideration by the IOC Assembly at its 32nd session.

28 February 2022

Unanimous adoption of the draft **Terms of Reference** of the IOC Sub-Commission for the central Indian Ocean **on the understanding**, with a consensual agreement, **that it should not interfere with, undermine, diminish, or weaken the work and/or responsibilities of existing neighboring IOC Sub-Commissions.**

7 MEETINGS

For the purposes of the document, “central Indian Ocean” refers to the area of the Indian Ocean adjacent, to the West, with that of IOCAFRICA, and to the East, with that of WESTPAC

13 April 2023

Adequate coordination with adjacent Sub-Commissions is proposed to avoid overlaps, focusing on cooperation, collaboration, and integration of IOC activities for the benefit of all regions.