



OBPS\_20240918

**unesco**

Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

# **IOC Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS) Monthly Meeting**

18 September 2024  
12.00-13.00 UTC  
[ONLINE]



2024

OBPS\_20240918  
18 September 2024  
English only

### **ABSTRACT**

The IOC Ocean Best Practices System Steering Group (SG-OBPS) meets annually at a face-to-face/hybrid/online meeting. During the intervening months the OBPS convenes monthly online meetings to discuss progress and focus on delivery of the work plan

This report is the record of the online meeting for 18 September 2024

Suggested citation:

*IOC Ocean Best Practices System (OBPS), Monthly Meeting, 18 September 2024.*  
[ONLINE] Paris, UNESCO/IOC/IODE, 6pp. 2024 (OBPS\_20240918)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	<b>OPENING OF THE MEETING</b>	3
2	<b>ADVISROY BOARD SELECTION</b> <b>Action 2.1:</b> Patricia to contact the next one in the reserve list and finalise the Board selection. <b>[DONE]</b> <b>Action 2.2:</b> Emma to send the GOOS Advisory board agenda to Patricia <b>[DONE]</b> <b>Action 2.3:</b> Patricia to prepare the Advisory Board Introductory meeting in collaboration with <b>Co-Chairs</b> . <b>[DONE]</b>	3
3	<b>SG-OBPS VI ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATION</b> <b>3.1 Action:</b> Patricia and Co-Chairs to organise the SG-OBPS VI Agenda <b>[DONE]</b> <b>3.2 Action:</b> Patricia to organise a technical meeting about the repository <b>[DONE]</b>	3
4	<b>OCEAN POLICY TASK TEAM PROPOSAL</b> <b>Action 4.1:</b> Patricia to organize a meeting with IOC by the end of September/ beginning of October. Before this, Patricia will present a summarized version of the Ocean Policy Task Team Proposal at the next IOC meeting. <b>[DONE]</b>	3
5	<b>LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM OBPS</b> <b>Action 5.1:</b> Patricia to prepare the letter, with inputs from Johannes and George, considering that the proposal submission deadline is set for September 30, 2024. <b>[DONE]</b>	4
6	<b>OTHER ITEMS IN THE AGENDA NOT DISCUSSED</b>	4
7	<b>AOB</b>	5
8	<b>CLOSE OF THE MEETING</b>	5
	<b>ANNEX 1: Participants</b>	6

### 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Rene G. (OBPS Co-Chair and Chair of the meeting) opened the session referring to the agenda that was linked in the chat and attached to the calendar invitation sent by Patricia. He invites everyone to look at it to follow the agenda topics to be discussed. A comprehensive list of the meeting participants can be found in Annex I. Apologies were noted from: Ana Carolina Peralta, Katherina Schoo, Rachel Przeslawski, Johannes Karstensen, Virginie van Dongen-Vogels, Cristian Muñoz Mas, Carol Mazucco, and Aileen Tan Shau Hwai.

All attendees agreed to record the session (see [RECORDING](#)).

### 2. ADVISROY BOARD SELECTION

The Advisory Board selection is nearly finalized with six members already confirmed: Peter Haugan, Craig McLean, Joaquin Tintoré, Katrin Schroeder, Jessica Sandoval, and Marco Worship. Unfortunately, Dawn Wright has declined due to her busy schedule. Invitations to either Srinivasa Kumar or Dr. Pattabhi are still pending confirmation due to the holiday period in their region. To complete the board to a total of eight members, we now need to contact the reserve list in the following order: Fabio

Nascimento, Herman M. Westerbeeke, and Marcin Wichorowski [see full contact [list here](#)].

It was agreed that there is no need for them to sign any documents, as they all responded enthusiastically to the invitation and were aware of the Terms of Reference and responsibilities beforehand. The next step is to invite them to an introductory online meeting during the week of October 21–30, 2024. We would prefer to schedule this meeting before our next SG monthly meeting (potentially on October 30, 2024). In this 1-hour meeting, we will introduce their roles, discuss 1-2 topics for which we seek their advice, and outline the types of questions we will ask them in the future. Please note that this meeting will not replace the SG Monthly meeting in October. Not all SG members are expected to be part of the Advisory Group, and a separate meeting for our SG monthly session will be organized.

- **Action 2.1: Patricia** to contact the next one in the reserve list and finalise the Board selection. **[DONE]**
- **Action 2.2: Emma** to send the GOOS Advisory board agenda to Patricia **[DONE]**
- **Action 2.3: Patricia** to prepare the Advisory Board Introductory meeting in collaboration with **Co-Chairs**. **[DONE]**

### 3. SG-OBPS VI ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATION

#### 3.1 Budget

Patricia, with the help of Co-Chairs, is currently working on the travel budget to come up with a comprehensive list of who can/should attend physically the meeting. IEEE is looking into assisting with the budget for travel costs, though not at the same level as last year.

#### 3.2 Documents to prepare ahead of the meeting

Prior to this meeting, SG members were invited to suggest topics for the Annual Meeting [Agenda](#). Patricia, in collaboration with the Co-Chairs, will reorganize the agenda based on the outcomes of this meeting, and it will be presented and finalized during the next SG Monthly Meeting. Frank MK. suggested including agenda items that address how to better serve the community, expand the use of OBPS, assess whether the technology is adequate, and evaluate the role of the Ocean Decade in shaping Ocean Practices. Additionally, he recommends a more in-depth briefing on the internal and external links between OBPS and ODIS, as well as how they function.

Several documents have to be prepared ahead of the meeting, such as:

- WP co-leads will be asked to fill in a simple 2-page document that will serve as a basis for the conversations in the meeting and for the workplan. A draft is prepared here and open to suggestions: [WP Progress Report](#).
- The draft of the Work Plan and the budget, and ensuring alignment between the two, should also be done ahead of the meeting.

Discussions have mainly centered on the key topics for the Annual Meeting, specifically the work plan and the repository. Regarding the repository, there are several items that require attention: governance/coordination, technological advancements, and maintenance. Emma H. proposed considering the future direction of the repository over the next five years. Jay P. emphasized that decisions on the repository's trajectory should be integrated into the new strategic plan, as the current five-year strategic plan is coming to an end.

Pauline S. highlighted the urgency of other issues that need addressing. For example, an EXB funded contractor has completed several technical enhancements, such as incorporating new vocabularies (marine regions/EOVs) and enabling automatic

generation of citations, which still need to be implemented by IODE IT. . The other priority concerning the repository, is upgrading the software advised by WP2/3, and other requirements for example Google Analytics and an RFP covered by the OBPS Repository Maintenance budget of \$17k needs to be sent out urgently for a spend by Dec 2024.

The conclusion was to discuss the repository in greater depth well in advance of the Annual Meeting, as it is a decision-making meeting. Patricia has been tasked with organizing a meeting in the next two weeks with the IOC Sponsors, Co-Chairs and WP2 and 3 co-leads to address this.

Another suggestion in preparation of the Annual meeting is to review the SWOT analysis from the orientation document to review the strategic plan, with a focus on annual priorities and the next five years. This topic should be covered on day two of the meeting. Additionally, it was recommended to briefly revisit the mission (rather than the vision), though this should not lead to an extended discussion.

During the final session of the Annual Meeting, there should be a dedicated slot for discussing the priorities from each WP. There should also be a topic on the agenda related to AISBL, but this was not discussed in detail.

**3.1 Action: Patricia and Co-Chairs** to organise the SG-OBPS VI Agenda **[DONE]**

**3.2 Action: Patricia** to organise a meeting about the repository with IOC Sponsors, Co-Chairs, Co-Leads of WP2 and 3 in next two weeks. **[DONE]**

#### 4. OCEAN POLICY TASK TEAM PROPOSAL

Jay P. and Laura Meyer worked on a proposal to form a Task Team on Ocean Policy, and approval is being sought during this meeting to start the task team.

The [Ocean Policy Task Team Proposal](#), has been agreed upon in this meeting, with the condition that membership and consultations include input from the IOC science team, since they have expertise in this area.

**Action 4.1: Patricia** to organize a meeting with IOC by the end of September/beginning of October. Before this, Patricia will present a summarized version of the Ocean Policy Task Team Proposal at the next IOC meeting.

#### 5. LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM OBPS

George and Johannes chaired a session on Monday at the metrology association, BIPM. During the session, they were asked if OBPS could provide a letter of support for a metrology project proposal [[call is here](#)]. They wondered if we have done this before, and how to proceed on this.

This item was not discussed during the meeting but was addressed via email after. Jay P. and Rene G. agreed to support the project proposal.

**Action 5.1: Patricia** to prepare the letter for the Co-Chairs, with inputs from Johannes and George, considering that the proposal submission deadline is set for September 30, 2024. **[DONE]**

#### 6. OTHER ITEMS IN THE AGENDA NOT DISCUSSED

- IODE Programme Activity [intersessional period report](#) by Nov 15th November (Meeting in March 2025 in Colombia). Who should join?
- 2024 Work Plan Status - ([quarterly-Sep update required](#))
- SG Member Call - update
- Co-Chair Elect nominations

- Repository
  - Upgrade software requirement, new enhancements and technical admin access to back-end repository required [RG/PS] Included under discussion of SG-OBPS-VI and Dedicated meeting to be arranged.
  - Repository Content Survey-trial to start by end of Sep to mid Nov - volunteers needed to take part using the [Repository content criteria](#) [PS]

## 7. AOB

- The October meeting clashes with the OBPS WSVIII – [Doodle poll](#) to find a new date.
- November monthly meeting replaced by the ANNUAL SG 12-14 Nov 2024, Paris

## 8. Close of the Meeting

The meeting closed at 13.00 UTC.

## ANNEX I

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS [ONLINE]

Arno LAMBERT  
IT Services Manager  
UNESCO / IOC Project Office for  
IODE,  
InnovOcean Campus  
Jacobsenstraat 1, 8400  
Oostende, Belgium

Emma HESLOP  
Programme Specialist GOOS  
Intergovernmental Oceanographic  
Commission (IOC) of UNESCO  
7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007  
Paris, France

Frank MULLER-KARGER  
Institute for Marine Remote  
Sensing/IMaR  
College of Marine Science  
University of South Florida  
140 7th Ave. South St  
Petersburg, FL 33701, United  
States of America

Jay PEARLMAN  
Director, Four Bridges  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
United States of America

Justin BUCK  
British Oceanographic Data  
Centre,  
National Oceanography Centre  
6 Brownlow Street,  
Liverpool. L3 5DA  
United Kingdom

Patricia CABRERA  
OBPS Project Manager  
IOC Ocean Best Practices  
System  
Navas de Tolosa 1 23003 Jaén,  
Spain

Pauline SIMPSON  
OBPS Repository Manager  
IOC Ocean Best Practices  
System  
IEEE France

Rebecca ZITOUN  
Integrated Marine Observing  
System  
University of Tasmania  
Private Bag 110, Hobart, TAS  
7001 Australia

Rene Garello (Co-Chair)  
Professor Emeritus  
Institut Mines-Telecom Atlantique  
Bretagne-Pays de la Loire,  
Technopôle Brest-Iroise, CS  
83818, 29238  
Brest Cedex 3, France