

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

2026 Meeting of the IODE Management Group
IOC Project Office for IODE, Oostende, Belgium
28-29 January 2026

REPORT (MAX 2 PAGES) - please answer in bullets where possible

1. Title of IODE Programme Component/Programme activity, IOC Programme or Decade activity (and acronym)

- AquaDocs: the joint open access repository of the UNESCO/IOC International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) and the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) with support from the FAO Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)

<https://aquadocs.org>

2. Report submitted by (Name/Date/email)

- Angela Clark-Hughes, Chair of the AquaDocs Steering Group
 January 23, 2026, aclark@earth.miami.edu
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 January 23, 2026, sally.taylor@ubc.ca

3. Updates since IODE-28 (*)

- As of January 26, 2026, AquaDocs has 37,433 deposits and serves as a repository for 130+ organizations, institutions, and projects to make aquatic and marine science information Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR). Since launching the new platform in January 2025, it has already recorded 849,576 record views and 187,957 PDF downloads.
- Completed translations of the entire AquaDocs interface into Arabic, French, Russian, Portuguese, and Spanish using machine learning verified by IAMSLIC volunteers.
- Integration with ORCID to provide unique persistent identifiers for authors and disambiguate between individuals of the same name.
- Integration with AGROVOC, a comprehensive, multilingual vocabulary from FAO which includes ASFA terms.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration with GeoNames, a database of 11 million place names, including water bodies. • Bulk upload functionality for Admin users. • Detailed usage statistics (views and downloads) for an item, collection, sub-community, or community, and by desired time period (e.g., week, month, year, all time). • Creation of context-specific help text for submission form and published user guides for depositors, editors, and collection administrators. • Ongoing recruitment of new content. Of note are submissions for the Ocean Decade Actions and the onboarding of a coordinated network of universities and institutions from Panama.
<p>4. How does your work align with the objectives of IODE, the UN Ocean Decade, and other multilateral agreements?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AquaDocs is the repository for the UN Ocean Decade publications.
<p>5. Prioritised deliverables 2026-2027</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit additional communities and projects for AquaDocs. • Implement training and re-training for AquaDoc content providers. • Complete outstanding migration items with D2T and consider additional multilingual interfaces such as Chinese. • Clean up inconsistent metadata created by earlier migrations.
<p>6. GOALS 2030 (Where do you see your work/activities/outcomes in 5 years?)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a FAIR repository, sustainability is paramount to the future of AquaDocs. Therefore, we anticipate continued growth and usage, providing open access to the vital resources maintained in AquaDocs.
<p>7. Considerations for / Requests to the IODE Management Group</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for hosted platform to support AquaDocs, currently \$7,000 • Ability to renew with the same host to provide repository stability and reduce costs and labor associated with migration

(*) See Action sheet: [IOC/IODE-28/3](#) Annex V