

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)
IOC Inter-sessional Working Group on Advancing Ocean Data Sharing for Sustainable Development in areas within national jurisdiction
2. Report submitted by (Name/Date/email)
Peter Burger, 19 January 2026, p.burger@unesco.org
3. Updates since IODE-28 (*)
<p>After IODE28 as per the IODE decision the ISWG was set up. At the A33 IOC assembly, where the policy recommendation was accepted, the decision called for further experts to be nominated for the ISWG by IOC Member States through a call by circular letter. Since then, the full ISWG was established with the following member states represented: Australia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Peru, Russian Federation, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and Uruguay.</p> <p>2 meetings of this expanded group have been held, and the initial focus is on a survey that has been send out, examples of implementation of the IOC Data Policy and assessing issues as national security and proprietary data.</p>
4. How does your work align with the objectives of IODE, the UN Ocean Decade, and other multilateral agreements?
The work is fully aligned with and in support of the private sector data sharing efforts of the UN Ocean Decade (Corporate Data Group) and in furtherance of the IOC Data Policy and Terms of Use (2023)
5. Prioritised deliverables 2026-2027
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with and encourage the implementation by Member States of Decision A-33/3.4.2 through providing practical advice (such as stakeholder prioritisation; positions on data which may affect national security; addressing proprietary ownership of data) and developing case studies. Document the implementation of the IOC Data Policy and Terms of Use (2023) as outlined in the recommendation. Disseminate successful examples of national policies which include effective ocean data sharing, regulations and permissions for all ocean-related activities conducted within their territorial waters and Exclusive Economic Zones. Report progress on the adoption by Member States of the recommendation to the 29th session of the IODE Committee and the 59th session of the Executive Council.

6. GOALS 2030 (Where do you see your work / activities / outcomes in 5 years?)

Countries approach, or lack thereof, towards open sharing of data collected in waters under their jurisdiction is one of the key hurdles in getting access to private sector data.

In 2030 countries will:

- pro-actively include data sharing provisions in all their licensing and operating agreements:
- proactively share data they receive from operators, companies, organization in their waters with open ocean data platforms.

7. Considerations for / Requests to the IODE Management Group

IODE can help focus countries and their NODCs (and ADUs) to support local private sector companies and help by motivating and facilitating the sharing of their data.

Members IOC Inter-sessional Working Group:

Country	Name	Position	Organisation
Australia	Mark Rehbein	Director, Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN)	Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)
Brazil	Vladimir Costa Maluf	Environmental Data Superintendent	Brazilian Navy Hydrographic Center (CHM)
Colombia	Cindy Tatiana Echeverry Rojas	In charge of databases Colombian Oceanographic Data Centre (CECOLDO)	Colombian Maritime Authority (DIMAR),
Ecuador	Sonia Recalde	Oceanographer Research	Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute of the Navy
Ghana	Marilyn Eghan	Principal Marine Officer	Ghana Maritime Authority
Indonesia	Marina C.G. Frederick	Acting Chair for the Research Center for Deep Sea	National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
Italy	Alessandra Giorgetti	Senior Scientist and Head of Italian National Oceanic Data Center	National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics OGS
Japan	Tomonori Hattori	Senior International Affairs Officer	Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard (JHOD)
Kuwait	Ali Abdhulhameed Al-Hashem	Associate Research Scientist	Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research
Mexico	Dr. Sergio Cerdeira Estrada	Coordinator of the Marine-Coastal Information and Analysis System	Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO)
Morocco	Ayoub Belattmania	Mechanical Engineer Captain, Royal Navy	Royal Moroccan Navy
Nigeria	James Onyepouchi Mnulomail	Assistant Chef Programme Analyst	Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research
Norway	Helge Sagan	Head of Norwegian Marine Datacentre	Institute of Marine Research
Oman	Ms. Suad Al Bimani	Marine Ecologist in Marine Ecology and Oceanography	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries Wealth and Water Resources
Peru	Marco Bartens Olortegui	Head of Navigation Department	Directorat of Hydrography and Navigation, Peruvian Navy
Russian Fed	Igor Ivachev	Head of Water Problems Center	VNI Ecology
Sweden	Lotta Fyrberg	Marine Data Manager & IODE Co-Chair	Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI)
Turkey	Eray Kalem	Data Analysis and Evaluation Branch Manager	Data Analysis and Evaluation Branch Manager
United Kingd	Mark Hebden	Senior Data Manager	National Oceanography Centre
Uruguay	Joaquín Chaves Peña	Professional/Technical at Centro Nacional de Datos Oceanograficos (CENDO)	Servicio de Oceanografía, Hidrografía y Meteorología de la Armada (SOHMA)

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