

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)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality Management Framework (QMF) Programme Activity
2. Report submitted by (Name/Date/email)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesley Rickards, 25 January 2026, ljr@noc.ac.uk
3. Updates since IODE-28 (*)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small updates made to M&G67 as requested by IODE-28 Steering Group has a new chair and several new members Advice provided to NODCs/ADUs preparing for accreditation when requested
4. How does your work align with the objectives of IODE, the UN Ocean Decade, and other multilateral agreements?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QMF/accreditation is an underpinning activity which supports all of IODE's objectives and UN Ocean Decade activities relating to data management including those activities of the Decade Coordination Office for Ocean Data Sharing (DCO-ODS). IODE 28 called on NODCs and ADUs to apply for accreditation as a "quality seal" demonstrating that the data services provided are of the highest quality standards.
5. Prioritised deliverables 2026-2027
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raising profile of QMF and accreditation within IODE Reviewing accreditation applications Review and revise M&G 67 – including review of accreditation criteria Follow up those who have been on OTGA training courses and offer assistance/encouragement for those who have not yet applied for accreditation Follow up those NODCs/ADUs which need to be reaccredited Plan new QMF/accreditation training course Consider a Spanish version of M&G 67 including accreditation criteria (this has been requested by Spanish speaking NODCs/ADUs)
6. GOALS 2030 (Where do you see your work / activities / outcomes in 5 years?)

- Overall, endeavour to make IODE QMF and accreditation a routine and regular part of the NODC/ADU activity.
- Currently there are 65 NODCs and 46 ADUs and only 12 NODCs and 4 ADUs have been accredited. This is a low number which needs to be considerably increased over the next 5 years.
- The Survey completed by NODCs and ADU prior to IODE 28 indicates that over 40% of respondents (23 NODCs/ADUs) will implement a QMF and accreditation in the inter-sessional period. SG-QMF will follow up these offering assistance and encouragement.
- The activities outlined above in section 5. will be used to increase the number of accredited NODCs and ADUs.

7. Considerations for / Requests to the IODE Management Group

- Assistance from the Management Group in promoting the importance of QMF and accreditation for NODCs and ADUs would be appreciated.
- We welcome suggestions from the Management Group on how to increase NODC/ADU accreditations.
- Some linkage with the Health of NODCs activity could be beneficial to QMF. Does the Management Group have a view?

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