

Resolution EC-XXXVII.5

OCEAN MAPPING

The Executive Council,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of GEBCO, at a 1:10 million scale, and the IBCs, which cover seven regions with approximately 150 sheets, at a 1:1 million scale,

Recalling that in April 2003 GEBCO successfully celebrated its Centenary in Monaco, where GEBCO was established in 1903 by Prince Albert I,

Welcomes the nomination by the IOC Executive Secretary of Dr Meirion Jones, UK, as Member of the GEBCO Guiding Committee;

Endorses the Summary Report of the 9th Meeting of IOC/CGOM, held in Monaco, 10–12 April 2003, and the Recommendations annexed to the Summary Report of the CGOM highlighting the importance of the construction of marine geological/geophysical overlay sheets, and of the production of a digital grid with finer spacing from original compilation materials;

Supports the establishment, jointly with IHO, of an International Bathymetric Chart of the Southern Ocean (IBCSO), for which a planning meeting will be organized by the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), in Bremen, Germany, 30–31 July 2004;

Invites Member States to:

- (i) include more bathymetric charting in their marine research programmes, in particular in regions with sparse data;
- (ii) pay particular attention to geological and geophysical overlay sheets;
- (iii) continue to contribute funds for training in ocean mapping, either on shore or on board research vessels or survey ships;
- (iv) express, by 31st December 2004, their views to the IOC Executive Secretary on the proposal to streamline the ocean mapping support mechanisms by bringing together GEBCO and IBCs under a joint IOC–IHO Ocean Mapping Board.

Financial implications (2004): US\$7,000 from extra-budgetary resources to be identified to organize the 1st Meeting of the Editorial Board for IBCSO.