

**International Ocean Discovery Program**  
**Program Member Offices (PMO) Meeting**  
**Wollongong, Australia; 12-13 October 2023**

**Consensus items**

**Consensus 202310-1** The PMO meeting attendees express deep respect for the Wadi Wadi People on whose land we convened and acknowledge Elders – past, present and emerging – of the Dharawal Nation. We honor their profound relationship with the land, waterways, sea, and community.

**Consensus 202310-2** The PMO meeting applauds IODP-China for their outstanding outreach initiatives and their active engagement with the community that has resulted in reaching an audience of millions. The PMOs express their keen interest in hearing more about whether these outreach activities increase the level of interest in Earth sciences or in future scientific ocean drilling activities.

**Consensus 202310-3** The publication office of the *JOIDES Resolution* Science Operator (JRSO) has demonstrated a commendable commitment to comprehensively capturing and analyzing the scientific outcomes of our program, delivering immense value to the PMOs. Their dedication to elucidating the broader societal impacts of our scientific results through Altimetric analysis is both insightful and serves as a reminder of the often-overlooked challenge of effectively communicating and educating the public about our program.

**Consensus 202310-4** The PMOs recognise that dedicated funding for international training is not available to all PMOs. While it is desirable to support undergraduate students attending international training courses, it can prove challenging for the majority of countries to provide such assistance. To enhance support for students and to diversify cohorts, there is a pressing need for improved international cooperation and strategic planning.

**Consensus 202310-5** The PMOs appreciated J-DESC's presentation of their model outlining options to continue support for science party members when they move to a new country/consortium, either pre- or post-expedition. Each PMO is bound by different support and funding rules, meaning a consistent approach across the program is difficult; nevertheless, PMOs agreed to do their utmost to support science party members when they move between countries/consortia.

**Consensus 202310-6** The PMOs agreed to establish or continue their own mechanisms for connecting students and ECRs with more experienced scientists from different fields of expertise and age groups, aimed at offering mentoring before and while they sail.

**Consensus 202310-7** The PMOs agreed that there is a lack of appreciation within the United Nations Decade of Ocean Sciences that the ocean extends beyond the seafloor. It was also

agreed that there is an opportunity through the UN Ocean Decade to increase the awareness and visibility of scientific ocean drilling amongst policymakers.

**Consensus 202310-8** Based on the suggestions and outcomes of the working group established by Carol Cotterill following the September 2022 PMO meeting ([Action 2022.09-2](#)), hereafter referred to as the PMO Communications Working Group, it is evident that the successful continuation of scientific ocean drilling would benefit from the creation of two pivotal documents:

1. A report designed for the IODP community that demonstrates IODP's achievements within the *IODP Science Plan 2013–2023*. It was acknowledged that the report would likely not cover full results from the final IODP expeditions.
2. White paper(s) tailored for policymakers, possibly tied to the UN Decade of Ocean Sciences, to present a forward-looking perspective on the continued need for scientific ocean drilling. These documents will need to cater to non-specialist audiences and encompass outcomes that are relevant to specific countries.

**Consensus 202310-9** The PMOs agreed that each would take responsibility for archiving their own educational, science communication and outreach materials. Items of common interest that would benefit from more centralized archival are covered by existing MoUs or end-of-program plans.

**Consensus 202310-10** The PMOs strongly support the emerging programs that are encouraging use of scientific ocean drilling legacy assets: e.g., Ocean Drilling Legacy Assets Projects (LEAPs), Repository Core Re-Discovery program (ReCoRD), and Scientific Projects using Ocean Drilling Archives (IODP<sup>3</sup> SPARCs). The PMOs particularly applaud J-DESC and the Kochi Core Center (KCC) for the outstanding results achieved during their first ReCoRD project. These types of programs have the potential to facilitate international collaboration post-IODP and to increase the use of core and other archived material. The PMOs are pleased that conversations about how these programs can move forward are continuing.

**Consensus 202310-11** The PMOs agreed that a coordinated approach to encouraging proposals and research around Flagship Initiatives would benefit the community, but given current uncertainties, the PMOs will wait until after the end of IODP before putting together a steering committee for the Flagship Initiative on Ground Truthing Future Climate Change.

**Consensus 202310-12** The PMOs agreed on a model whereby the PMO meeting host acts as Chair for that meeting and for the period (about a year) until the next PMO meeting. The PMO host for the following meeting, once a location is determined, will provide a Vice Chair to assist over the year preceding the subsequent meeting. Under this arrangement, Ron Hackney (ANZIC Director) will continue as PMO Chair until the next PMO meeting, tentatively planned for Japan in September 2024, with Sanny Saito (Director, J-DESC Support Office) to take on the Vice Chair role.

## Action Items

**Action 202310-1** To ensure that the record of IODP publications and outcomes is complete, each PMO will develop a plan to identify Masters and PhD theses that are missing from the JRSO's publication records and coordinate with their respective communities on regularly reporting new theses.

**Action 202310-2** The ANZIC Office will coordinate a process to determine the best approach to asking the American Geosciences Institute to include geomicrobiology papers into GeoRef.

**Action 202310-3** In the interests of a one-stop events calendar, all PMOs will regularly update the Science Support Office (SSO) on planned workshops and events so that the SSO can maintain an up-to-date international events page on the [iodp.org](http://iodp.org) website.

**Action 202310-4** The PMOs will encourage their Science Evaluation Panel (SEP) members to attend SEP meetings in person, and they will remind SEP members that full engagement in the meeting is also expected from remote participants. In cases where full engagement (remote or in person) is not viable, participants are expected to inform their PMO and the SSO that they cannot attend the meeting.

**Action 202310-6.** The PMOs will consider sponsoring a booth or Satellite Event at the [2024 Ocean Decade conference](#) (Barcelona, 10–12 April) as a means to increase visibility of scientific ocean drilling. Deadline for both opportunities is 30 October 2023.

**Action 202310-7** Angelo Camerlenghi and Yuki Morono will investigate making an IODP contribution to White Papers as part of the [UN Ocean Decade Vision 2030](#) process.

**Action 202310-8** PMOs are to nominate 1 or 2 scientists to join a new IODP Achievements Report Working Group to be tasked with: 1) identifying the most significant IODP scientific findings and their implications, and 2) developing an achievements report for IODP. Nominations should be directed to Ron Hackney by 1 December. PMO leadership and the nominated representatives will then select two co-chairs for the working group.

**Action 202310-9** The new IODP Achievements Report Working Group will contact the Co-Chiefs of each IODP expedition for their top findings, challenges faced, the societal relevance of their expedition findings, and opinions on what is left to do. The responses will be evaluated and distilled, forming the basis for the outputs detailed in Consensus 202310-8.

**Action 202310-10** The existing PMO Communications Working Group will draft a white paper(s) for policy makers to be shared with PMOs in April 2024.

**Action 202310-11** The PMOs will work with ICDP to establish a Land-to-Sea Working Group to help overcome the challenges in implementing these types of drilling projects and to encourage more Land-to-Sea proposals.