



**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)**

**Fifteenth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-
Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-XV)**
Tokyo, Japan, 11-13 March 2025

Item 2.1 of the Provisional Agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

This Annotated Provisional Agenda provides the information necessary to facilitate effective participation in the discussions of the agenda items.

Member States are encouraged to review the relevant working and information documents beforehand and to prepare concise, substantive interventions on the agenda items of particular interest to them.

Ideally, the discussions are expected to result in feasible decisions or arrangements that outline future concrete actions for the next intersessional period and beyond.

1. Opening

1.1 Welcoming and Opening Remarks

1. [The Fifteenth Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific](#) (WESTPAC-XV) will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 09:00 to 17:40 (Tokyo Time, UTC+9) on 11-13 March 2025. The session will be hosted by the Government of Japan through its Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).

2. During the opening ceremony, Yoshinori Horiuchi (Director-General, Research and Development Bureau, MEXT), Michida Yutaka (IOC Chair), and Kentaro Ando (Chairperson of the IOC Sub-Commission) will deliver welcoming and opening remarks.

1.2 Keynote

3. Shoichiro Kido and Kotaro Tanaka from the host country will be invited to deliver a keynote titled "Harness the power of Artificial Intelligence for ocean research and sustainability".

2. Organization of the session

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda

Working documents:

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/2.1 prov](#)

Provisional Agenda

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/2.1 annotated prov](#)

Annotated Provisional Agenda (*this document*)

4. The Chairperson will invite the Head of the WESTPAC Office to introduce this item. The Head of the WESTPAC Office will inform all delegations of several key events and housekeeping matters in order to ensure the efficient conduct of the Session.

5. He will also draw the attention of all delegations to the Provisional Agenda which was prepared based on regional consultations (September 2024) and in close consultation with the IOC Paris. The Provisional Agenda was distributed together with [the IOC Circular Letter No. 3009](#) to Member States in late October-December 2024. The Provisional Agenda has been revised slightly based on response from Member States.

ACTION 2.1 Member States will be invited to adopt the Provisional Agenda as amended at the present session.

2.2 Conduct of the Session

Working documents:

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/2.1 prov. timetable](#)

Provisional Timetable

6. The Chair will invite the Head of the WESTPAC Office to introduce this item. In addition to briefly reviewing the Provisional Timetable, he will draw the attention of delegations to a statutory committee, i.e., Nomination Committee. **The Sub-Commission will set up the committee accordingly.**

7. The Sub-Commission will be requested to work in plenary as far as possible. Sessional Working Group(s) may be established as required to address specific items arising from session discussions. The Sessional Working Group(s) may draft recommendations for adoption by the Sub-Commission where necessary.

8. The Chair will also draw the attention of delegations to practical arrangements for the session, including the working time and the possibility of shortening, or even cancelling the “coffee break”.

9. The Chair will then invite all delegations to work according to the Revised Provisional Timetable, taking into account: (i) the Sub-Commission’s decision to constitute sessional working groups; (ii) the time likely to be required by those groups to report, if requested to do so, to the plenary; and (iii) the time required for preparation of officers elections and/or recommendations.

ACTION 2.2 Member States will be invited to constitute the Nomination Committee, participate actively in several side events such as the National Decade Committee Forum and the informal working session about IOC and the Future of Ocean.

3. Statutory Reports

3.1 Statement of the Chairperson of the Sub-Commission

Working Document: [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/3.1](#) [Statement of the Chairperson](#)

10. The Chairperson will deliver his statement on recent developments in the work of the Sub-Commission, share his perspectives for the future of the Sub-Commission and IOC, and present potential opportunities for the Sub-Commission’s growth and collaboration within the region and globally.

3.2 Report by the Head of WESTPAC Office on Intersessional Programme Development and Implementation, including the Operation of the WESTPAC Office and Decade Coordination Office

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XIV/3.2](#) [Report by the WESTPAC Office on Intersessional Activities](#)

11. The Head of the WESTPAC Office will present a brief report on intersessional activities since the last Session (WESTPAC- XIV), 4-7 April 2023, Jakarta, Indonesia.

ACTION 3.1 Member States will be invited to review the major accomplishments and challenges, including the understaffed and overstretched situation of the WESTPAC Office. Member States will also provide guidance on the Sub-Commission’s future development, strategies to maintain its current momentum, and ways to enhance its impacts both within the region and beyond.

3.3 Recent Developments within UNESCO, IOC, and Their Relevance to WESTPAC

3.3.1 IOC Executive Secretary’s Report

12. The IOC Executive Secretary will deliver his messages on the current development within UNESCO and IOC, and its impact on WESTPAC.

3.3.2 IOC and the Future of Ocean

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XIV/3.3.2 \(also IOC/EC-57/3.1.Doc\(4\)\)](#) [IOC and the Future of the Ocean: Sustainable Delivery and Expansion of IOC Activities](#)

Information Document [IOC/INF-1412](#) [IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2029](#)

[IOC/EC-57/52.Doc\(1\)](#)

[Action Plan in Response to the IOS Evaluation of the IOC's Strategic Positioning – Update on Implementation](#)

[IOS/EVS/PI/197](#)

UNESCO's Internal Oversight Service published [The Evaluation of the Strategic Positioning of IOC-UNESCO \(Sep 2021\)](#)

13. Alison Clausen, IOC Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section will introduce this agenda item. At its 32nd session (21–30 June 2023), the IOC Assembly discussed the long-term sustainability and expansion of the IOC in view of the fast-evolving developments in ocean science and action. The Assembly called for a consultation on how IOC could on the basis of its purpose as defined in its Statutes optimally facilitate activities of Member States and other stakeholders in science-based sustainable ocean planning, ocean science support to implementation of UN environmental conventions and frameworks, and development of a sustainable ocean economy (IOC Decision A-32/5). The IOC Executive Secretary was requested to prepare and initiate the consultation involving Member States via circular letter and appropriate stakeholders and present a progress update to the IOC Executive Council in 2024.

14. At the 57th Session of IOC Executive Council in 2024, a working document titled “Consultation Process-IOC and the Future of the Ocean: Sustainable Delivery and Expansion of IOC Activities” ([IOC/EC-57/3.1.Doc\(4\)](#)) was presented, which included the IOC Executive Secretary’s analysis of the context and the scope of the consultation as defined by the IOC Assembly, and proposed a framework and timeline for the Executive Council’s review.

15. Subsequently, the IOC Executive Council decided that the consultation will first focus on an overall review of activities relevant to the role of IOC in assisting Member States and other stakeholders, including identifying gaps and needs in IOC programmes, in order to optimally facilitate current and emerging activities in science-based sustainable ocean planning, ocean science support to implementation of relevant UN conventions and frameworks, and development of a sustainable ocean economy.

16. The IOC Executive Council also decided that the review will be carried out by the IOC Secretariat in consultation with IOC programmes, IOC Regional Subsidiary Bodies, IOC Member States, including through IFAG and relevant IOC intersessional working groups, in particular the IOC working group on sustainable ocean planning and management, and other relevant stakeholders as necessary. It further decides that the review will draw on the Action Plan in response to the IOS Evaluation of the IOC strategic positioning, the IOC Medium-Term Strategy (2022–2029), and other relevant resources as necessary.

17. Alison will inform Member States of the current consultation process and invite Member States to share your perspectives about the future of IOC.

3.3.3 IOC-wide Strategy on Sustainable Ocean Planning and Management

Working Document

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XIV/3.3.3 \(also IOC/EC-57/4.3.Doc\(1\) Rev.\)](#)

[IOC-wide Strategy on Sustainable Ocean Planning and Management \(SOPM\)](#)

18. Julian Barbière, Head of the Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section, will introduce this agenda item. He will refer to recent advancement in the area of ocean management, the objectives of the IOC Medium-term Strategy (2022–2029) with focus on sustainable ocean economy and ocean planning, and the recommendations of the UNESCO Internal Oversight Services (IOS) Evaluation calling inter alia for determining “the most appropriate organizational setting in view of IOC’s envisaged global role in science-based ocean management”, which have

been acting as drivers for the formulation of an IOC-wide Strategy on Sustainable Ocean Planning and Management (SOPM). The Strategy also responds to the Statutes of IOC which calls inter alia for the application of ocean knowledge generated by the IOC “for the improvement of management, sustainable development, the protection of the marine environment, and the decision-making processes of its Member States” (Article 2, Purpose).

19. The draft Strategy aims are therefore to guide the contribution of the Commission across its programmes on ocean sciences, observation and data, early warning services and assessments, through the delivery of tailored science-based services, the dissemination of ecosystem-based management tools, assessment and related information products, as well as capacity development in support to sustainable ocean management. With inputs received from IOC Member States through several rounds of consultation, the final draft version of the Strategy on SOPM were presented to the 57th Session of IOC Executive Council (25-28 June 2024, Paris).

20. The IOC Executive Council welcomed the draft IOC wide-Strategy on Sustainable Ocean Planning and Management (2024–2030), and decided to establish [the IOC Working Group on SOPM](#) with a mandate to revise the draft SOPM Strategy, and present a revised version; identify activities related to ocean planning and management across all IOC Programmes, addressing specific programme-related issues as well as emerging issues; and propose a SOPM implementation plan to be considered by the IOC Assembly at its 33rd session in 2025.

21. Julian will report on the outcomes of the meeting of the Working Group on SOPM (4-6 March 2025, Paris) and invite Member States to identify scientific needs related to SOPM implementation and possible areas of collaboration through WESTPAC activities and mechanisms, to be included in the IOC wide Implementation Plan on SOPM to be presented to the IOC Assembly at its 33rd Session.

ACTION 3.2 Member States will be invited to provide guidance on the future of IOC and the draft SOPM Strategy. Additionally, Member States will also share their insights on how IOC can enhance its impacts, benefit from the work of its regional subsidiary bodies, and ensure the benefits are maximized and effectively delivered to all IOC Member States.

4. Strategic Development

4.1 The Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement)

Working Document

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.1](#)

BBNJ and potential effort of the Sub-Commission

22. Fadli Syamsudin, the second Vice Chairperson of the Sub-Commission, will be invited to brief the Session about the newly adopted BBNJ Agreement and its recent movement. While highlighting the role of ocean science in the implementation of the Agreement, he will further propose potential activities the Sub-Commission could initiate and co-develop with Member States in the region.

ACTION 4.1 Member States will be invited to share their perspectives on potential cooperative areas, programmes and activities that the Sub-Commission could undertake to assist Member States in the ratification and implementation of the BBNJ Agreement.

4.2 The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

Working Document

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.2](#)

Effort in KMGBF and a future perspective

23. Aileen Tan Shau Hwai, the first Vice Chairperson of the Sub-Commission, will be invited to brief the Session about the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), and the Sub-Commission's ongoing efforts to support Member States in achieving the Goals and Targets outlined in the Framework. Emphasizing the importance of scientific support and stakeholder engagement, she will present perspectives on future efforts the Sub-Commission should undertake, including initiative(s) to help Member States access available funding opportunities.

ACTION 4.2 Member States will be invited to share their perspectives on potential cooperative programmes and activities that the Sub-Commission should initiate or strengthen to support the implementation of KMGBF by Member States.

4.3 The Sub-Commission's Engagement and Contribution to the UN Ocean Decade

4.3.1 UN Ocean Decade Global Development

Information Document [IOC/2025/ODS/53](#):

Ocean Decade Progress Report July 2023
– July 2024

24. Alison Clausen, IOC Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section will present the latest global development about the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).

4.3.2 WESTPAC led Decade Actions and Decade Coordination Office

- [An Overview of the WESTPAC efforts](#)

25. Wenxi Zhu, Head of the WESTPAC Office will provide an overview of the engagement and effort of the Sub-Commission since 2019 in the UN Ocean Decade, including the Decade Coordination Office (DCO) for the region which was hosted by the Government of Thailand as an extension of the current WESTPAC Office. He will also invite relevant colleagues to brief on four WESTPAC-led UN Decade Actions as below.

- [UN21: Accelerate Marine Spatial Planning \(MSP\) in the Western Pacific and its Adjacent Areas](#)

Working Document

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-UN21](#)

Progress report on UN 21

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-UN21-Action Framework](#)

Draft Regional Action Framework of
Accelerating Marine Spatial Planning in the
Western Pacific

26. Zhiwei Zhang will brief the Session on the development of the WESTPAC led Decade Project [UN 21: Accelerate Marine Spatial Planning \(MSP\) in the Western Pacific and its Adjacent Areas](#).

27. Responding to countries' needs, the IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific of UNESCO (WESTPAC) initiated the UN Decade Action - "Accelerate Marine Spatial Planning in the Western Pacific" (UN21) at the 13th Intergovernmental Session in 2021. The UN Decade Action - UN21 aims to capitalize on the MSP global achievements, and further promote and accelerate MSP in the Western Pacific region, with a view to assisting Member States in achieving an ecosystem-based approach to ocean resource management, sustainable blue economy, and the 2030 Agenda as a whole.

28. Among other progress, major progress included the development of a Regional Action Framework for Accelerating Marine Spatial Planning in the Western Pacific (2025-2030). This Action Framework was jointly developed as a result of collective efforts of MSP experts from Member

States in the region, building on various discussions at the first meeting of the International Group of MSP Experts in the Western Pacific (November 2023, Qingdao), and the regional MSP Decade Action workshop at the second UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference (April 2024, Bangkok).

29. The Action Framework is intended to provide a portfolio of enabling actions that the IOC/UNESCO Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific, together with its Member States in the region and international partners, will take to accelerate the MSP processes towards building effective pathways of boosting sustainable blue economy and fulfilling both national and international ocean-related commitments.

30. He further invited all Member State to provide inputs, if any, to the UN 21 development and the Regional Action Framework.

- **UN22: Stem the Tide of Asia's Riverine Plastic Emission into the Ocean**

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-UN22](#) Progress report on UN 22

31. Daoji Li from the East China Normal University, China will report on the progress made on the Decade Project [UN 22: Stem the tide of Asia's riverine plastic emission into the ocean](#).

- **UN23: Accelerating Transformations in Capacity Development in the Western Pacific - Regional Network of Training and Research Centers (RTRCs) on Marine Science**

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-UN23](#) Progress report on UN 23

32. Shengle Yin from the WESTPAC Office will introduce this agenda item by presenting the implementation of the Decade Project [UN 23: Capacity development transformations through the IOC Regional Network of Training and Research Centers](#) (RTRCs).

- **UN24: Explore the Strongest Ocean Current in the Western Pacific: the 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and Adjacent Regions (CSK-2)**

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-UN24](#) Progress report on UN 24

33. Kentaro Ando from JAMSTEC and Xiaopei Lin from the Ocean University of China, will present the achievement that has been made on [the CSK-2](#) since it was established as the Sub-Commission's programme in April 2021.

- **UN39: Ocean Solutions in the East Asian Seas: understand the multiple stressors on coastal ecosystems and provide solutions that benefit people, nature and economy**

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-UN39](#) Progress report on UN 39

34. Aileen Tan Shau Hwai, the first Vice Chairperson of the Sub-Commission, will present the newly initiated Decade Action, aimed at conducting multidisciplinary research and engaging local

stakeholders to address multiple stressors in the coastal areas. The Action seeks to develop science-based solutions to restore and protect ecosystems while building resilience against ongoing environmental stressors, benefiting people, nature, and livelihoods.

ACTION 4.3.1 Member States will be invited to share their perspectives about the Decade movement, and make suggestions about the Sub-Commission's effort in the development and implementation of these Decade Actions over the next intersessional period and even beyond. Member States will be also invited to consider providing human and financial resources to the DCO for the region.

- Results of the 2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference (22- 25 April 2024, Bangkok)

Working Document

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.3.2-11th IMSC](#)

Summary of the 2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference (22- 25 April 2024, Bangkok)

35. The Head of the Office will brief on the key results of the 2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference and the 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference which took place on 22-25 April 2024, Bangkok, Thailand.

- Towards the 3rd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 12th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference (2027, the Philippines)

36. Joel M. Peralta, Head of the Philippine Delegation will be invited to brief on the preparations of the 3rd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 12th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference (2027, the Philippines). S/he will also invite all Member States to

ACTION 4.3.2 Member States will be invited to provide their comments about the results from the 2nd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 11th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference in 2024, and make relevant suggestion on the preparations for the 3rd UN Ocean Decade Regional Conference & 12th WESTPAC International Marine Science Conference in 2027.

4.3.3 Engagement with other Decade Actions

37. The first Vice Chairperson of the Sub-Commission will be invited to brief the Session about the ongoing cooperation of the Sub-Commission with other Decade Actions, in particular its engagement in the Decade Programme- CoastPredict.

ACTION 4.3.3 Member States will be invited to provide suggestions how the Sub-Commission could further develop its cooperation with other Decade Actions in order to maximize the benefits.

4.4 Senior Government officials Roundtable

Working Document

[IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/4.4](#)

SGOs Roundtable Concept Note

38. The Sub-Commission has been at the forefront of advancing ocean science, and fostering cooperation for the sustainable development of ocean, marine and coastal resources in the Western Pacific and adjacent areas. To strengthen ocean science-policy interface, the Senior Government Officials Roundtable as one of its key mechanisms was initiated in 2023 at the 14th Intergovernmental Session of the Sub-Commission.

39. As the Ocean Decade reaches its midpoint, alongside the development of emerging international instruments and frameworks, there is an increasing need for SGOs from Member States

in the region to exchange views about the progress of Ocean Decade, share experience and perspectives on science-informed ocean management and conservation practices, identify new opportunities to advance ocean science and cooperation, and further strengthen the ocean science-policy-society interface.

40. During the Session, a Senior Government Officials Roundtable (SGOs Roundtable), Chaired by the host country, will be organized on the morning of 12 March 2025.

41. The outcome document of the SGOs Roundtable is envisaged to be an SGOs Joint Statement.

5. Review and Evaluation of Regional Programmes, Projects and Working Groups for April 2023 – March 2025

42. Due to time constraints, reporting will be consolidated and structured about the thematic areas of actions as specified below. Detailed unedited report by each WESTPAC programme, project and WG was uploaded to the event webpage at <https://ioc-westpac.org/event/westpac-xv/>

5.1 Ocean-Based Solutions to Climate Change

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/5.1](#)

Consolidation of current efforts in ocean-based solutions to climate change

43. Ken Ando, Co-Chair of the Sub-Commission, will be invited to deliver a consolidated report about the Sub-Commission's effort in building ocean-based solutions to climate change, building on several ongoing programmes ranging from ocean research, observations, modeling and analysis.

5.2 Marine Biodiversity Conservation, Ocean Ecosystems and Human Health, and Blue Economy

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/5.2](#)

Consolidation of current efforts in marine biodiversity conservation, ocean ecosystem and blue economy

44. Aileen Tan Shau Hwai, Vice-Chair of the Sub-Commission, will be invited to report on the Sub-Commission's effort in conserving marine biodiversity conservation, and safeguarding ocean ecosystem and human health.

5.3 Ocean Literacy and Capacity Development

Working Document [IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/5.3](#)

Efforts in capacity development and ocean literacy

45. Wenxi Zhu, Head of the WESTPAC Office, will brief on the efforts of the Sub-Commission has been intensifying in building research capacity and transferring marine technology in the region and beyond.

5.4 Knowledge for Emerging Issues/Demands of Member States

46. Wenxi Zhu, Head of the WESTPAC Office, will brief on the progress made since the last session in April 2023, on the Working Groups established to address the emerging issues that Member States are concerned about or have a strong interest to jointly develop ocean knowledge.

47. At its eighth session (WESTPAC-VIII, 10–13 May 2010, Bali, Indonesia), the Sub-Commission established the WESTPAC Working Group as a regional cooperative mechanism to

enable ocean experts to deliberate on emerging issues and to propose actional arrangements aimed at addressing them. A new working group is formed every two years, with a maximum lifespan of four years. These working groups are tasked with developing new project proposals or pragmatic solutions to tackle emerging issues.

48. He will inform the session that the Working Group on Gas Hydrate and Methane Flux will be transitioned into a new project, which will be presented under Agenda Item 7. In addition, he will invite Zainal Arifin from Indonesia to provide an example of how the Working Group advanced its effort during the intersessional period, using the case of the WG on Small Island Research and Development.

ACTION 5: Member States will be invited to share their comments and suggestions on how the Sub-Commission can further assist Member States in adapting to climate change and mitigating its impacts, conserving marine biodiversity and ecosystems, and enhancing their research capacity towards the achievement of sustainable development.

6. Recommendation of the WESTPAC Advisory Group

49. Aileen Tan Shau Hwai, also in her capacity as the Chair of the WESTPAC Advisory Group, will present a list of recommendations to the Sub-Commission and its Member States, on what and how the Sub-Commission shall further develop to enhance programme delivery and impacts.

ACTION 6: Member States will be invited to: 1) offer advice and guidance on enhancing the Sub-Commission's programme delivery, efficiency, and effectiveness; 2) consider potential initiatives that could be pursued over the next intersessional period and assist in identifying the necessary resources and opportunities.

7. Establishment of New Programme/Project/Working Group

50. The Head of the WESTPAC Office will brief on international collaborative process that the Sub-Commission has been taking in developing its programmes/projects/working groups addressing common priority issues of its Member States. Upon the Sub-Commission's open call, following proposals have been developed, and reviewed for several rounds by the WESTPAC Advisory Group and invited experts since November 2024.

51. Through intensive and extensive consultations, the Advisory Group would like to propose the following WESTPAC new programmes/working groups be established at the Session. The Sub-Commission is grateful for the leadership of the WESTPAC Advisory Group in developing cooperation and advancing "Ocean science for the ocean we want."

- 7.1 [New Working Group on Seagrass Research in the Indo-Western Pacific](#)
- 7.2 [New Working Group on Blue Carbon Ecosystem Restoration with an initial focus on Mangroves](#)
- 7.3 New Programme on Predictions of Marine Ecosystem Changes in the Northwest Pacific Ocean (2025-2030)
- 7.4 [New Project on Methane Fluxes and their Impact on Climate and Ecosystem in the Indo-Pacific Region \(2025-2028\)](#)

ACTION 7: Member States will be invited to assess the development of these new working groups/projects in terms of their justifications, objectives, workplans, and the engagement and potential contributions of institutions and Member States to their implementation. The Sub-Commission will adopt, or consider providing further recommendations for their refinement.

8. WESTPAC Workplan and Budget for the Period 2026-2027

Working Document: IOC/SC-WESTPAC-XV/8 WESTPAC Workplan and Budget for 2026-2027

52. The Head of the WESTPAC Office will brief on the draft workplan and budget for the next intersessional period. The Sub-Commission has been taking “co-development and co-implementation” approach to its programme development, with most of its activities supported via extrabudgetary support of its Member States in the region, either in kind or in cash. In this context, the WESTPAC Programme and Budget serves primarily as a guiding framework for collaboration, outlining activities the Sub-Commission aims to jointly promote and seek funding from various sources to support their implementation.

53. He will inform Member States that, based on the latest development of the IOC regular budget for 2026–2027, approximately US\$ 300 K will be allocated for WESTPAC activities during this period. It is evident that the majority of WESTPAC activities in the next intersessional period will continue to rely on extrabudgetary resources.

Action 8: Based on the discussions on all agenda items, the Sub-Commission will be invited to: (1) endorse the workplan for the period of 2026-2027, with the understanding that it may be adjusted to accommodate evolving circumstances and funding opportunities; and (2) assist in identifying extra-budgetary resources to support the implementation of the Sub-Commission’s programme and activities.

9. Elections of the Officers of the Sub-Commission

Information Document:

- [Election Procedures](#)
- [Nomination Forms](#)

54. The Nomination Committee will report to the plenary on the discussion results based on nominations for Chairperson and vice-Chairperson and the work that the Sub-Commission will carry out over the next intersessional term.

Action 9: The Sub-Commission will be invited to elect its Chairperson and vice-Chairpersons along these guidelines and the recommendations of the Nomination Committee.

10. Date and Place of the Next Session

Action 10: The Sub-Commission will be invited to consider the date and place of its sixteen Session which was supposed to take place in early 2027.

11. Other Matters

55. The Chair may invite: (1) the host country of the SGOs Roundtable, Japan, to report back on the discussion results from the Senior Government Officials Roundtable; and (2) the co-conveners (Thailand and Japan) of the National Decade Committees Forum (NDCs Forum) to brief on the NDCs Forum outputs.

Action 11: Member States will be invited to consider the results/outcomes of the two events, and further provide guidance on the future development of the two events.

12. Adoption of Action Points and Recommendations

56. Due to time constraints during this session, the Sub-Commission will be requested to adopt the draft action points. The full executive summary will be sent to all delegation after the Session for revisions, comments, and approval by correspondence.

57. The Sub-Commission will also be invited to authorize the Head of the WESTPAC Office to submit the Executive Summary to the Thirty-third session of the IOC Assembly (Paris, France, 25 June- 03 July 2025).

13. Closure

58. The representative of the host country will be invited to deliver his/her remarks. The Chairperson of the Sub-Commission will close the Session not later than 1730 hours (Tokyo Time), on 13 March 2025.