



**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)**

**Eleventh Intergovernmental Session of the IOC Sub-
Commission for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC-XI)**
Qingdao, China, 21-23 April 2017

Item 5.1.7 of the Provisional Agenda

**PROGRESS REPORT ON
INTERSESSIONAL TASK FORCE ON THE FEASIBILITY STUDY OF THE 2ND
COOPERATIVE STUDY OF KUROSHIO AND ITS ADJACENT REGIONS
(May 2015–April 2017)**

In accordance with Terms of Reference of IOC Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific, the report is provided to facilitate the consideration by the Sub-Commission on the progress made on the WESTPAC project on Intersessional Task Force on the Feasibility Study of the 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and its Adjacent Regions.

The Sub-Commission is invited to discuss about the progress made over the past intersessional period, provide directives and advice on its future development, and further identify resources and national commitments to its implementation in the region.

I. Project

1. Intersessional Task Force on the Feasibility Study of the 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and its Adjacent Regions

II. Project objectives and expected outputs/outcomes

2. Objectives: Review the past CSK program, update the present observations and research on Kuroshio, and analyze the feasibility of conducting the CSK-2

3. Outcomes: Activity report to the session, and compiling our survey into one report.

III. Principal Investigator (Chairperson) and Project Steering Group

4. Kentaro Ando, Xiaopei Lin, Cesar Villanoy for co-leaders, with initial members: Vo Si Tuan, Yang-Ki Cho, Joon Soo Lee, Gil Jacinto, Zainal Ariffin, Vyacheslav Lobanov, Mikhail Danchenkov.

IV. Terms of Reference of the Project Steering Group

5. The group aim to review the past CSK (Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and its Adjacent Regions) from each perspective, review the current status of observation and researches, and provide inputs on feasibility of conducting a new international Kuroshio project.

V. Activities carried out and/or to be carried out during the last intersessional period (May 2015 – April 2017)

6. The WESTPAC secretariat provided the online collection of the historical documents relevant to CSK program on their web page of <http://iocwestpac.org/page/670.html>. China, Korea, and Japan as well as the secretary provided the documents from their library. The collection became the basics of the review.

1st Tele-conference in Sep 20th:

7. Together with the initial members, the group decides new co-leads; Dr. Xiaopei Lin and Cesar Villanoy. The group decided to have the F2F meeting in January 2017 for deeper discussion on the review, progress and feasibility of new Kuroshio and its adjacent regional study.

2nd Tele-conference in Nov 7th:

8. The group decided the agenda of the F2F meeting, and requested Dr. Xiaopei Lin, co-lead to host the meeting. The group also determined the list of the experts whom the group shall request participations to.

1st F2F meeting in Jan 19-20 to discuss towards outcomes of this task force

9. The group discussed the reviews of CSK, progresses after CSK, and gaps and new scientific theme for future Kuroshio studies. The total number of participants is 14 from six Member States in the WESTPAC MS. The participants exchanged their views in three sessions; "History of CSK-1 and its achievement", "Review talks of associated studies and activities after CSK, including these international programs/panel", and "requirement at present and future activities" (ANNEX-**). The co-lead, initial members, and invited experts concluded to develop the preliminary report about Kuroshio and adjacent regions, by compiling reviews of CSK and its relevant project up to the present (the draft of the preliminary report is also attached, ANNEX-**).

VI. Problems encountered and actions to be considered by the 11th Intergovernmental Session, scheduled for April 21-23, 2017, Qingdao, China

10. Funding is not sufficient, in particular travel supports to the experts from MS to participate to the workshop was not sufficient, and we lost two experts from Philippine and Indonesia, who had willing to join.

11. In the next couple of years, boundary current observations will be much focused and highlighted in a global scale by the discussion of OOPC. In this region, Kuroshio and its adjacent region shall be one key region in OOPC and other relevant international projects. It is necessary for WESTPAC to initiate by bringing the uniqueness of WESTPAC to the international movement.

VII. Workplan and Budget for May 2017 – May 2019

Project					Funding Required		Remark
	Activities	Objectives	Expected outputs/outcomes	Date and place	IOC	Other sources (i.e. from national or international)	
Intersessional Task Force on the Feasibility Study of the 2nd Cooperative Study of Kuroshio and its Adjacent Regions	Workshop	1. Develop the preliminary report	1. To be ready the manuscript to submit to an international journal	September 2017	5K	10K	Preparatory teleconference meetings will accompany
	Workshop	2. Initiate science or strategic plan	2. Draft science or strategic plans	September 2018	5K	10K	Preparatory teleconference meetings will accompany
	Workshop	3. Finalize science or strategic plan	3. Finalize the plan	May 2019	10K	20K	Preparatory teleconference meetings will accompany