

**GC Appendix A****2020 Governing Council Decisions**

*The following Governing Council Decisions were taken at the PICES-2020 Virtual Governing Council Meeting, held November 2-3 2020.*

**2020/A/1: Decision to postpone the in-person 2020 Annual Meeting.** *(This Decision was taken by correspondence in May 2020 and is reported separately)*

**2020/A/2: Annual Contributions.**

- i. Council re-iterated the importance for all Contracting Parties to pay the Annual Fee by the January 1 deadline and confirmed that for planning of their funding requests for annual contributions, Contracting Parties should continue to use the guideline generally accepted at PICES-1999 (Decision 1999/A/2(ii)), which states that the annual contributions will increase at the rate of inflation in Canada.
- ii. Council instructs the Executive Secretary to send letters to all Contracting Parties requesting payments of Annual Fees as soon as practical following the Annual Meeting.

**2020/A/3: Budgetary Considerations**

- i. Council approved the proposed FY 2021 budget of \$1,083,000 and set the annual fees for 2021 at \$146,800. This total is comprised of the Regular Annual Fee of \$138,800 and an additional temporary Extraordinary Contribution of \$8,000 to address the pension plan liability. A transfer from the Working Capital Fund to the General Fund of \$202,200 on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 will be required to balance the budget.
- ii. To address the pension plan liability, Council recommends that each Contracting Party make an additional \$8,000 Extraordinary Contribution for FY2021 and that the Extraordinary Contribution shall continue until pension plan liability is extinguished. Parties are requested to confirm their intention to provide this contribution in 2021 no later than the end of February 2021 to complete budget planning. The temporary fee portion will not be subject to inflation adjustment in subsequent years and will terminate when the pension plan liability is discharged.

**2020/A/4: Voluntary Contributions and Fund-raising activities**

Council instructs the Executive Secretary to invite Contracting Parties to provide voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund to support the Intern Program and capacity building activities in 2021 and beyond.

**2020/A/5. Auditor's Report.**

Council accepted the audited accounts for FY 2019.

**2020/A/5. Financial Reserve Planning**

Council instructs that in future the Severance and Vacation Pay shall be listed as a liability in the Relocation and Home Leave Fund balance sheet and a balance maintained at or above \$0 at year end

by transfer from the General Fund, before any excess is transferred from the GNF to the Working Capital Fund at the year-end. With respect to the upper limit of the financial reserve Council further instructs that the status quo be adopted in the interim while the Executive Secretary continues to investigate financial reserve strategies by organizations similar to PICES, and provides a report on the range of upper reserve limits employed to the F&A Committee at PICES 2021.

#### **2020/A/6: Future PICES Annual Meetings and 2021 Inter-sessional Science Board meeting**

- i. Council approved the current registration fee structure for PICES-2021:

<b>Type of registration fee</b>	<b>CAD \$</b>
Regular	325
Early	250
Student	50
Spousal/guest	50

- ii. Council was pleased to accept the offer from the Korean delegation to host the PICES-2022 meeting in Busan at a date to be determined. A decision has already been made to provide up to \$40,000 to defray the costs of PICES 2022 (Decision 2020/A/1/iv).
- iii. Council approved the formation of a high-level Working Group to address the substantive issues on structural and financial arrangements for a joint ICES/PICES annual meeting in 2023. The composition of the WG to follow the suggestion received from the USA (comprising USA ICES and PICES National Delegates, ICES General Secretary, PICES Executive Secretary and key individuals from NOAA and Department of State). The WG will design and implement a joint ICES/PICES conference that prioritizes, encourages, and facilitates remote participation as much as possible.
- iv. Council approved the request by Science Board for a virtual ISB in spring 2021. Council notes the recommendation of the F&A Committee that there is a post-ISB review of the effectiveness of virtual ISB meetings.

#### **2020/A/7: Tracking the activity of the Secretariat**

Council directs that indicators of activity continue to be tracked by the Executive Secretary indefinitely, and especially to assess the impacts of COVID-19 on productivity beyond 2020.

#### **2020/A/8: The potential of expanding travel grants**

Council directs that based on feedback from the Secretariat the status quo with respect to travel arrangements should be maintained for now but that it should be reviewed in the future especially when the impact of COVID-19 on travel becomes clearer.

#### **2020/A/9: Determining the Uptake/Impact of Science Activities**

Council directs the Executive Secretary to continue monitoring the science uptake and impacts.

**2020/A/10: Developing a Code of Ethics for the Operations of PICES**

Council directs that the draft Code of Ethics be circulated to the wider PICES community for feedback and that finalised text be presented by ISB-2021.

**2020/A/11: PICES Chair Award**

Council encourages members to consider nominations for the 2021 PICES Chair award. The deadline for nominations is July 30, 2021 and supporting documentation should be sent to the Executive Secretary.

**2020/A/12: Appointment of Chair/Vice Chair of PICES and Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee.**

- i. Dr Enrique Curchitser was elected to a first term as Chair of PICES
- ii. Dr Tetsuo Fujii was elected to a first term as Vice Chair of PICES
- iii. Dr Michael Seki was appointed to a first term as Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee

**2020/S/1: Publications.** *(This Decision was taken by correspondence in July 2020 and is reported separately)*

**2020/S/2 Current Expert Groups.** *(This Decision was taken by correspondence in July 2020 and is reported separately)*

**2020/S/3 New Expert Groups.** *(This Decision was taken by correspondence in July 2020 and is reported separately)*

**2020/S/4 New Expert Groups.**

Governing Council approved the establishment of the following new Expert Groups with draft terms of reference as provided in the report from Science Board (Parent Committee shown in parentheses):

- i. (FUTURE) Study Group: Early Career Ocean Professionals: SG-ECOP
- ii. (FUTURE) Study Group: United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development: SG-UNDOS
- iii. (BIO) Working Group: Ecology of Seamounts. *Note: Coordination between the WG and NPFC is advised.*
- iv. (BIO) Working Group: Towards best practices using imaging systems for monitoring plankton. *Note: Science Board Chair notes that the WG membership as proposed has a gender imbalance, and requests Governing Council members to ensure a membership that includes diverse backgrounds and ECOP.*
- v. (HD) Study Group\*: Science Communications (\*originally proposed as a three-year term working group). *Note: Council Approves establishment of this group as a Study Group for a one-year term. Council requests that the SG provide, at the end of their one-year term, Science Board and Governing Council with recommendations for a permanent Science Communications group, such as an Advisory Panel (AP). The Study Group is to discuss options for improving scientific communications in collaboration with the Secretariat.*

**2020/S/5: Extension of current Expert Groups**

Recognizing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work of Expert Groups in 2020 Council approves the extension of the following Expert Groups.

- i. 1-year extension for WG-35 (Third North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report) to 2021 to complete publication of NPESR synthesis report, and to make recommendations for NPESR4 and its EG.
- ii. 1-year extension for WG-37 (Zooplankton Production Methodologies, Applications and Measurements in PICES Region) to PICES-2021, to: Convene workshop at PICES 2021; Complete ToR # 4: Develop an interactive website for exchange of information on zooplankton production measurements for regional and/or global mapping.
- iii. 1-year extension for WG-38 (Mesoscale and Sub-mesoscale Processes) to 2021 to complete final report.
- iv. 1-year extension for WG-40 (Climate and Ecosystem Predictability) to PICES-2021, (supported by FUTURE-SSC) to; write a perspectives paper with guidelines for marine ecosystem prediction studies using physical climate/ocean prediction; Expand discussions on key questions, applications, and WG40 contributions in climate ecosystem predictability; Help establish a new working group with a focus on extremes in coastal environments, to include broad PICES participation including members from WG36, WG41, S-HAB.
- v. 1-year extension for WG-41 (Marine Ecosystem Services) to 2021 to complete work on WG projects.
- vi. 1-year extension/shift for WG-46 (Joint PICES/ICES Working Group on Ocean Negative Carbon Emissions). WG term to start from 2020.

**2020/S/6: Changes to Expert Group work plans**

Council approved the following Plan updates as provided in the Science Board report:

- i. S-CCME Implementation Plan for Phase 4 (2021 - 2022). *Note: Governing Council requests clarification of the term of this plan.*
- ii. FUTURE-SSC Integrative Science Program Phase III Science Plan. *Note: Governing Council requests FUTURE-SSC consider a Program Review in the near future to track and evaluate the program, as was done previously for this Science Program.*

**2020/S/7: Chair and membership changes for Science Board, Standing Committees and Expert Groups:**

- i. Dr. Igor Shevchenko (Russia) was re-elected for a second 1-year term as Vice-Chair of Science Board
- ii. Dr. Wongyu Park (Korea) agreed to a term extension to 3 years as Vice-Chair of BIO Committee
- iii. Dr Jin (China) was re-elected for a second 3-year term as Chair of FIS Committee
- iv. Dr Jackie King (Canada) was re-elected for a second 3-year term as Vice-Chair of FIS Committee
- v. Mr Peter Chandler (Canada) agreed to a one-year extension as Vice-Chair of T-CODE
- vi. Dr Kirsten Holsman (USA) was elected as a new Co-Chair of S-CCME - Section on Climate Change Effects on Marine Ecosystems, replacing Dr Jackie King.

**2020/S/8: Publications**

Governing Council approved the following publications:

- i. S-HAB. To be published as a PICES Scientific Report: Trainer, V.L., Davidson, K. (Ed) 2020. GlobalHAB: Evaluating, Reducing and Mitigating the Cost of Harmful Algal Blooms, a Compendium of Case Studies. PICES Sci. Rep. 2020. (series of 7 chapters resulting from the GlobalHAB workshop on HABs and Economics that was held at PICES-2019).
- ii. WG-37. Evaluation of trade-offs in traditional methodologies for measuring metazooplankton growth rates: Assumptions, advantages and disadvantages for field applications. T. Kobari, A.R. Sastri, L. Yebra, H. Liu, R.R. Hopcroft Progress in Oceanography (2019) 178: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pocean.2019.102137>
- iii. WG-37. Chapter Four: Advances in biochemical indices of zooplankton production. L. Yebra, T. Kobari, A.R. Sastri et al. Advances in Marine Biology (2017) 76: 157-240, <https://doi.org/10.1016/bs.amb.2016.09.001>
- iv. Council directed Korea and Japan to continue bilateral discussions on a solution to publication of AP-CREAMS NPESR2 Supplementary Chapter and to endeavour to reach a resolution by Feb 28 2021. NPESR3 Synthesis Report will continue in editing and will be ready for publishing as a PICES Special Publication, in addition to the publication of web-based regional chapters. Council notes that all of the Contracting Parties are in agreement to publish NPESR3 Synthesis Report on a consensus basis irrespective of the resolution regarding publication of the NPESR2 Supplementary Chapter.

**2020/S/9: PICES 2021**

Governing Council instructed Science Board to review all session proposals for PICES-2021 at ISB-2021 when the Annual Meeting format, which is dependent on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic, is more certain, and when venue information is available. Recommendations are to be brought to GC following ISB-2021 for an efficient program, recognizing that some sessions may need to be deferred, held virtually, or not take place.

WORKSHOPS held over for 2021, not held virtually in 2020

- W1: (MEQ) The Expansion of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) from lower to higher latitudes
- W2: (BIO/FIS) Can we link zooplankton production to fisheries recruitment?
- W3: (FIS) Integrating biological research, fisheries science and management of broadly distributed flatfish species across the North Pacific Ocean in the face of climate and environmental variability
- W5: (FIS) Pelagic and forage species – predicting response and evaluating resiliency to environmental variability
- W7: (FUT/POC) The social-ecological-environmental dynamics of climate extremes in Pacific coastal systems (Possible Cosponsored by ONC)
- W8: (BIO/MEQ) Sea turtles and environmental stressors in the North Pacific

WORKSHOPS requested for 2021 (held as 2020 VIRTUAL WS) In order of SB ranking

- W9: (FUT) Building a PICES early career professional network [Thursday, October 15, 2020/Virtual]
- W6: (FIS) Research priorities for understanding the population dynamics of small pelagic fish in the North Pacific (Potential cosponsors: ICES, IOC, NPFC) [Wednesday, October 14, 2020/Virtual]
- W4: (SB) How does the Pacific Arctic gateway affect the marine system in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO)? [Tuesday, October 13, 2020/Virtual]

*Notes: For the workshops held in 2020 as virtual workshops, SB suggests for 2021 that: W4 be combined with WG 39/44 WS, and that W6 be combined with W5.*

WORKSHOPS (NEW) proposals for PICES-2021 In order of SB ranking

- WS (AP-NPCOOS) Monitoring Essential Biodiversity Variables in the coastal zone. Supported by MONITOR, TCODE, BIO, FUTURE.
- WS (WGs 39/44) Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) to understand the present and future of the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO) and Northern Bering and Chukchi Seas (NBS-CS)
- WS (HD) Training WS on Sci. Communication (WG-Communication)
- WS (FIS) “The Northern Bering Sea-Chukchi Sea Integrated Ecosystem Assessment: Recent Finding, Progress, and the way forward” be added to a potential waitlist, if scheduling permits addition of new workshop.
- WS (S-MBM) Anthropogenic stressors, mechanisms and potential impacts on Marine Birds and Mammals” (in person\*, virtual, or hybrid). Outcome: development of a Pathways of Effects style heuristic or conceptual model describing how stressors act on marine birds and mammals.
- WS (WG-32, NPFC) Biodiversity of Sea Mounts “Distributions of pelagic, demersal, and benthic species associated with seamounts in the North Pacific Ocean and factors influencing their distributions”

*Notes: For the above new workshop proposals, SB suggests for 2021 that: W4 be combined with WG 39/44 WS; WS FIS - Northern Bering-Chukchi Sea be combined with 39/44; WS-S-MBM be virtual.*

#### PICES-2020 TOPIC SESSIONS held over for 2021:

- (SB Symposium) How does 30 years of research on changing North Pacific ecosystems inform the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? [S1]
- (POC) Global warming patterns and multiscale climate variability in the North Pacific [S2]
- (POC) Upper ocean energetics from mesoscale, sub-mesoscale to small-scale turbulence in the North Pacific [S4]
- (HD) How the studies on human dimensions can contribute to meet the 7 societal needs of the Decade of Ocean Science? [S3]
- (HD) Marine Ecosystem Services – Connecting science to decision making [S8]
- (BIO/POC) Atmospheric nutrient deposition and microbial community responses, and predictions for the future in the North Pacific Ocean [S5]
- (FIS/POC) Environmental variability and small pelagic fishes in the North Pacific: exploring mechanistic and pragmatic methods for integrating ecosystem considerations into assessment and management [S6]
- (FUT) Managing for pathways of resilience in a changing climate: recent examples and emerging approaches [S7]
- (FUT/POC/TCODE) Applications of artificial intelligence to advance the understanding of North Pacific ecosystems [S9]
- (FUT/POC) Predictions of extreme events in the North Pacific and their incorporation into management strategies [S12]
- (MEQ) Impacts of climate change on aquaculture [S10]
- (MEQ/WG-42) Using environmental indicators to assess baselines, targets, and risk of plastic pollution in the North Pacific [S11]
- (MEQ) Using eDNA to assess and manage non-indigenous species in the North Pacific [S13]
- (FIS) Implementing a collaborative, integrated ecosystem high seas survey program to determine climate/ocean mechanisms affecting the productivity and distribution of salmon and associated pelagic fishes across the North Pacific Ocean [S14 – *Note, went ahead virtually in 2020 and probably will not need a session in 2021*]
- (FIS/POC) Species migration and shifts responding to climate change: linking physics, plankton dynamics and fish ecology [S15]
- (S-HAB) ½-day Topic Session on “The effects of ocean acidification and climate change stressors on the growth and toxicity of harmful algal species” [S17]

#### PAPER SESSIONS HELD OVER

- BIO-P: Biological Oceanography Committee Paper Session
- FIS-P: Fisheries Science Committee Paper Session
- MEQ-P: Marine Environmental Quality Committee Paper Session
- POC-P: Physical Oceanography and Climate Committee Paper Session
- HD-P: Human Dimension Committee Paper Session
- GP: General Poster Session

#### NEW TOPIC SESSION REQUESTS - both given identical ranking by Science Board

- (AP-NIS / NOWPAP) 1-day session, eDNA & NIS, sponsored by NOWPAP

- (S-CC) 1-day session. Connecting knowledge of ocean deoxygenation in coastal and offshore regions of the North Pacific.

#### BUSINESS MEETING REQUESTS

Ranked as high priority by SB

- FUTURE-SSC: requests a 2-day Business Meeting at PICES-2021
- S-CCME: requests 1-day Business Meeting at PICES-2021
- S-HAB request for PICES-2021: S-HAB +MAFF CFP Project Science Meeting (1 day + 1day)
- Below: ranked as medium priority by SB
- AP-NPCOOS Requests a ½-day business meeting at PICES-2021
- WG-35 Requests a full day business meeting at PICES-2021 to make recommendations and write TORS for the next NPESR report.
- WG-37 Requests half day business meeting at PICES-2021, Pending term extension, (Virtual meeting ahead of PICES-2021 is fine).
- WG-39 Requests half day business meeting at PICES-2021
- WG-41 Requests a full day business meeting at PICES-2021
- WG-42 Requests one day business meeting at PICES-2021
- WG-43 Requests half day business meeting at PICES-2021
- WG-44 Requests one day business meeting at PICES-2021
- WG-45 Requests one day business meeting at PICES-2021

#### TRAVEL SUPPORT REQUESTS for PICES-2021 – CARRIED OVER

- S-HAB request for Travel support for PICES-2021: for 1 invited speaker/participant for PICES 2021 Workshop: The expansion of harmful algal blooms (HABs) from lower to higher latitudes (E or W).
- S-HAB request for Travel support for PICES-2021: Travel support requested for 1 invited speaker/participant for PICES 2021 Topic Session: The effects of ocean acidification and climate change stressors on the growth and toxicity of harmful algal species (tentative speaker Dr. Dedmer van de Waal, Netherlands Institute of Ecology).

#### TRAVEL SUPPORT REQUESTS for PICES-2021 – NEW

- AP-NPCOOS Requests \$2945 Travel Support for the invited Speaker for the workshop on Monitoring Essential Biodiversity Variables in the coastal zone.
- WG-39 Requests Travel Support for invited speaker / Costs for workshop, PICES-2021 \$3000

#### CARRIED OVER PLENARY

- (FUT) FUTURE plenary on PICES' role in the UN Decade S16

#### NEW PLENARY REQUEST

- AP-NPCOOS proposes a plenary speaker for PICES-2021: "best practices for coastal ocean observing systems" Proposed Speaker: Jay Pearlman.

#### **2020/S/10: Requests for support**

Council approved the following meeting/travel support requests:

- i. Council approved one virtual intersessional meeting annually for all Expert Groups, to preserve momentum.



- ii. ISB-2021 Virtual meeting to be held on Zoom platform as 3x3 hour calls, hosted by Secretariat.
- iii. FUTURE SSC 2-day inter-sessional meeting (in person if possible), perhaps in association with ISB-2021, April-May 2021.
- iv. WG-41 virtual inter-sessional WG meeting hosted by Secretariat in January 2021.
- v. PICES/ICES WGICA meeting to discuss assessment models to be built for data-poor areas, with the Ecosystem overview (EO) as a first step to develop more methods, to be hosted by Secretariat on WebEx in April - May 2021.
- vi. WG-39 travel support in the amount of \$3000.00 to attend the WGICA in-person meeting in the Fall of 2021, at ICES HQ.
- vii. S-HAB \$3000.00 Travel Support for travel for one PICES representative to attend the IOC Intergovernmental Panel on HABs (IPHAB) in 2021. SB has requested that participation be virtual if possible.
- viii. AP-NIS \$6000.00 travel support for up to 2 ECS from eastern Pacific to participate in NOWPAP-led training course on eDNA (Japan, exact date TBD due to COVID).
- ix. AP-NIS \$3000.00 travel support for ECS or session / workshop convenor at ICMB-XI (Washington, DC, USA – May 2022 – delayed due to COVID).

#### **2020/S/11: Capacity Building Activities**

Council approved the following Capacity Building activities:

- x. AP-CREAMS Summer School – Remote Sensing - NOWPAP CEARAC - 5th NOWPAP Training Course on Remote Sensing Data Analysis: Up to \$15,000 to be used primarily for student travel, not for instructor honoraria.
- xi. AP-CREAMS Summer School – Ocean Turbulence, Qingdao, Ocean Turbulence: From Observing to Research. Up to \$9000 to be used primarily for student travel, not for instructor honoraria.

#### **2020/S/12: Co-Sponsorship Activities**

Governing Council approved the following Co-Sponsorship activities:

- i. PICES-NPFC 2021 Co-Sponsored course on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem Indicator Taxa ID. Vladivostok, Russia. Co-sponsorship: up to \$15,000 [Meeting costs ~\$5000; 2. Travel costs for 1 or 2 coral experts (Les Watling, Bob Stone) ~\$5000; 3. Travel support for ~10 students: \$5000]
- ii. ICES ASC 2020 theme sessions, Sep 2021, Copenhagen, PICES Convenor/Invited speaker, \$6000.
- iii. ECCWO-5, May 2023, Bergen, Norway, TBD