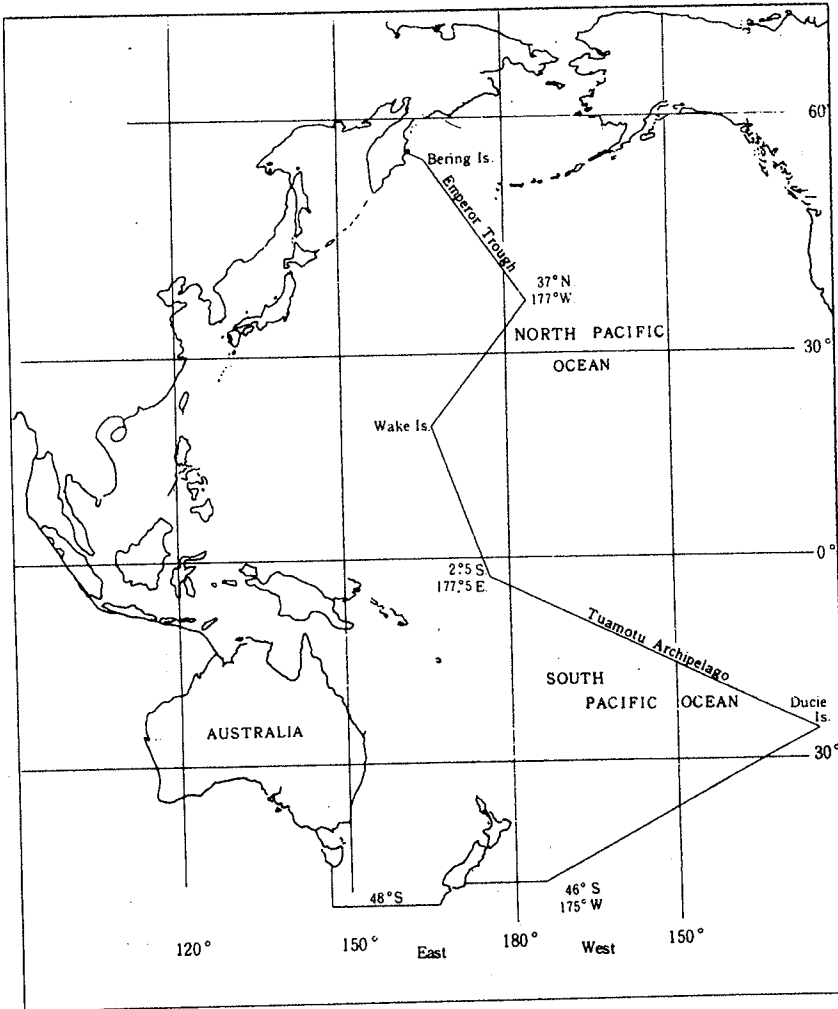




WESTPAC NEWSLETTER

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The WESTPAC region

WESTPAC NEWSLETTER

Editorial

The Program Group, WESTPAC was established in 1979 by the Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and met first in Tokyo in 1979 and for the second time in Jakarta in 1981. WESTPAC III was held in Townsville, Australia in September 1983 at which time Dr John S. Bunt, Director of the Australian Institute of Marine Science was elected Chairman for the current intersessional period with Dr Piamsak Menasveta of Thailand as Vice-Chairman.

AS A MEANS TO KEEP ALL THOSE DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH OR INTERESTED in WESTPAC well-informed on the activities of the Group, it has been decided that a Newsletter would be most useful. This, then, is the first issue of a series to be released at intervals of several months.

The Australian Department of Science and Technology and the Australian Institute of Marine Science are thanked for their support of this enterprise. At the same time, maintaining a flow of information must depend on contributions from those associated with the Program Group. To that end, contributions for future issues of the WESTPAC Newsletter are encouraged at any time.

WESTPAC Member States

A total of 19 countries are members of the Group. These include Australia, China, Fiji, France (Polynesia), Indonesia, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, USSR, United Kingdom (Hong Kong), USA, Vietnam, Western Samoa. The WESTPAC region is shown in the frontispiece map.

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WESTPAC PROGRAMS

At WESTPAC III, major programs were identified as follows :

1. **Marine Pollution Research and Monitoring.** Dr Aprilani Soegiarto, who served so ably as Chairman of WESTPAC II, agreed to serve as Technical Coordinator for this program and will receive direct support from a Task Team to be set up by Professor Burdon-Jones of James Cook University of North Queensland, Australia.
2. **Ocean Sciences.** Dr R. Heath of New Zealand has accepted responsibility as Technical Coordinator. Following disbandment of the Task Team of WESTPAC II, two Project Coordinating Groups are to be established for studies of Ocean Dynamics in the Western Pacific, one related to 4 projects in northern mid latitudes and the other with 3 projects in the tropical Western Pacific. Within his overall responsibility as Technical Coordinator of Ocean Sciences, Dr Heath will also serve as Chairman of a Task Team on Coastal and Continental Shelf Oceanography which includes two subgroups, one for nearshore currents and tides and the other for exchange processes and circulation in coral reefs.
3. **Ocean Sciences in Relation to Living Resources (OSLR).** Dr D. Tranter, Australia accepted responsibility as Technical Coordinator for this program. A Task Team will identify projects and specific objectives in four areas viz biological productivity of the open ocean, of continental shelves and of the land-sea interface as well as the understanding of toxic/anoxic phenomena related to plankton blooms.
4. **Ocean Sciences in Relation to Non-living Resources (OSNLR).** Professor N. Nasu, Japan has agreed to serve as Technical Coordinator for this program which incorporates two sub-programs, one concerned with Sea Level, Environment and Tectonics (SET) and the other with the Margins of Active Plates (MAP). Dr D. Falvey, Australia, will function as Chairman of a Task Team to develop and coordinate these sub-programs while a Group of Experts is required to assist the program as a whole and to provide coordination with the IOC Group of Experts in this field.
5. **Ocean Services.** Commander H. Daw, Australia, has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Task Team for IGOSS within WESTPAC.

CHAIRMAN'S ACTIVITIES

Immediately following his appointment, Dr Bunt wrote to all National Coordinators as well as to various other permanent and elected officials of Government drawing attention to WESTPAC objectives and encouraging their support. He indicated his hope that Task Teams would have been established by mid-1984 and that specific program activity could be anticipated by 1985. Indeed, a number of nominees to Task Teams have been advised already and actions have been taken to urge all Member States who have not yet done so to reach and advise their decisions. Those nominated already are listed below :

Task Team on Marine Pollution Research and Monitoring

Membership

The following scientists have been nominated by their governments to this WESTPAC Task Team.

Dr Kwang Woo Lee
Chief, Chemical Oceanography Laboratory
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Dr Qin Derun
Department of Marine Environment Protection
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Task Team on Ocean Sciences

Membership

To date only one national nomination to the Ocean Sciences Task Team has been received.

Dr G.E. Youxin
Physical Oceanography Planning Department
National Bureau of Oceanology
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Task Team on Ocean Science in Relation to Living Resources

Membership

The following scientists have been nominated by their governments to the WESTPAC Task Team on Ocean Sciences (OSLR).

Study Group I (Biological Productivity of the Open Ocean)

Dr T. Nemoto
Professor, Ocean Science Institute
University of Tokyo
JAPAN

Dr R. Le Borgne
ORSTOM
NOUMEA NEW CALEDONIA

Study Group 2
(Biological Productivity of the Shelf)

Dr Y. Kitano
Chief, Resources Division
Japan Sea Regional Fisheries Research Laboratory
JAPAN

Dr D.G. Kim
Director, Oceanographic Research Institute of
Korean East Sea
Simp'o City
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Study Group 3
(Biological Productivity : Land-Sea Interface)

Dr M. Horikoshi
Professor Ocean Research Institute
University of Tokyo
JAPAN

Dr B.D. Jon
Oceanographic Research Institute of Korean
West Sea
Nampo City
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Study Group 4
(Toxic and Anoxic Phenomena)

Dr J.S. Park
Fisheries Research Development Agency
Busan
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Dr T. Okaichi
Dean, Faculty of Agriculture
Kagawa University
JAPAN

Dr S. Sudara
Head, Department of Marine Science
Chulalongkorn University
Bangkok, THAILAND

Dr J.D. Liyu
Oceanographic Research Institute of Korean
East Sea
Simp'o City
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The following scientist has also been nominated to the
OSLR Task Team. His study group nomination is not
yet finalised.

Dr Dai Ruguang
Department of Marine Environment Protection
National Bureau of Oceanology
CHINA

**Task Team on Ocean Sciences in Relation to Non-
living Resources**

Membership

To date the following scientist has been nominated to
the OSNLR Task Team.

Dr Chen Bingxin
Director, Department of Science and Technology
National Bureau of Oceanology
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA



The Chairman is especially grateful for support from
the Australian Government to enable his attendance
at the Seventeenth Meeting of the IOC Executive Council
in Paris over the period January 29 - February 8,
1984. In the course of those meetings, Dr Bunt held
most useful discussions with Professor I.A. Ronquillo,
the Chairman of IOC, with Dr M. Ruivo, The Secretary
and his staff and with many national delegates directly
interested in WESTPAC. In addition, separate and
productive talks were held with the Australian
Ambassador to UNESCO, who offered his strong
support.

En route to Paris, Dr Bunt was able to stop off in
Jakarta for discussions with Dr R. Harger and with Dr
A. Soegiarto, the Chairman of WESTPAC II. Further
talks were held with Professor N. Nasu in Tokyo and,
returning to Australia via the US, with officials of NSF
and NOAA.

Arising from discussions with the Secretary, Dr Ruivo,
consideration is presently being given to the
production of a brochure for wide circulation
summarizing and illustrating WESTPAC objectives. In
the longer term, thought is also being given to the
production of a biennial WESTPAC report which would
include overviews of particular achievements in the
course of the intersessional period. Such a document
would provide a tangible record of the Group and could
well serve as an attractive and positive stimulus to all
those involved.



Progress with Programs

In future issues it is expected that regular attention will be given to noting progress with each of the WESTPAC Programs. For the present, readers will note from the listing of National Nominees to Task Teams that Dr Tranter (OSLR) expects shortly to be in a position to begin the formulation of specific research objectives from that Program. In addition a relevant workshop on Warm Core Rings (Ocean Eddies) is being organised by Dr T. Nemoto to be held at the Ocean Research Institute, Tokyo in May 1985.

Other Activities

1. As part of Australia's activities conducted under the auspices of ASCA (Association for Science Cooperation in Asia) a workshop to investigate 'Red Tide' phenomena will be held at the CSIRO Marine Laboratories, Cronulla, 18-20 June 1984.

The workshop, to be conducted along seminar lines, is intended to address the following issues :

- Current Research Activities
- Identification of the organisms and an investigation of their biology
- Processes of 'Red Tide' formation
- Detection and Monitoring
- Training and instrumentation needs
- Prediction of 'Red Tide' formation
- Economic importance of the phenomena
- Future research programs and their objectives

ASCA coordinators have been approached regarding member state participation in the workshop and the United States National Science Foundation (NSF) has indicated an interest in supporting the attendance of American Scientists.

Whilst intended as an ASCA activity the workshop will be dealing with a subject identified as a WESTPAC program group priority within the research theme of the task team on ocean science in relation to living resources, and it is hoped that WESTPAC member countries, who are not ASCA members, will also be represented by active participants.

Further details can be obtained from Mr D.C. McEwan, Australian ASCA Coordinator, Department of Science and Technology, PO Box 65, Belconnen ACT 2616, Australia.

2. Commonwealth Science Council (CSC) training workshop on tropical marine algal natural product resources - survey and methodologies, Townsville, 8-20 May 1984.

Under the sponsorship of the Commonwealth Science Council and the Commonwealth fund for technical cooperation the third in a series of regional training workshops on algal resources will be held in Townsville, 8-20 May 1984. Previous workshops were held in the Caribbean (Trinidad and Tobago, April 1982) and Africa (Kenya, May 1983).

The workshop, consisting of lectures and discussion periods, laboratory work and a field trip, will be held at the Sir George Fisher Centre for Tropical Marine Studies, James Cook University of North Queensland and at the Orpheus Island Research Station.

Instructors from Australia and New Zealand and ten (10) participants from nine (9) Commonwealth countries of the region will attend. The IOC has made available funds to enable the attendance of three (3) non-Commonwealth trainees from WESTPAC member countries and UNESCO is also sponsoring the attendance of one trainee.

In brief the objectives of the workshop are :

To train a selected group of scientists and technicians/technologists in several methodologies associated with the chemical screening of tropical marine algae to identify potential sources of physiologically active substances that may be of economic importance. Another objective is to establish a regional network amongst the workshop participants to undertake collaborative research, training and information activities on marine resources in Asia/Pacific.

Dr J.T. Baker, Director of the Sir George Fisher Centre is the local organiser of the workshop.

Contributions

Once again, the Editor calls upon WESTPAC participants to offer contributions for future issues of this Newsletter, asking that material be sent to the address below.

WESTPAC NEWSLETTER

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