

2004-2005

The 8th General Assembly of IABO was held on 24th August 2005, in Cairns, Australia, in combination with the International Associations for Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) and Geodesy (IAG). Themes of the IABO-only symposia were the Census of Marine Life (www.coml.org) and Pelagic Biogeography.

The IABO national representatives continue to be under review. Many countries are currently without representation. Proposals and suggestions of new national representatives are welcomed.

A closer cooperation with the Census of Marine Life (CoML) is to be implemented, as CoML is the leading global biological oceanography programme.

An IABO website was created in the past year (www.iabo.org) and is now hosted by the Scottish Association for Marine Sciences (SAMS).

In 2004, IABO co-sponsored the Ocean Biodiversity Informatics conference. This was in association with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), International Ocean Data and Information Exchange (IODE), and the Census of Marine Life Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS). It was held in Hamburg, Germany from 29th November to 1st December 2004. Selected publications were being published in a Theme Section of Marine Ecology Progress Series.

Dr M. J. Costello (Secretary 2002-2005).