

Report of the International Association of Biological Oceanography for the period 2000-2003, to the General Assembly of the International Union of Biological Sciences, Cairo, 18-23 January 2004.

The members of the Committee elected at the IABO general assembly in 2001 were: Dr Annielies Pierrot-Bults (President), Dr Mark J. Costello (Secretary), Dr Fred Grassle (Past President), Dr Jack Matthews (Past Secretary), and Dr Charles Griffiths.

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

The development of an IABO website is being considered.

In 2004, IABO will co-sponsor with Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), International group of Ocean Data Experts, and the Census of Marine Life Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS), an international conference on ocean data management. It will be held in Hamburg, Germany from 29th November to 1st December 2004.

Preparations are underway for the next IABO General Assembly. This will be held from 22nd-26th August 2005, in Cairns, Australia, in combination with the International Associations for Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) and Geodesy (IAG). A major theme of the IABO symposia will be the Census of Marine Life (www.coml.org) and its sub-programme, the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (www.iobis.org).

Dr M. J. Costello (Secretary 2002-2005), and Dr Jack Matthews (Secretary 1999-2002).