

First Draft (dec 12, 2002)

Minutes of the I.O.N. meeting on Dec. 08, during AGU fall meeting 2002.

Present : Rhett Butler, John Delaney, Adam Dziewonski, Jean-Paul Montagner, Chris Mooers, John Orcutt, Barbara Romanowicz, Adam Schultz, Kiyoshi Suyehiro, Ralph Stephen, Eleonore Stutzmann.

Agenda :

- Institutional and National reports :
US/DEOS/Neptune ; H2O ; Monterey Bay Observatory
UK/DEOS
France/ Post-dorsales National Observatory plans
Germany
Italy
Japan
EU/ 6th Framework
- Memoranda of Understanding.
- ODP-ION drilling reports
- Plans for instrumenting existing ION ODP legacy holes
- Acquisition of re-use of of TAT8-11, TPC-3, HAW-4, Guam-Philippine-Taiwan cables
- Discussion of future ION-ODP proposals

US/DEOS/ John Orcutt

Budget (**TO BE COMPLETED**)

NSF : 200 M\$ in the next 5 years

DEOS committee is working on putting together together small workshops and a big workshop

Small workshops on specific areas : moorings, sensors (geophysical, geochemical, biological, ...), ...

The big workshop will take place in september 2003 (**WHERE ? IS IT POSSIBLE TO ATTACH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS WS TO THIS MINUTES ?**). Contributions from other countries are needed. An initial Science plan has to be defined

US/Neptune/ John Delaney (**TO BE COMPLETED**)

The KECK foundation is providing funds for an initial installation and the study of microbial activity and plate boundary investigation (**MORE SPECIFIC PLAN ?**).

White papers on science are welcomed.

Canadians have launched a program of 40 M\$ for the British Columbia part of the Juan de Fuca plate.

A plan is defined : 2003-2004 contract negotiation, 2005 cable ?

H2O/ Rhett Butler :

H2O (Hawaii2-Observatory) was now operated for 3 years. Data are available at IRIS/DMC.

Installation of sensors in the borehole is funded and scheduled for 2004.

It is proposed to assemble all scientific work related to H2O and more generally to operating ocean bottom observatories for the ION symposium at IUGG in 2003.

Monterey Bay Observatory/ Barbara Romanowicz

The Monterey bay observatory was installed last april. The quality of seismic data is good. Currenmeter and DPG was also installed for decorrelate the local seismic noise.It will connected to the shore by a cable in the next future.
drilling scheduled ?

Coastal observatories/ Mooers

A scientific session on coastal observatories results demonstrate that many results were already obtained.

Corks/ Keir Becker
absent

It is proposed a session for next fall AGU on scientific results of observatories under the umbrella of ION.

UK/BDEOS/ Adam Schultz

B/DEOS proposal which was submitted in summer 2001, was deferred and has to be revived. In 2002, due to budget shortcuts, most of NERC funds were devoted to ODP and IODP. The B/DEOS is a 7 year program and is asking for 18 ML (30 M\$). A positive answer is expected in february 2003. 3 observatory sites were selected (1 : North Atlantic close to Reykjanes ridge, 2- MOMAR, 3- in East Scotia sea).

There are also some other regional initiatives for coastal observatories (TO BE DETAILED).

At the European level, the 5th framework was very bad for observatoires, the 6th framework does not not seed s ofar more favourable.

France/ OFM/ Jean-Paul Montagner :

Things are evolving slowly but positively. IFREMER (French Institute for Marine Geosciences) seems to be now very interested in developing technology related to ocean bottom observatories. The project on the installation of sensors at the NERO site has been revived. An agreement between JAMSTEC, IPG-Paris and IFREMER will be signed in the next months. A meeting to define the tasks of every institution will take place in february 2003. A proposal regarding the upgrade of installation for NERO was submitted last october and should be funded next march.

Geomagnetic observatories/Pascal Tarits
2 instruments (1 french, 1 american) will be installed in 2003 at H2O site and compared.
In the future, it is planned to instrument an observatory in the Philippine sea.

Germany : No report
Heinrich Villinger to be contacted

Italy : no report
GEOSTAR to be contacted

Europe/6th PCRD
There are radical changes between the 5th and the 6th PCRD. MOMAR (multiparameter observatory along the Mid-Atlantic ridge) disappeared in the last version of the 6th framework. A resolution asking for a European support on IODP and MOMAR was written during an emergency meeting in september 2003 in Portugal. Things at this stage look very uncertain.
One alternative possibility consists in launching bilateral cooperation such as the UK/US about DEOS, which is translated into a MOU agreeing on free access and exchange of data, mutual support on facilities.

Japan/ Kiyoshi Suyehiro :

4 ION borehole observatories (WP-1, WP-2, JT-1, JT-2) have been installed (with BB sensors) and are presently operating (**TO BE UPDATED**).

Seismic data are also available.

2 tiltmeters (**WHERE?**) are now operated and data will be recovered this summer.

A sea floor cabled system was just deployed in Sagami bay where occurred the big Kanto earthquake.

JAMSTEC is in charge of the reentry system for NERO program.

Some budget cuts are forecast for next year.

- ODP-ION drilling reports

Ralph Stephen (**TO BE COMPLETED**):

hole # ??? H2O site
Description

Adam Schultz (**TO BE COMPLETED**) :
Hole 203 : Equatorial- Pacific site
2 holes were drilled and cemented

- Plans for instrumenting existing ION ODP legacy holes

NERO : joint cooperation Jamstec, IPG-INSU, IFREMER.
Installation of instruments in 2004 or 2005.

Other drilled holes (**TO BE COMPLETED**)

- Acquisition of re-use of of TAT8-11, TPC-3, HAW-4, Guam-Philippine-Taiwan cables – Rhett Butler
Electro-optical cables are now available for the scientific community. Technical and budget issues have to be clearly addressed. For the cable between US and Europe, some close cooperation is necessary particularly between US and UK-France

- Discussion of future ION-ODP proposals

It seems absolutely necessary to write an IODP proposal. The deadline is April 1, 2003.

Ralph Stephen will provide the previous proposal and is in charge of collecting all summaries and plans for January 15, 2003.

The current map of ION sites must be updated. Rhett Butler can provide the previous maps with the present coverage and interaction circles.

Issues : must we add coastal observatories, MOMAR, Japan trench observatories ? Which milestones ? Which schedule ?

All issues can be discussed through e-mail as soon as possible.