



**EUR-OCEANS Network of Excellence
Executive Committee meeting
Paris, 11 January 2006**

Participants:

C. Gernez (CNRS, France – Executive Director, non-voting)
R. Harris (PML, United Kingdom)
L. Legendre (CNRS, France – Deputy Scientific Director)
K. Lochte (IfM-GEOMAR, Germany)
P. Treguer (CNRS, France - Scientific Director)

Excused:

C. Duarte (CSIC, Spain)
I. Siokou-Frangou (HCMR, Greece)
J. De Macedo (FIST S.A., France – Administrative and Financial Coordinator)

1. Preparation of the first annual report to be submitted to the European Commission

C. Gernez presented the main components of the annual report (see attached presentation “EUR-OCEANS_Annual report”). Few contributions have been received from the WP leaders at the date of the meeting, and it was agreed to send individual reminders to those who have not yet provided their progress report. It was also agreed to send reminders to the PIs who have not yet completed the questionnaire on performance indicators.

P. Treguer presented a draft executive summary, which was discussed. R. Harris and K. Lochte agreed to send their comments by fax or email shortly after the meeting. It was also agreed to include a paragraph on performance indicators in Section 1 of the activity report, as well as in the executive summary.

L. Legendre presented a draft structure for the section on “management of the consortium”, which was approved (see attached presentation “Section 3 Management consortium”).

2. Reallocations of funds not spent in 2005

C. Gernez presented the situation of the expenses at the end of 2005 and recalled the suggestions made by the Network Steering Committee in November 2005 as regards reallocations (see attached presentation “EUR-OCEANS_Budget_revised”). The following reallocations were approved:

a) No reallocation (within the first 18 months) of the funds *transferred to MOs*:

- Personnel funds (assistants’ salaries) should be kept in case of a delayed Commission’s 2nd payment – a reallocation will be envisaged after the 2nd payment;
- Task Team meetings funds should be kept for future Task Team meetings;
- WP workshops funds should be kept for future workshops attendance.

b) Reallocations of funds *kept centrally*:

Amount and source of the funds	New purpose
24 kEuros, Systems workshops funds	Organisation of workshops by Systems and WPs
30 kEuros, Kick-off meeting and Governing bodies meetings	Additional funding for the PIs annual meeting 2006
25 kEuros, Governing bodies meetings and Mobility	Additional support to the EUR-OCEANS office in Brest
20 kEuros, Mobility	Mobility actions with extended duration and in cooperation with WP1.1
min. 80 kEuros, Training, Audit certificates, Communication (and potentially Personnel funds after the 2 nd payment)	Call for post-doc(s), with full funding and a focus on model interfacing
22.9 kEuros, Training, Audit certificates and Communication	Increased funding for summer schools
15 kEuros, Communication	Reports, publications, Fact Sheets of WP9
10 kEuros, Communication and New initiatives	WP2.1 workshop (Paris, December 2005)

As regards funds for meetings and workshops, it was agreed to modify the rules for their use as follows. So far, there was a distinction between funds for the workshops of **WPs**, which were distributed to the Member Organisations (MOs) and could be used to attend events organised only by the WPs ; and funds for the workshops of **Systems**, which were kept centrally and allocated to the various Systems on the basis of an internal competition. It is now agreed that the workshops funds distributed to the MOs can be used to **attend** events organised by WPs or Systems, and that the workshops funds kept centrally shall be allocated, based on an internal competition, to WPs or Systems, for **organising** workshops.

Two deadlines were set for sending workshops proposals to the Scientific Directors:

- 1) end March 2006 ; proposals examined by the Scientific Directors during one week, then sent to the NSC for consultation ; final decision made by end April;
- 2) early October 2006 ; proposals examined by the Scientific Directors during one week, then sent to the NSC for consultation ; final decision made by end October.

3. Preparation of the Annual PIs meeting (Barcelona, Spain, 15-16 March 2006)

The attached agenda was approved (see document “Agenda of the PIs meeting_revised”). Potential speakers for the session on scientific advances will be contacted by P. Treguer and L. Legendre. It was agreed that these speakers should not be WP leaders.

4. Setting up of the 3 joint Working Groups in relation to the multi-site Institute

P. Treguer recalled the last developments regarding the multi-site European Institute, which is to follow EUR-OCEANS after the EC-funding period. During a meeting held in Paris in November 2005, the three marine Networks of Excellence (EUR-OCEANS, MarBEF and Marine Genomics Europe) decided to join their efforts to develop and promote the concept of a multi-site Institute at the European level. Four joint working groups (WGs) were created dealing with (1) new challenges for marine sciences, (2) a European Doctoral School (PhD Programme), (3) sharing of scientific facilities, and (4) mobility of personnel.

Ideas from the four WGs will be discussed during 2006 and proposed to the EC (after validation by the Steering Committees/Executive Committees of the NoEs) at the end of 2006. Each WG will be composed of one representative per NoE. The following representatives have been suggested for EUR-OCEANS:

WG1: Scientific challenges for the future: a PI will be contacted by P. Treguer

WG2: Doctoral School/PhD programme: a PI will be contacted by P. Treguer

WG3: Sharing facilities: a PI will be contacted by P. Treguer

WG4: Mobility of personnel: Carlos Duarte has agreed to represent EUR-OCEANS in this group.