

# ECORD Council Meeting #18

Paris, November 17-18th, 2010  
Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris (IPGP)  
France

## MINUTES

Approved at the ECORD Council Meeting # 19 held in Montréal on 31/05/11.

<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Belgium	Jean-Pierre Henriët	<a href="mailto:jeanpierre.henriet@ugent.be">jeanpierre.henriet@ugent.be</a>
Canada	Anne de Vernal	<a href="mailto:devernal.anne@uqam.ca">devernal.anne@uqam.ca</a>
Denmark <sup>1</sup>	Heidi Elberling	<a href="mailto:mss@geo.au.dk">mss@geo.au.dk</a>
Finland	Jenni Virtanen	<a href="mailto:jenni.virtanen@aka.fi">jenni.virtanen@aka.fi</a>
France	Mireille Perrin	<a href="mailto:mireille.perrin@cnrs-dir.fr">mireille.perrin@cnrs-dir.fr</a>
Germany <sup>2</sup>	Guido Lüniger	<a href="mailto:guido.lueniger@dfg.de">guido.lueniger@dfg.de</a>
Ireland	Koen Verbruggen	<a href="mailto:Koen.Verbruggen@gsi.ie">Koen.Verbruggen@gsi.ie</a>
Netherlands	Josef Stuefer	<a href="mailto:j.stuefer@nwo.nl">j.stuefer@nwo.nl</a>
Norway	Øyvind Pettersen	<a href="mailto:op@rcn.no">op@rcn.no</a>
Portugal	Fernando Barriga	<a href="mailto:f.barriga@fc.ul.pt">f.barriga@fc.ul.pt</a>
Spain	José Ramón Sánchez Quintana	<a href="mailto:jose.sanchezq@micinn.es">jose.sanchezq@micinn.es</a>
Sweden	Dan Holtstam	<a href="mailto:dan.holtstam@vr.se">dan.holtstam@vr.se</a>
Switzerland	Martina Kern-Lütschg	<a href="mailto:mkern@snf.ch">mkern@snf.ch</a>
UK	Michael Webb	<a href="mailto:mweb@nerc.ac.uk">mweb@nerc.ac.uk</a>
<b>OBSERVERS</b>		
IMI BoG	Gerold Wefer	<a href="mailto:gwefer@marum.de">gwefer@marum.de</a>
IMI BoG	Mathilde Cannat	<a href="mailto:cannat@ipgp.fr">cannat@ipgp.fr</a>
SASEC	Jan de Leeuw	<a href="mailto:Jan.de.Leeuw@nioz.nl">Jan.de.Leeuw@nioz.nl</a>
ESO	Robert Gatliff	<a href="mailto:rwga@bgs.ac.uk">rwga@bgs.ac.uk</a>
ESSAC	Rüdiger Stein	<a href="mailto:Ruediger.Stein@awi.de">Ruediger.Stein@awi.de</a>
EMA	Catherine Mevel	<a href="mailto:mevel@ipgp.fr">mevel@ipgp.fr</a>
EMA	Mohamed Amine Benchikh	<a href="mailto:benchikh@ipgp.fr">benchikh@ipgp.fr</a>
ICDP	Uli Harms	<a href="mailto:ulrich@gfz-potsdam.de">ulrich@gfz-potsdam.de</a>
IODP-MI	Kiyoshi Suyehiro	<a href="mailto:ksuyehiro@iodp.org">ksuyehiro@iodp.org</a>
ECORD EDP	John Thorogood	<a href="mailto:John.Thorogood@DrillingGC.com">John.Thorogood@DrillingGC.com</a>
ECORD EDP	Maria Ask	<a href="mailto:Maria.Ask@ltu.se">Maria.Ask@ltu.se</a>

1) Alternate of Marit-Solveig Seidenkrantz

2) Guido Lüniger did not attend the closed session because of a meeting at the German funding agency.

<b>APOLOGIES</b>		
<b>MEMBERS</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Austria	Reinhard Belocky	<a href="mailto:belocky@fwf.ac.at">belocky@fwf.ac.at</a>
Iceland	Jonasson Hallgrímur	<a href="mailto:hallgrimur@rannis.is">hallgrimur@rannis.is</a>
Italy	Nigel Wardell	<a href="mailto:nwardell@ogs.trieste.it">nwardell@ogs.trieste.it</a>
<b>OBSERVERS</b>		
IMI BoG	John Ludden	<a href="mailto:jludden@bgs.ac.uk">jludden@bgs.ac.uk</a>
SASEC	Damon Teagle	<a href="mailto:Damon.Teagle@soton.ac.uk">Damon.Teagle@soton.ac.uk</a>
EMA	Patricia Maruéjol	<a href="mailto:maruejol@crpg.cnrs-nancy.fr">maruejol@crpg.cnrs-nancy.fr</a>
Russia	Alexander Matul	<a href="mailto:amatul@ocean.ru">amatul@ocean.ru</a>
NSF	Ian Ridley	<a href="mailto:wridley@nsf.gov">wridley@nsf.gov</a>
MEXT	Shingo Shibata	<a href="mailto:shibata@mext.go.jp">shibata@mext.go.jp</a>

ERICON-AB	Bonnie Wolff-Boenisch	<a href="mailto:Bonnie.Wolff-Boenisch@awi.de">Bonnie.Wolff-Boenisch@awi.de</a>
ESF	Paul Egerton	<a href="mailto:pegerton@esf.org">pegerton@esf.org</a>
Marine Board	Niall McDonough	<a href="mailto:NMcDonough@esf.org">NMcDonough@esf.org</a>
CNRS	Jean Marie Hameury	<a href="mailto:jean-marie.hameury@cnrs-dir.fr">jean-marie.hameury@cnrs-dir.fr</a>

The PDF files of all presentations are posted in the restricted area of the ECORD website:

<http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACEX	Arctic Coring Expedition, Expedition 302
AERES	Agence d'Evaluation de la Recherche et de l'Enseignement Supérieur
AGU	American Geophysical Union
BGS	British Geological Survey
BoG	IODP-MI Board of Governors
CMO	Central Management Office
CoNISMA	Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare, Italy
CRISP A	Costa Rica Seismogenesis Project
DCO	Deep Carbon Observatory
DLP	Distinguished Lecturer Program
DS <sup>3</sup> F	Deep-Sea and Sub-Seafloor Frontiers project
EB	Executive Board
EC	European Commission
ECORD	European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling
EDP	Engineering Development Panel
EGU	European Geosciences Union
EMA	ECORD Managing Agency
EMAR2ES project	European MARine MARitime REsearch and Science project
EOR	Expedition Objective Research
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ERICON Aurora Borealis	European Polar Research Icebreaker Consortium - Aurora Borealis
ESF	European Science Foundation
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESO	ECORD Science Operator
ESSAC	ECORD Science Support and Advisory Committee
EUROCORES	European Collaborative Research
EuroMARC	EUROCORES programme Challenges of Marine Coring Research
FP8	Eighth framework programme
FY	Fiscal Year
GBREC	Great Barrier Reef Environmental Changes
ICDP	International Continental Scientific Drilling Program
ILP	ECORD Industry Liaison Panel
INSU-CNRS	Institut National des Sciences de l'Univers, France
INVEST	IODP New Ventures in Exploring Scientific Targets
IODP	Integrated Ocean Drilling Program
IODP-MI	IODP Management International, Inc.
IOs	Implementing Organizations
ISP	Initial Science Plan for the IODP
IWG+	International Working Group +
JAMSTEC	JApan Marine Science & TEchnology Center
JR	Joides Resolution
KIGAM	Korea Institute of Geosciences and Mineral Resources
K-IODP	Korea Integrated Ocean Drilling Program)
LAs	Lead Agencies
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
MARCOM project	Towards an Integrated Marine and Maritime Science Community project
MEXT	Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science & Technology
MISTRALS	Mediterranean Integrated Studies at Regional And Local Scales
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSPs	Mission-specific platform

NanTroSEIZE	Nankai Trough SEIsmogenic Zone Experiment
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council, UK
NIOZ	Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research
NJSS	New Jersey Shallow Shelf
NSF	National Science Foundation, USA
NWO	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
ODP	Ocean Drilling Program
OGS	Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale (Italy)
OSP	Onshore Science Party
OTF	Operation Task Force
POC	Platform Operation Costs
SAS	Science Advisory Structure
SASEC	Science Advisory Structure Executive Committee
SOC	Science Operation Costs
SPC	Science Planning Committee
SPWC	Science Plan Writing Committee
SSEP	Science Steering & Evaluation Panel
SSP	Site Survey Panel
TerMEEx	Terra-Mediterranean Earth Science Experiment
TUMST	Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology
USAC	U.S. Science Advisory Committee
USIO	U.S. Implementing Organization
USSP	U.S. Science Support Program
WP	Work Package

**Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**OPEN SESSION**

**Agenda Item 1 - Welcome and logistical information (Catherine Mével/ Amine Benchikh)**

The meeting was hosted by Mireille Perrin (chair) at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris (IPGP), France.

C. Mével, EMA Director presented apologies from Reinhard Belocky (Austria), Marit Solveig Seidenkrantz (Denmark)<sup>1</sup>, Rodey Batiza /Ian Ridley (NSF), Shingo Shibata (MEXT), Bonnie Wolff Boenisch (ERICON), Paul Egerton (ESF), Niall McDonough (Marine Board), Sasha Matul (Russia).

Catherine informed that Nigel Wardell has resigned and the new representative (Marco Sacchi) for Italy has not yet been officially appointed.

The Agenda was slightly modified. Items 9 and 16 were not addressed as S. Matul and P. Egerton could not attend. M. Perrin asked if there are others modifications to be added to the agenda. With no modifications the agenda was approved.

**Agenda Item 2 - Welcome address IPGP/CNRS (Vincent Courtillot)**

Vincent Courtillot, director of the Institut de Physique du Globe welcomed the participants and expressed his gratitude for their coming in the new IPGP building. He praised the high level of science IODP has delivered and the European agencies for their willingness to act all together.

**Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the Berlin meeting minutes (Mireille Perrin))**

**ECORD Council motion 10-02-1**

ECORD Council approves the minutes of the Berlin meeting with one minor modification requested by J.P. Henriët.

Verbruggen moved, Webb seconded, all in favour

**Agenda Item 4 - Berlin meeting actions (Mireille Perrin)**

M. Perrin reviewed the actions from the last meeting in Berlin.

Action EMA and ESO: to develop the business plan for ECORD in the next phase. *Done- First draft discussed at the Executive meeting, Paris, September. Revised draft included in the Agenda book.*

ACTION EMA: to contact ACADEMIA EUROPEA to investigate if it can organise the evaluation. If not, the help of ICDP, as already supported by the ECORD Council, should be sought. *Done - See agenda item #24.*

ACTION EMA: to inform the LAs on the agreed ECORD position before the IWG+ meeting: "it is essential to include representatives of the science community (the Chairs of the future evaluation and implementation panels) as members of the Executive Board". *Done - Letter sent to the LAs, 7/6/2010.*

ACTION EMA: To decide with the incoming Chair, Mireille Perrin, the location of the next Council meeting to be held in France. *Done.*

**Agenda Item 5 - New Council vice chair to be elected; composition of the executive (C. Mével)**

ECORD Council decided to extend the term of the Chair to one year, for a better continuity (see agenda item #23). Mireille Perrin will remain Chair until September 30, 2011. Guido Lüniger will remain the outgoing Vice-chair until March 31, 2011, and then an incoming vice chair will be appointed. Until March 31, 2011, the ECORD Executive consists of Mireille Perrin, France (Chair), Guido Lüniger, Germany (Vice chair), Anne de Vernal (Canada), Mike Webb (UK), and Jose Ramon Sanchez Quintana (Spain).

**Agenda Item 6 – IODP- MI report (Kiyoshi Suyehiro)**

(See IODP-MI report by K. Suyehiro at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

---

<sup>1</sup> Her alternate, Heidi Elberling attended the meeting.

K. Suyehiro, President of IODP-MI presented the **last draft of the IODP Annual Program Plan 2011**, which still needs to be approved by the BoG and the Lead Agencies. SASEC has reviewed and approved the June version of the APP (SASEC Motion 1006-04). Because of minor schedules changes for JR and Chikyu, the APP still needs to be revised before approval by the IODP-MI Board of Governors. For the JR the changes concerns the drilling time for Superfast Spreading Rate Crust. It has been extended by 2 weeks. For the Chikyu, it is the inclusion of the Shimokita Coal Bed Biosphere in the FY11 plan.

**A summary of the IODP budget for FY11** was provided. It is not the final budget, but major changes are expected. The total amount requested by IOs is less than the total LA budget guidance. The total program cost for FY2011 is approximately US\$174,5M of which about US\$22,6M is SOC (funded by the commingled funds) and US\$151,9M is POCs. The ESO budget is low as only the Chicxulub Hazard site survey will be implemented. ESO does not appear in the budget table 4: *IODP Contract Budget Summary for FY2011*, because only the SOC transiting through IODP-MI are mentioned while ESO receives its SOC's directly from EMA.

A diagram portraying the money flow within the IODP structure was presented. C. Mével commented that the link between IODP-MI and ESO should be maintained for the SOC's. Although the money flow does not include IODP-MI any more, the budget is still negotiated between IODP-MI and ESO.

**The FY11 operation schedules for the 3 platforms** are finalised. For FY11, no MSP expedition is planned, only the Chicxulub site survey mission. **FY12-13, planning scenarios are being developed.** FY12 schedules for JR and *Chikyu* are almost approved by SPC except the MSP program that still needs discussion. For the Chikyu, it is now unlikely that the Plate boundary at Nantoseize will be reached before the end of the program. The aim is now to reach the deep Splay fault zone at ~4700 m.

IODP-MI hopes to complete the **Scientific Earth Drilling Information System (SEDIS)** in FY11. It is an important part of the IODP Data Management activity. He showed some figures about the IODP databases and the quantity of the metadata records collected from the successive ODP, DSDP and IODP programs. The SEDIS phase 3 started on July 2010. One of the SEDIS functions allows to show the usage of the database broken down by visitors per country. Brazil and Russian appear in the top 10 users.

**The status of the proposal submissions to IODP** as of October 1, 2010 was commented. 26 proposals have been submitted of which 9 are ECORD lead. Out of the 14 new proposals 4 are ECORD lead. Several proposals deal with the Indian Ocean. The statistics on the participation at sea show that ECORD and the two Leads Agencies share around 30% each so it is a well balanced.

Addressing the **Mohole project**, IODP-MI proposes to conduct scoping of the drilling through the oceanic crust and Moho into the mantle starting from FY2011. Following the two workshops conducted in 2010, the aim is to evaluate the feasibility and cost of the project.

The **IODP-MI website** is being revamped. The **new Science Plan (2013-2023)** will be finalized next year under the overview of Hans Christian Larsen. The **new SAS structure** is being finalized, in concertation between SASEC, IODP-MI and IWG+.

IODP-MI keeps investigating countries from Asia, South America (in particular Brazil) and Africa as potential new members.

The presentation ended with information on the IODP Town Hall Meeting at the AGU to be held on Tuesday, 14 December 2010 (San Francisco).

#### **Agenda Item 7 – Board of Governors (Gerold Wefer)**

G. Wefer, IODP-MI Board of Governors reported on the last BoG meeting held on June 16<sup>th</sup> in Kyoto.

The main point discussed was **the role of the BoG as part of the CMO in the future program** and the relationships between the BoG and the Program Governing Board. The BoG insisted that the program should be led by the science. Catherine Mével reminded that the role of the BoG this is still under discussion at the IWG+ level.

The BoG adopted a motion where it expressed its concern about the **ECORD request to lower its SOC contribution** by approximately \$10M over the next 3 years in order to fund a second MSP expedition before the

end of the program. Catherine Mével reminded that, following a discussion with NSF and MEXT, this request was finally not implemented by ECORD.

Judith Mc Kenzie will attend the next BoG meeting, at AGU, as an alternate for John Ludden. For the first time in IODP, ECORD was offered to chair the BoG, while normally it rotates between the LAs. G. Wefer has agreed to apply. The next BoG election is in June 2011.

#### **Agenda Item 8 - SASEC (Jan de Leeuw)**

See SASEC report by J. de Leeuw at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>

J. de Leeuw reported on the last SASEC meeting (14-15 June 2010, Kyoto, Japan) and the progress report made by SASEC Chair Maureen Raymo (September, 2010).

SASEC is deeply involved in the preparation of the next phase. J. de Leeuw gave an update on **the new science plan status**. The Science Plan Writing Committee is currently finalising the third draft of the Science Plan for the post-2013 programme. The drafts have successively received inputs from all IODP bodies and the drilling science community and a final Science Plan will be delivered to funding agencies no later than June 2011.

**The new SAS structure** will be simplified, with two committees (PEP and SIPCom) for proposal evaluation and program development instead of three (SSEP/SPC/SASEC). 3 service panels are proposed: Technology Panel (TP), Site Characterization Panel (SCP) and Environmental Protection and Safety Panel (EPSP). The Terms of Reference (ToR) for each of the new panels are being drafted by a SASEC subcommittee in discussion with IODP-MI, for consideration by IWG+. A first version has been sent to all IWG+ members on October 2010 to be discussed at the next IWG+ meeting (January 2011, Miami). ECORD Council is requested to provide comments on the new SAS ToR before the meeting in San Francisco.

**The Transition phase scheduling:** It is expected that the current SAS will be phased out by mid-2011 and the new SAS panels progressively appointed in the fall of 2011. SPC has been tasked to make recommendations on the existing proposals that should be forwarded to the new program on the basis of the new Science Plan.

**Addressing the proposal evaluation process,** 2 separate proposal flows are suggested: single expedition JR and MSP proposals could be evaluated with a common pathway, whereas planning for riser (Chikyu) and/or long-term, multi-leg expedition non-riser projects need a separate pathway.

The deadline for the last call for IODP proposals was 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. The first call for proposals for the new program is expected by early summer 2011 with an October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 deadline.

#### **Agenda Item 9 - EMA Report (C. Mével)**

(See EMA report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

Catherine Mével informed the Council on EMA activities.

Two electronics votes were organized by EMA:

- 1) the approval of the proposition, following the NSF-MEXT-ECORD meeting in Kyoto, to maintain the SOC/POC ratio at 3/1. ECORD council approved maintaining the SOC/POC ratio at 3/1 as stated in the Memorandum and the planning of only one MSP expedition till the end of the programme in order to fulfil ECORDs' obligations to IODP.
- 2) the approval of M. Hovland nomination as an EPSP member.

She overviewed the meetings attended by EMA, including European funded project meetings: ERICON-AB and DS3F.

12 European institutes from ECORD countries are members IODP-MI. For the BoG, ECORD is entitled three governors. J. Ludden (UK) has been renewed for 3 years including 2 years as a member of the executive as H. Thierstein has retired. The other members are Mathilde Cannat (France) and Gerold Wefer (Germany).

The MoU Annex H for the new fiscal year (FY11) has been sent to each Council member for approval and signature. The addendum to the Memorandum with the LAs for FY11 has been approved and is being signed.

She summarized ECORD outreach activities. The ECORD Newsletter #15 is now posted on the ECORD website and will be distributed at the AGU Fall meeting in San Francisco. EMA will soon release the 2011



ECORD calendar. The ECORD flyer has been updated to include the new ESSAC office contact details. EMA provided support to several national activities and meetings. EMA offers the possibility to develop leaflets with a specific focus to be included in the ECORD pocket folder. For example, a leaflet on the Canada involvement was developed for the Victoria port call. She reported on the Victoria JR port call jointly organized by the USIO and IODP Canada. A JR port call in Lisbon is planned at the end of January 2012 and it will be a good opportunity to promote ECORD in Portugal.

C. Mével reported on the MOHO project and the 2 workshops held this year. At the Kanazawa workshop, 3 possible sites were identified. Technological development was mainly discussed at the Washington D.C workshop, co-sponsored by IODP-MI and the Deep Carbon Observatory (DCO) initiative (sponsored by the Sloane foundation). The aim is to attract a new community to ocean drilling. At this stage, it is important to evaluate the feasibility, technological development requirements and cost of the project. K. Suyehiro informed that a scoping group will be formed in the near future, funded by IODP-MI and potentially the Sloane Foundation (a proposal has been submitted).

She gave an overview on GOLD (Gulf of Lion Drilling) workshop held in October in Banyuls, France, to discuss a deep drilling project in the Western Mediterranean that could be potentially implemented with the Chikyu within the future program. The workshop was initiated by French scientists and supported by ESF-Magellan. GOLD combines two drilling projects. The first project is to drill a ~6 km deep hole through the salt into the basement. It could be implemented with the Chikyu and CDEX representatives participated in the workshop. The second project is to drill on the Gulf of Lion margin to address recent sealevel/climate changes.

Industry is interested and several oil companies attended the workshop: Statoil, Sonatrach, TOTAL, Petrobras. Like MOHO, GOLD is a complex project that will require many months of drilling and a significant budget. Discussions are ongoing to set up a consortium and seek for external funding outside from IODP including EC. A pre-proposal will be submitted for the first call of the new program, in October 2011.

#### **Agenda Item 10 - ESO report (Robert Gatliff)**

(See ESO report by R. Gatliff at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

Robert Gatliff gave an update on ESO and MSP activities.

The Great Barrier Reef Environmental Changes (GBREC) completed operations on April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (started on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010) The Onshore Science Party took place at the Bremen core repository from July 2 to 16. After looking at the cores, the scientists are confident that the objectives will be met despite the 30% average core recovery (causes of the low average were discussed at the last meeting#17 in Berlin).

The initial report was published on August 30 2010 (available on the IODP website) and an editorial meeting is scheduled for December. The review of the operation by ORTF is planned on late February/early March 2011.

R. Gatliff presented the future MSP plans. There are 6 MSP proposals in the SAS, but only one will be implemented.

Proposal	Short title	Panel	Comments
548	Chicxulub K-T Impact Crater	OTF	Forwarded March 2010, SPC ranked #4
716	Hawaiian Drowned Reefs	OTF	Forwarded March 2009, SPC ranked #6
581	Late Pleistocene Corallgal Banks	OTF	Forwarded March 2010, SPC ranked #10
637	New England Shelf Hydrogeology	OTF	Forwarded March 2009, SPC ranked #4 In holding bin with site survey issues
672	Baltic Sea Basin Paleoenvironment	SPC	Narrowly missed being forwarded March 2010, SPC ranked #12
748	Nice Airport Landslide	SPC	Forwarded to SPC May 2010, SSEP 3 stars
758	Atlantis Massif Seafloor Processes	SSEP	Out for external review

ESO is currently scoping the 3 highest ranked proposals at OTF in parallel: Chicxulub K-T Impact Crater; Hawaiian Drowned Reefs and Late Pleistocene Corallgal Banks. Following the New Jersey review, ESO has started implementing a new approach to planning. 3 meetings involving the proponents are being organized for the three potential programs to be implemented with an MSP.

ESO held a Project Management Team Meeting with Chicxulub co-proponents last October. Proponents were encouraged by ICDP to submit a proposal. It is an opportunity for ECORD to support other collaboration with ICDP. Chicxulub is an expensive project. Concerning the permitting issue, ESO plans to go to Mexico in 2011.



A jack up may be used, likely the same as for the New Jersey margins.

Hawaii: A similar meeting has been arranged with Hawaii proponents on early November. According R. Gatliff, ESO probably could core 7 out of those 12 sequences with a seabed rockdrill. Several scenarios were identified to implement the project:

- To use a seabed rock drill on a local ship, with the hope that all science objectives can be fulfilled.
- To drill the shallow holes with a seabed drill and the deeper holes with the JR
- To use a drilling vessel similar to the one used for Tahiti

Coralgal bank. This proposal would be cheaper to implement but is not as strong scientifically, and therefore IODP-MI suggested to wait. The proponents are investigating whether they can obtain additional funding from industry.

It is not yet decided what will be the last ESO expedition because there will be three additional potential projects to consider after the SPC meeting. If favourable conditions are met (use of seabed drills and additional funding), more than one proposal could be implemented before the end of the program.

R.Stein expressed concern on how much time and money were allocated to the scoping both Chicxulub and Hawaii while the Baltic Sea seems to be clearly a possible option for the last MSP. R. Gatliff replied that ESO did not spend much money. The site survey for Chicxulub is not yet decided. But it is important to make progress on these projects in case nothing comes out of SPC.

G. Wefer informed that in Germany, a recommendation of the government clearly supports the use of seabed rock drill.

#### **Agenda Item 11 - ESSAC report (Rüdiger Stein)**

(See ESSAC report by R. Stein at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

Rüdiger Stein reported on ESSAC activities.

The last ESSAC meeting was hosted by Judy McKenzie in Zurich in Switzerland, October 26-27, 2010.

Minor changes occurred in the structure of the ESSAC subcommittees: Initially 3 standing subcommittees were appointed to be responsible for specific activities: (1) Staffing and Nominations subcommittee, (2) Education and Outreach subcommittee and Workshops, (3) Communication and Vision subcommittee. As of October, the Communication and Vision subcommittee is replaced by an ad-hoc working group on relevant themes.

ESSAC welcomed Carlota Escutia-Dotti as the new Vice-Chair of ESSAC (G. Camoin rotated off), to become the Chair as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

**R. Stein reported on the last OTF (Aug 28, 2010), SPC (Aug 30 – Sep 01, 2010) and PMO (Sep 02, 2010) meetings.**

#### **The 3 platforms schedules for the remainder of the program (FY11-FY13)**

##### FY11 plans

JR will carry out the 5 following expeditions: South Pacific Gyre Microbiology, Louisville Seamount Trail, Costa Rica Seismogenesis Project (CRISP) A, Superfast Spreading Rate Crust and Mid-Atlantic Ridge Microbiology.

Chikyu will carry out 4 expeditions: (1) Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone Experiment (NanTroSEIZE) Stage 2 Riserless Observatory; (2) NanTroSEIZE Stage 2: Inputs Coring 2 and Heat Flow; (3) The Shimokita Coal Bed Biosphere proposal; it is a Complimentary Project Proposal (CPP) co-funded by MEXT; ( 4) NanTroSEIZE Riser Drilling which extends into FY13.

There will be no MSP expedition

##### FY12 plans (provisional)

JR will implement the 3 following expeditions: Mediterranean Outflow, Cascadia and S. Alaska. The plan is already approved by SPC. Because the funding for Cascadia is still pending, SPC selected Lesser Antilles as the favoured alternative.

Chikyu will continue NanTroSeize but it is unlikely that the plate boundary at NanTroSeize will be reached during this phase of the programme.

For MSP, the decision will be made after the March SPC meeting.

FY13 plans need still to be discussed. The JR will likely go to the western Pacific and Indian Ocean to implement Izu-Bonin-Mariana (IBM), Asian Monsoon, Bengal Fan and a to be-determined expedition in the Indian Ocean.

The proposal handling during the transition phase was addressed by SPC. It was agreed to forward to the new SAS only a limited number of selected proposals based both on scientific merit and readiness. The proponents of all other active proposals should be invited to submit a new version of their proposal to the new program on the basis of the new science plan. A timeline has been established to properly insure the transition and keep informed all the proponents of the status of their proposal

R. Stein detailed a new research initiative for “Implementing an international program for climate and human evolution research”. A new Joint IODP-ICDP Program Planning Group (PPG) for Climate-Hominid Evolution research “Understanding of climate influence of hominids evolution” is being set up, with Peter deMenocal (IODP) and Andy Cohen (ICDP) as co-chairs.

Within some SAS panels, new elected chair and vice-chair have been approved by consensus. At STP: Saneatsu Saito was elected chair and Douglas Schmitt as vice-chair. At SSP: Gilles Lericolais was elected chair and David Mallinson vice-chair. The next SPC meeting has been planned in Edinburgh, March 28-31, 2011.

The future Science advisory structure (SAS) was addressed. Some issues were raised dealing with the election and composition of panel and committee members, the rules of conflict of interest, the need of a Site survey Panel. For all these points an official request will be sent to IWG+ for responses.

#### Staffing and quotas issues:

ESSAC office issued calls for applications for 6 expeditions planned in FY11. Nominations are completed for 3 expeditions: Juan de Fuca Flank Hydrogeology, South Pacific Gyre Microbiology, and Louisville Seamounts. In addition, ESSAC has completed the selection of ECORD scientists for 2 others expeditions (Superfast Spreading and Mid-Atlantic Microbiology) and the staffing is still in progress. 3 teachers from ECORD countries participated in the Juan de Fuca expedition.

For the expeditions scheduled in FY12, ESSAC office has issued 3 calls for applications that are still open.

He portrayed the current situation regarding **quotas and staffing** to date (November 2011) and some discrepancy remains between ECORD member countries. However, ESSAC is working to improve the situation.

JdF	CasCo	SPG	Louisv	Okina	NanTr	NanTr	CRISP	Super	MAM					
Exp 327	Exp 328	Exp 329	Exp 330	Exp 331	Exp 332	Exp 333	Exp 334	Exp 335	Exp 336	Total berths so far	Member	NEW Financial Contribn	NEW Entitlement	ALLOC
3		1	2	1		3	2	4	3	63	France	25,4%	69,3	-6,3
0		3	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	73	Germany	26,0%	71,1	1,9
2		2	4	3		2	1	4	1	67	UK	25,4%	69,3	-2,3
5	0	6	8	6	2	7	6	9	6	203	Sum	76,8%	209,7	-6,7
										0	Austria	0,5%	1,4	-1,4
										1	Belgium	0,2%	0,4	0,6
			0	1				1		8	Canada	1,5%	4,1	3,9
1		1							1	7	Denmark	2,3%	6,3	0,7
										2	Finland	0,4%	1,1	0,9
										0	Iceland	0,1%	0,4	-0,4
		1								1	Ireland	0,7%	1,9	-0,9
							1			9	Italy	1,3%	3,5	5,5
										6	The Netherlands	1,8%	5,0	1,0
		1				1			1	9	Norway	5,0%	13,7	-4,7
							1			3	Portugal	0,6%	1,5	1,5
										9	Spain	2,8%	7,7	1,3
										7	Sweden	3,4%	9,4	-2,4
										8	Switzerland	2,5%	6,9	1,1
1	0	3	0	1	0	1	2	1	2	70	Sum	23,2%	63,3	6,7
6	0	9	8	7	2	8	8	10	8	273	Total ECORD		273	0,0

With regards to the quotas issues the Council decided the following actions:

ACTION ESSAC: At the next Council meeting, to present a five years average table of the ECORD berths quotas

ACTION EMA: Recommend to IODP-MI to investigate the possibility of inviting students when a full science party is not required on an expedition

R. Stein introduced the ESSAC Consensus 1010-03 dealing with some advices to be sent to IWG+ regarding the new SAS structure.

#### **ECORD summer Schools and Scholarships:**

R. Stein briefly overviewed the three completed 2010 ECORD Summer Schools. For the first time 3 Summer Schools were organized, including one in Canada. He informed on the two upcoming 2011 ECORD Summer Schools: Urbino Summer School in “Palaeoclimatology” and Bremen Summer School on “Subseafloor fluid flow and gas hydrates”.

He noted that the collection of statistics about Summer Schools is in process.

#### **Distinguished Lecturer Programme:**

The second phase of the ECORD Distinguished Lecturer Programme 2008-2010 has ended successfully and three new lecturers have been appointed. The first call to host a lecture was issued on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 with a deadline of September 2010 and 20 applications were received. Although the deadline has passed, ESSAC still encourages further submissions.

#### **Updates on past and upcoming Magellan workshops:**

- GOLD workshop, Banyuls, France, 20-22 October
- Geological carbon capture and storage in mafic and ultramafic rocks. Mascate, Oman. January 2011

Dr Stein also informed ECORD of a special Interdivision Session dealing with major achievements and perspectives in ocean and continental drilling organized at EGU 2011 (Vienne, April 3-8, 2011)

Next ESSAC meeting (16<sup>th</sup>) will be hosted in Leuven, Belgium, May 11-13, 2011

#### **Agenda Item 12 - ECORD Industry Liaison Panel (Catherine Mével)**

(See ECORD ILP report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

The list of the current panel members (chaired by Richard Hardman) was introduced. The panel is mostly composed of representatives from industry (Total, Shell, Exxon Mobil...) but also academia; there is an overlap with IODP Engineering Development Panel. New nominations from ECORD countries are requested as the panel presently remains UK oriented. C. Mével encouraged ECORD members to recommend potential names, in particular from industry. The Terms of Reference of the ECORD ILP are not finalised yet. They will be built upon the ToR of the UK ILP.

*M. Webb suggested looking for the companies involved in the GOLD project (e.g. Total, Sonatrach, Petro Brass...).*

A joint industry-academia workshop on scientific drilling in the Arctic will be organised on 2011 by EMA in consultation with Sasha Leigh, UK IODP, ECORD-ILP and ESSAC (Council consensus 10-01-2).

The “Arctic brochure” has been prepared by UK IODP (Dayton Dove, Science Coordinator) in consultation with EMA and ESSAC to distribute to all industry contacts. The aim is to raise interest on academia-industry cooperation in the Arctic. The brochure is now finalised and being printed (~500 copies).

The plan for the workshop has been discussed between C. Mével and Richard Hardman:

- The dates should be between late March and early May
- The location should be easy to access (Paris, London, Edinburgh...). If it not Paris, EMA will need some local contact. M. Webb informed that if London was selected, NERC could give support.
- The workshop would gather between 50-100 participants, more than discussed at the last Council meeting. Nominations from the Council members are welcome. The speakers should come both from industry and academia. R. Stein has the contact with academia representatives. From the pool of nominations, EMA and R. Hardman will approach potential speakers personally.

*Maria Ask asked whether industry representatives should be at a management level or lower. According to C. Mével, at this early stage of cooperation, it would be better to invite people from lower level who could then report to their hierarchy. It was suggested to contact the ERICON-AB community. C. Mével reminded that the AB community is actually the same as the IODP community for the drilling aspect.*

C. Mével informed on the Polar Petroleum conference (3P ARCTIC) organized by the AAPG in Halifax, Canada, August 30<sup>th</sup> – September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. It is a geosciences event focusing on the Arctic. A call for abstracts has been released with a deadline by 15 February 2011.

*The Council endorsed the idea to attend the conference to get in contact with industry and suggested to provide two presentations dealing with 1) the scientific challenges ECORD reach to meet 2) ECORD's experience in drilling ice covered area. J. de Leeuw suggested that the ECORD Arctic Workshop should be organised as a side meeting of the 3P ARCTIC conference*

*R. Stein informed on another Conference to be held in London. He will present ACES results*

*J.P. Henriot informed that an AAPG meeting usually gathers most industry companies involved in drilling. He suggested contacting EAGE (European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers the European equivalent of AAPG. For M. Perrin, at this early step, ECORD should narrow its view on European companies.*

The Council endorsed the following actions:

ACTION EMA: Approach the 3P ARCTIC conference organisers to investigate how ECORD can participate.

ACTION EMA: Investigate the possibility of organising the Arctic workshop as a side meeting to the 3P Arctic conference (Halifax, Canada, 30/8-2/9/2011)

### **Agenda Item 13 – The future of the Engineering Development Panel (Maria Ask / John Thorogood)**

*(See EDP report by M. Ask and J. Thorogood at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)*

Maria Ask and John Thorogood, members of EDP, were invited by ECORD Council to express their position regarding the future of the Engineering Development Panel. In the current plan, the standing panel would be eliminated and advice would be sought for on an ad-hoc basis. They insisted that engineers from industry are providing their input to IODP for free because they also get some benefit from interacting with the programme and the other panel members. If they are called on an ad-hoc basis, it becomes consulting. An independent oversight of technology in the program is also needed.

According to EDP, technological development primarily relies on both long term/short term approaches. They called for a continuous, systematic and consistent strategy. The Technology Roadmap initiated by EDP was presented as a central document for IODP and important for the IOs and third party tool developers. *M. Ask will circulate the Technology Roadmap once it is updated.*

Therefore Maria and John recommended that a standing panel be maintained. Its size could be reduced compared to the current situation, and the membership should focus on expertise rather than national representation.

*ECORD Council felt EDP concerns quite convincing and suggested that the future of EDP should be reconsidered by IWG+. U. Harms explained that in ICDP there is not a committee similar to EDP but rather few experts from industry working in the Executive Committee. C. Mével informed that disbanding EDP was never discussed at IWG+. J. De Leeuw reminded that the subcommittee of SASEC has been asked to look at PEP and SIPcom but not the three service panels. Therefore it was not clear where the decision about EDP came from.*

*J. De Leeuw reminded that the draft SAS ToRs have been issued for comments. He will pass the recommendations expressed today by ECORD Council. It was decided that ECORD Council comments on the SAS ToR should also be sent to IODP-MI. This issue was revisited the next day (see agenda item 25).*

### **Agenda Item 14 – Report on the Magellan Steering Committee meeting (Catherine Mével)**

*(See Magellan Steering Committee report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)*

Catherine Mével reported on the Magellan Steering Committee held in Burheim, Germany on August 17-20, 2010.

The committee met to discuss the future of the Magellan program, which ends in August 2011. The current program has been acknowledged as a useful instrument to stimulate and nurture development of new science

proposal in marine drilling expeditions. She outlined that the current ESSAC members mostly populate the steering committee, but only agencies from 11 ECORD countries participate.

The meeting gathered both countries already involved in the program and those who might join in the future. Representatives from ICDP and IMAGES were also invited.

The outcome of the meeting was to propose a new program, Magellan Plus, with a broader scope, to include both continental and oceanic drilling. The plan was to make a proposal to ESF under the frame of the Research Networking Program (RNP). However, ESF is currently being restructured and at this stage there is no opportunity to submit a proposal. ESF suggested applying at the COST program of the EU. A pre-proposal was submitted to COST. Unfortunately it was declined because it was considered as out of the scope of this instrument. Hopefully, the situation with ESF will be clarified soon.

*J. Ludden suggested that in the meantime ECORD jointly with ICDP supports the organisation of workshops. A small budget could be dedicated to this activity (the current annual budget is ~90 k€). This would save the overheads costs yielded by ESF management. Catherine replied that the main issue is whether this budget should come out of the current ECORD budget. Funding agencies may be reluctant to contribute a higher amount and include the contribution to Magellan. But if the money comes from the ECORD budget, it will decrease the POCs available for MSPs.*

*According to J.P. Henriot, it is more likely that a program like RNP will be maintained because it represents the core of ESF whose mission is to structure the European Research Area.*

#### **Agenda Item 15 - ESF Report (Catherine Mével)**

*(See ESF Magellan report provided by P. Egerton at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)*

The future of ESF is currently being discussed. One option is the merging of ESF and EUROHORCS. EUROHORCS is a European association of the heads of research funding organisations. It has essentially a strategic role and does not fund science programs as opposed to ESF.

*ECORD council will wait and see how the status of ESF evolves.*

#### **Agenda Item 16- Progress of the Aurora Borealis Project (Catherine Mével)**

*(See ERICON - Aurora Borealis report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)*

Catherine Mével reported on the progress of the ERICON-AB Project. She reminded that ECORD is an ERICON project partner through CNRS.

The operation costs of the vessel have been thoroughly evaluated. Various alternative scenarios were drawn up and stated in the deliverable 4.1, which was delivered to the EC. The average yearly running cost is estimated at 40M€ and the construction cost approximately at 800M€. The running cost estimation does not include science costs (~5M€) as opposed to IODP.

A review of science programmes (at the national, European and international level) that are potential users of the vessel has been prepared. The document will be produced very soon and IODP is clearly involved as the Arctic is a major topic in the new science plan.

The Scientific Advisory Panel (ESAP) has been set up. It includes members from the ECORD/IODP community. A scientific workshop will be organised to establish a Long Term Science Plan (2015-2030).

Discussions are ongoing about the managing aspect, in particular the legal structure. An ERIC seems the most appropriate scheme but it has some issues. The homeport is also an important question. Three membership status are proposed: owners, users and occasional users.

For the evaluation and implementation aspect, a consensus was reached to task the future IODP SAS for evaluating the drilling proposal to avoid a double evaluation. A diagram illustrating the submission/evaluation process was presented.

ECORD Council reiterated its interest for the Aurora Borealis as a very interesting MSP option for the Arctic.

*M. Cannat questioned whether the vessel is a significant step forward in terms of cutting edge technology. J. Thorogood replied that it is as an icebreaker but not for drilling technology*



ERICON-AB is planning a workshop to organize the collection of site survey data. As this decision matches with the ECORD Council recommendation to organise a workshop on the Arctic, C. Mével suggested to ERICON members to hold a joint workshop ERICON/ESSAC. A proposal has been submitted to Magellan to support this joint workshop, the results are not known yet.

*J. Thorogood asked whether the Aurora Borealis could be used for site survey. For R. Stein, the Aurora B. is not needed as several others vessels are able to carry out it at less cost: Polarstern, St Laurent and Canada or US ships*

At this stage, there is not yet funding commitment from potential partners (national funding agencies, EC...). A business plan will be finalized next year and submitted to Ministries for consideration. The EC expressed some concerns about the feasibility of the project, leading to a “hearing” scheduled on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Commission. The risk is to see ERICON excluded from the ESFRI list.

*G. Lüniger informed Council on the German position on the Aurora Borealis. Early November, a German scientific panel responsible for giving advices to the ministries and government established a new recommendation where the priority is given to renew the national fleet. Some ECORD countries expressed an equivalent view: their own national infrastructure roadmap does not leave enough funding for properly supporting the Aurora.*

#### **Agenda Item 17 – ECORD and the European Commission, the Ostend Declaration (Catherine Mével)**

(See ECORD and the EC report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

Catherine Mével informed on the progress of the ECORD activities directly linked with the European Commission. Presently, ECORD is visible to the trough the DS3F project (EC funded).

At the EUROCEAN 2010 meeting, held in Oostende on October 12-13, 2010, ECORD and DS3F manned a joint booth. During this highly political European event, the DS3F coordinator A. Kopf was invited to give a presentation. The Ostend declaration entitled “Addressing the Seas and Oceans Grand Challenge” is strongly innovation driven and put forward the joint programming instruments. She noticed that some key words of the declaration fully match with IODP aims:

- Innovation
- Training and career development: IODP runs some instruments to support education: summers schools, lecturers programs, teachers and students sailing all promoting the mobility;
- International cooperation

C. Mével informed on the upcoming DS3F workshop (February 2011, Grenoble) dedicated to technology improvement for sub seafloor sampling and instrumentation. A joint session with the EDP meeting is planned. ESO will be highly involved.

She mentioned that she was invited to present the current situation of ECORD at an ERA-Net meeting in Brussels (November 8, 2010). The remarks were positive but ECORD was seen more as an Infrastructure than a science program. She informed on the upcoming EC related events: Conference on Joint Programming (October 2010), MARCOM+ conference (November 2010), ESFRI Symposium (June-July 2010). There is an encouragement for the “Joint Programming Initiative (JPI)” under the article 185. J. Stuefer informed on the JPI “Healthy and Productive Seas and Oceans”. He suggested to investigate whether ECORD could fit with this JPI.

C. Mével suggested that ECORD should attend the ESRI symposium and promote the concept of an infrastructure covering both ocean and continental drilling. U. Harms explained that ICDP could not directly eligible to the ESFRI as non-European countries are represented.

Hervé Pero has passed the information that the EC orientation paper for FP8 would be published during the first quarter of 2011 for consultation. The role of the Marine Board will be essential on how the FP8 will be shaped in particular the environment topic. The Marine Board’s Position Paper: “Navigating the Future IV” was portrayed as a strategic document upstream to the preparation of the FP8. As J. Stuefer is part of the Marine Board, the Council decided the following actions:

**ACTION** Josef Stuefer: Approach the Committee responsible for preparing the Marine Board-ESF Position Paper “Navigating the Future IV” to investigate how the ECORD science goals could be addressed

ACTION Koen Verbruggen: Contact Jeffrey O’Sullivan, Irish representative at the ESF-Marine Board with the same goal

*The Councils feels important to maintain a contact with the EC. It appears clear that a strategy need to be built. C. Mével suggested to set up an ECORD core group, M. Webb made known that he is keen on participating. To facilitate the communication with the Commission the Council approved the following action:*

ACTION EMA: Prepare a two page-flyer to promote ocean-drilling science to be distributed to the European Commission.

The flyer would quote as key examples the Arctic and the GOLD Mediterranean project in order to illustrate the ECORD ability to function as an infrastructure.

**Agenda Item 18 – ECORD status in the new phase: the “société civile” scheme (Catherine Mével)**

(See ECORD status report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

C. Mével explained at the last Executive meeting different possible option for the governance of ECORD in the new programme were discussed, all established under the French law. At that time, the “Société Civile” scheme seemed to be the most suitable.

However, she informed council that she

discussed with J.M. Hameury, Astronomy and Astrophysics Director at CNRS, who manages the large telescopes under “Société Civile”. He explained that he encountered many problems with the “Société Civile”, in particular regarding taxes. He indicated that “Société Civile” brings many legal constraints and additional management costs. Given the aim of ECORD, he would not recommend this path.

*U. Harms told that DFZ and ICDP conducted such investigations in which layers and tax specialists were involved. The conclusion was that any option other than DFZ keep the management would be more expensive.*

After discussion, ECORD Council passed the following consensus:

**ECORD Council consensus 10-02-1**

The “Société Civile” does not seem to be the right instrument for the management of ECORD in the next phase because it involves important additional costs (in particular VAT)

**Agenda Item 19 – ICDP (Uli Harms)**

(See ICDP status June 2010 report by U. Harms at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

Uli Harms presented the 2010 status and progress of ICDP.

He underlined the major similitude and differences in organizational structure between ICDP and ECORD/IODP and how cooperation can be strengthen. He also emphasized that many ICDP member countries are also sitting in IODP, particularly the ECORD members. India has joined ICDP this year; memberships discussions with European countries are ongoing (e.g. Belgium, Denmark).

An overview of the recent workshops and drilling projects implemented by ICDP was given. An emphasis was given on lake drilling, complementary to ECORD shallow waters drilling projects.

The deep biosphere is also a new topic on the agenda of ICDP. A workshop is planned but so far no proposal has been submitted.

Asked whether he would like to see a European consortium as a unique member of ICDP, he replied that ICPD is working well. Therefore he did not see the necessity to establish such a consortium. Moreover, the membership of European countries is quite different in ECORD and ICDP, which has a number of countries from Eastern Europe, as opposed to ECORD.

The ECORD Council expressed its high interest to support further cooperation with ICDP to facilitate the handling of proposals for joint and related projects, and for extending cooperation in education and outreach.

**Agenda Item 20 – Report on International Working Group + activities (Catherine Mével)**

(See IWG+ and activities report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)



C. Mével reported on the discussions on the future of scientific ocean drilling post 2013 at the international level. Following the IWG+ meeting (Kyoto, June 2010) and the meeting with NSF and MEXT (Washington, September 2010), the Point of Agreements (PoA) were revised.

For some points the agreement was reached (e.g. POC/SOC distinction will be abolished) but some others still need to be discussed: role of the BoG in the future PGB, disbandment of the Engineering Development Panel, the US\$ 10M from commingled fund allocated to Chikyu to secure riser operations.

Concerns were expressed about the Chikyu: up to now it has drilled only in Japanese waters and the performances expected have not been reached.

The rights are still under discussion. As currently stated in the PoAs, the berths will be shared in the following model : 1/3 participation for each of the two LAs and the remaining 1/3 for will go to the others members based on their total contribution. If the current funding structure remains the same, ECORD will lose a few berths. But if a country like China increases its contribution, the loss will be significant.

A first draft of the Term of reference for the new SAS panels (PEP, SIPcom) as well as the Program Governing Board (PGB) has been issued for comments by a SASEC subcommittee on early late October 2010. It was built on the recommendations of the Triennium review committee report. The new Science plan has been out for public comments and is now under revision. It should be delivered to the funding agencies by mid-2011 after a review by a committee of experts ("Blue Ribbon" panel).

**Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**CLOSED SESSION**

**Agenda Item 21 – ESO budget (Robert Gatliff)**

(See ESO budget report by R. Gatliff at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

B. Gatliff presented the FY10 ESO accounts. Expenditures have been smaller than originally expected resulting in an underspent by \$0,7M in SOC and \$3,1M in POC. The major reason was that ESO was able to negotiate downtime was at no cost, as the vessel was new. Given the saving, the expedition could have been extended but the crew was not keen and moreover the scientific objectives were reached.

The FY11 budget is \$4M. It was approved at the last Council meeting. It includes the cost for Chicxulub site survey, necessary to use a jack up rig. Should Chicxulub not be implemented (decision to be taken on March), the POC budget would be carried over.

**Budget Summary 2011**

Major Cost Category	SOC	POC	Total
Management and Administration	\$ 866,514	\$ 318,321	\$ 1,184,834
Technical, Engineering and Science Support	\$ 1,019,931	\$ 1,220,577	\$ 2,240,508
Engineering Development	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Core Curation			
Subtotal Core Curation	\$ 78,411	\$ -	\$ 78,411
Subtotal DSDP/ODP Core Redistribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Data Management	\$ 397,985	\$ -	\$ 397,985
Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Outreach	\$ 161,200	\$ -	\$ 161,200
Total	\$ 2,524,041	\$ 1,538,898	\$ 4,062,939

The budget also includes other activities yielding fixed costs (e.g. contribution to the Bremen core repository) and variable costs (e.g. participation to the meetings, preparation of post –cruise reviews). About the fixed costs, he underlined that there is no staff working full time on the project.

**Agenda Item 22 - ECORD budget (Catherine Mével)**

(See ECORD budget report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

**ECORD budget FY10 (table 1) and exchange rate variation issue (table 2)**

The FY10 budget includes the FY09 negative balance of \$ -2,5M due to implementation of the NJSS expedition and preparation for GBREC. Spain contribution has not yet been received at CNRS. Sanchez-Quintana informed that it will be paid soon. France did not pay its full contribution: 150 k€ are owed but will be paid in FY11.

Providing Spain and France contributions are fully paid, the FY10 balance will remain slightly negative by 127 k\$. This small deficit was planned and does not generate problem as no expedition is planned in FY11.

The main problem is the loss resulting in the exchange rate fluctuation €/\$. The money received from the ECORD partners is kept on a Euro account because it has not been possible to open a dollar account at CNRS (administrative rules). Over FY10, the exchange rate has progressively decreased from 1.5 (prevailing rate when 2 of the 3 main contributors paid) to 1.23 (prevailing when the last NSF invoice was paid). Moreover, the value in dollars of the funds kept on the Euro account varies with the exchange rate fluctuations. Since ESO does not invoice EMA as long as no money is required for its activities, the amount kept on the CNRS account is quite high (currently \$ ~2.8 M). As of today, these combined effects lead to a substantial loss of approximately \$ 778k, still to be adjusted.

This had lead to reopen discussions at CNRS to establish a dollar account. CNRS finance director has finally approved but the final decisions remains with the French Ministry of budget. If the dollar account is open, because the IODP budget is in US\$, this should allow to avoid exchange rate losses.

*J.P. Henriet expressed some reservation on holding a dollar account. According to him, the profound European identity of ECORD and the willingness to gain visibility particularly from the EC and industry does not fit with running the programme in dollars. He suggested keeping a euro account and negotiating with NSF the SOC's payment to adjust with the exchange rate.*

*J. Stuefer proposed to hold two accounts: one in dollar and the other in Euros. That would allow taking advantage of any fluctuation rate \$/€ by deciding in which currency NSF would be paid.*

*Clearly, it is not straightforward to find the best solution. As a consequence, the Council passed the following consensus:*

#### ECORD Council consensus 10-02-2

The ECORD Managing Agency is requested to hire a French consultancy with an international experience in accounting to advice ECORD on the best option to manage the ECORD funds and avoid the effect of exchange rate fluctuations. Advice on the most suitable legal structure will also be sought

Table 1

#### ECORD FY10 budget, US\$

Note that the money flow has been modified  
The SOC's to ESO are deducted from the SOC contribution  
to the commingled funds and paid directly to ESO

	income	expenses
FY09 balance	-2 513 624	
FY10 contributions	21 456 380	
Investment*	10 000	
SOC's to NSF <sup>(1)</sup>		11 821 325
ESSAC <sup>(2)</sup>		233 940
EMA <sup>(3)</sup>		303 800
ESO <sup>(4)</sup>		6 721 675
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18 952 756</b>	<b>19 080 740</b>
<b>FY10 balance</b>	<b>-127 984</b>	

\* first term

(1) = 16,800,000 - 4 978 675 (SOC's for ESO)

(2) 167,100 €, exchange rate = 1.40

(3) EMA approved budget = 245 000 €

FY09 balance = 28 000 €

EMA actual budget = 217 000 €, exchange rate = 1,40

(4) = 1,743,000 (POCs) + 4 978 675 (SOC's)

#### ECORD contributions

	FY10 US \$
Austria	100 000
Belgium	30 000
Canada	500 000
Denmark	200 000
Finland	66 380
France*	5 600 000
Germany	5 600 000
Iceland	
Ireland	130 000
Italy	190 000
Netherlands	400 000
Norway	1 100 000
Portugal	90 000
Spain	762 000
Sweden	528 000
Switzerland	560 000
UK	5 600 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 456 380</b>

not paid

\* France will pay 150 000 € in FY11

Spain has not paid its contribution  
France has paid its contribution less 150 000€.  
The 150 000 € will be paid in FY11

In FY09, ESO has no invoiced US\$ 5,650,335

In FY10, invoiced theremainder of FY09, i.e. US\$ 5,650,335 + US\$ 788,760

ESO has not invoiced US\$ 5,842,915

**Table 2**

**Euros account**

INCOME	budget US\$	received, €	exchange rate
Austria (ÖAW)	50 000,00	40 583,47	1,23
Austria (FWF)	50 000,00	38 098,64	1,31
Belgium	30 000,00	25 000,00	
Canada	500 000,00	389 692,50	0,78
Denmark	200 000,00	157 423,98	1,27
Finland	66 380,00	48 847,34	1,36
France*	5 379 000,00	3 586 000,00	1,50
Germany	5 600 000,00	3 737 300,48	1,50
Iceland			
Ireland	130 000,00	100 000,00	1,30
Italy-INGV FY10	90 000,00	64 690,92	1,39
Italy-CNR FY10	100 000,00	77 862,25	1,28
Netherlands -NWO	400 000,00	267 648,04	1,49
Spain	762 000,00		
Sweden (VR)	528 000,00	387 120,25	1,36
Switzerland (SNF)	560 000,00	393 263,57	1,42
Norway	1 100 000,00	743 195,32	1,48
Portugal	90 000,00	69 518,70	1,29
UK	5 600 000,00	4 039 651,13	1,39
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 235 380,00</b>	<b>14 165 896,59</b>	
carry over FY09		2 140 040,43	
investment		8 048,72	
reimburs Pezard		150 000,00	advance for the NJSS expedition
<b>Total</b>		<b>16 463 985,74</b>	

EXPENSES	USD	€	exchange rate	add exchange loss**
EMA	247 318,40	176 656,00	1,40	in €
facture BGS	5 650 535,00	3 955 374,50	1,43	-212 956,04
facture BGS	788 760,00	623 120,40	1,27	59 260,43
facture NSF	3 821 325,00	2 674 927,50	1,43	-144 017,20
facture NSF	4 000 000,00	2 960 000,00	1,35	-178 137,05
facture NSF	4 000 000,00	3 240 000,00	1,23	160 530,99
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 260 620,00</b>	<b>13 630 078,40</b>		<b>-315 318,87</b>

**Situation, 28/10/2010**

	US \$	€	exchange rate
INCOMES		16 463 985,74	
EXPENSES		13 630 078,40	
<b>balance</b>	<b>3 939 131,20</b>	<b>2 833 907,34</b>	<b>1,39</b>

**Provisions for the remaining of FY10**

income	USD	€	exchange rate
situation		2 833 907,34	
Spain	762 000,00	548 201,44	1,39
France	208 500,00	150 000,00	1,39
<b>Total</b>	<b>970 500,00</b>	<b>3 532 108,78</b>	

expenses	USD	€	exchange rate
BGS	5 842 915,00	4 203 535,97	1,39
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 842 915,00</b>	<b>4 203 535,97</b>	

	USD	€	exchange rate
<b>balance</b>	<b>-906 426,71</b>	<b>-671 427,19</b>	<b>1,39</b>
<b>provisional balan</b>	<b>-127 984,00</b>		
<b>exchange rate lo</b>	<b>-778 442,71</b>		

### ECORD budget FY11 (table 3)

Hopefully, all members will remain at the same level. Unfortunately Italy will not increase as initially planned. S. Quintana informed that Spain aims to maintain the same level of contribution, but it will depend on the exchange rate fluctuations.

The contribution to ESO is low because no expedition is planned. As a result, the FY2011 should end with a positive financial balance (\$1,6M)

Table 3:

#### ECORD FY11 budget, US\$ - 28/10/2010

Note that the money flow has been modified

The SOC's to ESO are deducted from the SOC contribution to the commingled funds and paid directly to ESO

	income	expenses
FY10 balance	-127 984	
exchange rate loss*	-778 442	
FY11 contributions	21 456 380	
SOCs to NSF <sup>(1)</sup>		14 276 000
ESSAC <sup>(2)</sup>		218 400
EMA <sup>(3)</sup>		305 900
ESO <sup>(4)</sup>		4 062 900
TOTAL	20 549 954	18 863 200
FY10 balance	1 686 754	

(1) = 16,800,000 - 2,524,000 (SOCs for ESO)

(2) = 156,000 €, exchange rate = 1.40

(3) = 218 500 €, exchange rate = 1.40

(4) = 1,538,900 (POCs) + 2,524,000 (SOCs)

\* from table 2 - to be adjusted

#### ECORD contributions

	FY10 US \$
Austria	100 000
Belgium	30 000
Canada	500 000
Denmark	200 000
Finland	66 380
France*	5 600 000
Germany	5 600 000
Iceland	
Ireland	130 000
Italy	190 000
Netherlands	400 000
Norway	1 100 000
Portugal	90 000
Spain	762 000
Sweden	528 000
Switzerland	560 000
UK	5 600 000
Total	21 456 380

### ECORD budget summary FY04-FY10 (Table 4 and 5)

Over the period FY04-FY11 ECORD has not been able to contribute the full 4 participation units (P.U.) to IODP. The contribution amounted \$113.4M instead of \$115.2M specified in the Memorandum with the LAs. The deviation is due to the progressive increase of the P.U. from \$1.5M in FY03 to \$5.6M in FY10. Some of the ECORD smaller countries have not been able to cope.



Table 4:

**ECORD budget 2004-2011 in US\$, 28/10/2010**

Actual payments, to cover the shortfalls during the first phase (FY04-FY07)

	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	TOTAL	TOTAL
Austria		100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	600 000	600 000
Belgium		30 000	30 000	30 000	30 000	30 000	30 000	30 000	180 000	180 000
Canada	150 000	150 000	150 000	150 000	300 000	300 000	500 000	500 000	1 700 000	1 700 000
Denmark	500 000	500 000	1 000 000	0	200 000	200 000	200 000	200 000	2 600 000	2 600 000
Finland	66 380	66 380	66 380	66 380	66 380	66 380	66 380	66 380	464 660	464 660
France	2 000 000	3 000 000	3 500 000	3 500 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	28 800 000	28 800 000
Germany	2 250 000	3 500 000	7 000 000	0	5 600 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	29 550 000	29 550 000
Iceland	30 000	30 000	30 000	30 000	30 000				150 000	150 000
Ireland		130 000	130 000	130 000	145 000	130 000	130 000	130 000	795 000	795 000
Italy (OGS)	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000					300 000	
Italy (CNR)	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	100 000	700 000	
Italy (INGV)		75 000	75 000	75 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	585 000	
Italy (Conisma)		25 000	25 000						50 000	
total Italy										1 635 000
Netherlands	470 000	0	210 000	210 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	400 000	2 090 000	2 090 000
Norway	1 000 000	0	1 400 000	0	1 100 000	1 100 000	1 100 000	1 100 000	5 700 000	5 700 000
Portugal	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	90 000	630 000	630 000
Spain	150 000	350 000	350 000	350 000	476 000	762 000	762 000	762 000	3 200 000	3 200 000
Sweden*	1 312 500	330 000	330 000	330 000	528 000	528 000	528 000	528 000	3 886 500	3 886 500
Switzerland	150 000	350 000	350 000	350 000	560 000	560 000	560 000	560 000	2 880 000	2 880 000
UK	4 300 000	3 800 000	400 000	3 500 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	5 600 000	28 800 000	28 800 000
	12 618 880	12 676 380	15 386 380	9 061 380	21 015 380	21 256 380	21 456 380	21 456 380	113 471 160	113 661 160

\* In FY04, includes 900 000 in kind (Oden)

**Memorandum - M\$ US**

FY04	6,0
FY05	14,0
FY06	14,0
FY07	14,0
FY08	22,4
FY09	22,4
FY10	22,4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115,2</b>

actual budget	113,4
---------------	-------

Deficit	-1,8
---------	------

Table 5:

**Summary FY04-FY11**

income	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
ECORD contrib	12 618 880	12 676 380	15 386 380	9 061 380	21 015 380	21 256 380	21 456 380	21 456 380
carry forward		880	-1 151 620	876 596	2 775 476	8 065 706	-2 513 624	-127 984
investment					120 000	230 000	10 000	
ICDP						500 000		
<b>total</b>	<b>12 618 880</b>	<b>12 677 260</b>	<b>14 234 760</b>	<b>9 937 976</b>	<b>23 910 856</b>	<b>30 052 086</b>	<b>18 952 756</b>	<b>21 328 396</b>
expenses								
SOCs to NSF		6 793 500	6 840 000	6 807 000	15 502 400	16 326 000	11 821 325	14 276 000
ESO contract**	12 493 000	5 265 500	6 349 164	0	0	15 650 535	6 721 675	4 062 900
add ESO contract		1 600 000						
EMA	125 000	117 000	117 000	115 000	127 500	352 800	303 800	305 900
ESSAC		52 000	52 000	240 500	215 250	236 375	233 940	218 400
exchange rate loss								778 442
<b>total</b>	<b>12 618 000</b>	<b>13 828 000</b>	<b>13 358 164</b>	<b>7 162 500</b>	<b>15 845 150</b>	<b>32 565 710</b>	<b>19 080 740</b>	<b>19 641 642</b>
<b>balance w/EMA</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>-1 151 620</b>	<b>876 596</b>	<b>2 775 476</b>	<b>8 065 706</b>	<b>-2 513 624</b>	<b>-127 984</b>	<b>1 686 754</b>

balance w/ESO	5 403 680	4 772 665	4 731 806	3 178 657
---------------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

Note that for the period FY05 to FY09, that it has been agreed with NSF that ESO international travels covered by SOC's are deducted from the ECORD SOC contribution to IODP and added to the ESO contract

From FY10, the SOC's are paid to ESO from the ECORD budget and deducted from the contribution to the commingled funds

ESO International travels	206 500	160 000	193 000	297 600	474 000
SOCs to ESO					4 978 675

### ECORD provisional Budget for FY12-FY13 (Table 6)

At the last meeting the Council discussed the possible option not to pay the full 3 P.U to NSF in order to keep some of its budget to implement a second MSP before the end of the program. But following the discussions with the LAs and the BoG's motion, the Council decided to pay the full 3 P.U. However, during that Council meeting, R.Gatliff informed that providing the POC available to ESO until to 2013, 2 MSPs might be envisaged, a "normal" one and a cheap one, using for example a seabed drill

Table 6:

#### ECORD provisional budget FY11-FY13

contributions	FY12	FY13	TOTAL
Austria	100 000	100 000	200 000
Belgium	30 000	30 000	60 000
Canada	500 000	500 000	1 000 000
Denmark	200 000	200 000	400 000
Finland	66 380	66 380	132 760
France	5 600 000	5 600 000	11 200 000
Germany	5 600 000	5 600 000	11 200 000
Iceland			
Ireland	130 000	130 000	260 000
Italy	350 000	350 000	700 000
Netherlands	400 000	400 000	800 000
Norway	1 100 000	1 100 000	2 200 000
Portugal	90 000	90 000	180 000
Spain	762 000	762 000	1 524 000
Sweden	528 000	528 000	1 056 000
Switzerland	560 000	560 000	1 120 000
UK	5 600 000	5 600 000	11 200 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 616 380</b>	<b>21 616 380</b>	<b>43 232 760</b>

expenses	FY12	FY13	TOTAL
SOCs to NSF	16 800 000	16 800 000	33 600 000
EMA+ESSAC	550 000	550 000	1 100 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>17 350 000</b>	<b>17 350 000</b>	<b>34 700 000</b>

<b>available for POCs</b>	<b>4 266 380</b>	<b>4 266 380</b>	<b>8 532 760</b>
---------------------------	------------------	------------------	------------------

#### POCs available to ESO until the end of the programme

ESO balance FY10	3 178 657
EMA balance FY11	1 686 754
FY12	4 266 380
FY13	4 266 380
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13 398 171</b>

### Agenda Item 23 - ECORD business plan (Robert Gatliff / Mireille Perrin)

#### MSPs in the new phase, ECORD structure, Selection of EMA and ESO

(See ECORD business plan report by R. Gatliff and M. Perrin at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

The Council discussed the draft of business plan presented by Bob Gatliff. The Council agreed on the general recommendation made by the Executive at its last meeting.

J.P Henriet suggested that the structure of the business plan should be suitable for two kind of audience and so be made up of two main parts dealing with strategic and implementation aspects.

Council agreed that it is essential to obtain the status of platform provider by contributing at least \$ 20M. Any greater annual income would give more funds for European strategic MSP (R1).

The Council had passed the consensus the day before specifying that the "Société Civile" does not seem to be the right instrument.



Council agreed that Russia should be encouraged to join ECORD. For the African countries, funding on a project basis may be more appropriate. The countries interested in the GOLD project should be approached. Proponents should be encouraged to seek for co-funding. M. Webb raised the berth allocation for the external countries participating in the operations. This point is crucial and has not been really solved. Flexibility in the staffing will be necessary. This point needs to be raised during the IWG+ discussions and stands as a major barrier to attract external funding. Executive agreed that the Point of Agreement should include something about the cofounding rule.

M. Webb suggested underlining the ECORD's interest to see the Chikyu operating in the Mediterranean Sea at the next meeting with the LAs. That would emphasize the scientific contribution of IODP as a whole for the European area. The Council agreed that it is important to firstly emphasize the science objectives and then that the Arctic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea are crucial areas.

Comments were expressed on the consideration of the societal aspects in the future evaluation process. It does not seem to be included the SAS ToR.

Concerning the use of seabed rock drill, R. Gatliff explained that such coring technique enables to reach high core quality and to save substantial cost and implement more MSPs. He referred to the proposal to establish a "European Centre of Excellence" for seabed drilling and observatory activities. In addition, national vessels could be provided as in-kind contribution and make easier to reach the \$20M threshold.

J.P. Henriet deemed relevant to better know the expeditions plans of industry and academy fleet and when relevant, investigate the possibility to rely on those vessels, especially during the transit time, to operate observatory or rock drill missions on a project basis. It was proposed to develop closer links with Eurofleet (EC project).

Addressing the proposal to develop an annual report on the European contribution to the scientific achievements in IODP, R. Stein informed that ESSAC office is now collecting outputs from the three core repositories and from the ECORD national offices as a whole.

R. Gatliff introduced three financial models covering 2014-2023 built on 3 levels of ECORD contribution, inflation evolution and estimated cost for three MSP types: Arctic MSP, Other area MSP and rock drill MSP. He listed the predictable implications that might occur. ECORD will be in good shape to implement more MSPs in the next program than now if the same level of contribution is maintained (\$21.5M). This is because in the new funding structure the ECORD contribution to the commingled funds requested to obtain the status of platform provider PP is lower than in the current phase (US\$ 6 vs 16.8 M). Even though all costs associated with running MSP operations will be covered by ECORD, more funding will remains with ECORD for MSP operations.

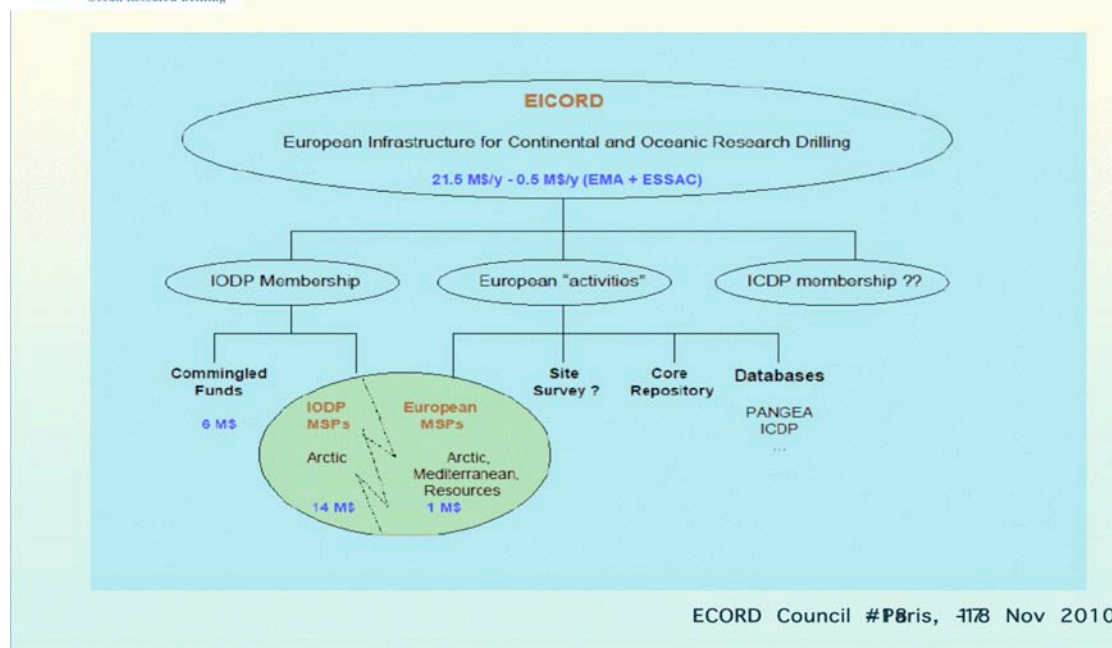
*The discussion on the business plan ended with a consensus passed by the Council.*

<b>ECORD Council consensus 10-02-3</b>
--

A new revised version of the business plan will be prepared before the next IWG+ meeting in January.
--

ACTION Executive: Revise the business plan

**Renewed financial model for ECORD:** Mireille Perrin presented a tentative proposal for ECORD structure and responsibilities in the next phase, discussed at the ECORD executive meeting.



The idea is to expand the role of ECORD beyond being only the European partner of IODP, to gain visibility. ECORD would continue to play this role, but would also develop activities at the European level, to become more visible with respect to the EC. ECORD would continue running MSPs within IODP, but may also run “European MSP expeditions”. Every three or four years, ECORD could run expeditions on topics of particular interest to Europe and Canada (The Arctic, GOLD), with co-funding from others sources (national, privates, EC...). The project selection would be done outside the SAS. The 1M\$ represents a starting budget which will act as a leverage to rise external funding.

ECORD would favor a concerted approach with other entities for European activities such as core repositories, databases, coordination of site surveys, etc... ICDP is an obvious interlocutor, since ESO already shares databases and engineering expertise. The final goal would be to develop a distributed infrastructure for drilling in Europe that could be recognized as an ESFRI by the EC. The ESFRI list is likely to be reopened, with a call under the energy topic at the end of 2011 and another one under the environment topic later (2012-2013). ECORD should aim at submitting a proposal for this latter call.

It is clear that ECORD needs to demonstrate that it is not only a ticket to an international program but also an independent body capable of facilitating successful research in Europe.

*ECORD Council endorsed the general principles of this diagram. It needs to be refined, however and be incorporated in the business plan.*

**Term for the ECORD chair and vice chair :** The ECORD executive suggested to Council to modify the term for the ECORD chair and vice chair for a better efficiency. This modification has a consequence on the composition of the ECORD executive. Because the Council chair appointment is described in the Annex C of the ECORD MoU, any modification requires an amendment.

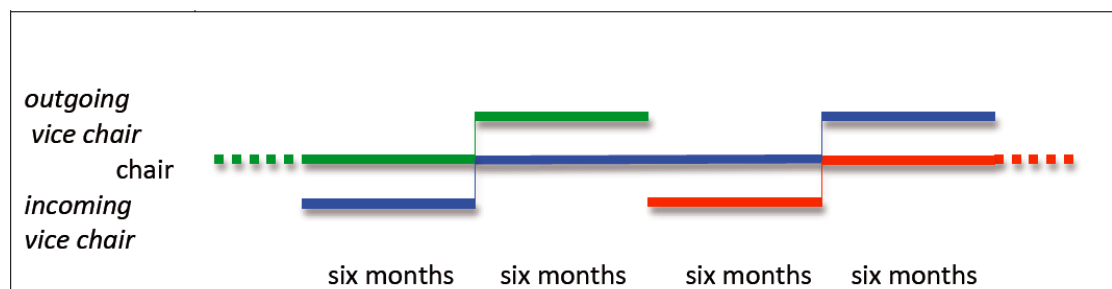
The following motion was approved by **electronic vote** after the meeting, with the proviso that an amendment will be incorporated in the MoU.

#### **ECORD Council motion 10-02-2**

For a better continuity, ECORD Council decides to modify the term of the chair and the vice chairs. Starting October 1st 2010, the chair is appointed for a whole year instead of six months. After the end of his(her) term, the chair will become the outgoing vice chair for six months.

An incoming vice-chair will be then appointed to become the chair after six months. At any time, there will be a chair and one vice chair.

The ECORD executive will be composed of 5 individuals: the chair, the vice chair and three additional members. The three major contributors (France, Germany and UK) will always sit on the executive. The Chair will be able to rely on executive members to support him(her) and when appropriate delegate certain activities.



An amendment to the ECORD Memorandum of Understanding will be prepared to insert this modification.

Webb moved, Verbrüggen seconded, all in favor

As a consequence, Mireille Perrin's mandate will be extended till Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 2011.

#### **Selection of EMA and ESO in the next phase:**

The current EMA (INSU-CNRS) and ESO (BGS+Bremen+EPC) have been appointed for the duration of IODP (2003-2013). To prepare for the future phase, and as a piece of information, the ECORD Council chair (G. Lüniger) sent a letter to BGS and CNRS on whether they are willing to serve during the three first year of the new phase as ESO and EMA. R. Gatliff informed that the current members of the ESO consortium are willing to continue in the next phase. INSU-CNRS is also willing to continue, if asked. But this important information does not preclude reopening a bid for the two offices in the next phase.

However, to insure a smooth transition, ECORD executive recommended maintaining the current EMA and ESO for three years into the next phase. This will leave enough lead time to organize the bidding process if required.

As a consequence, the following motion was approved by **electronic vote** after the meeting:

#### **ECORD Council motion 10-02-3**

ECORD council endorses the proposal of the Executive to facilitate the transition to the next phase. In order to insure a smooth transition, CNRS will continue to host EMA and BGS to host ESO during the first three years of the new programme (2014-2016).

Lüniger moved, De Vernal seconded, 15 in favour, 1 abstain (Sweden)

**ECORD legal structure:** After investigations and discussions at the last executive meeting, the ERIC scheme was considered as a non-suitable instrument for the ECORD needs. The main reason is that the instrument is too constraining as it requires approval at the government level, not likely to be obtained in most ECORD member countries. Also, the marginal cost for running such legal entity would probably be much higher. The "Société Civile" was discussed during the open session (day before) and the Council passed a consensus whereby it recognizes that this instrument does not fulfill ECORD needs.

C. Mével informed that the CNRS legal office recommended to first define the scope of activities the Council wants to pursue and then go back to the legal office for advice.

Under the consensus 10-02-2, passed the same-day, the Council recognizes the need to keep investigating the most suitable legal structure.

#### **Agenda Item 24 - Status of the ECORD Evaluation (Catherine Mével)**

(See ECORD Evaluation report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

C. Mével reviewed the status of the ECORD evaluation. She explained the process which lead to the appointment of the committee.

Sierd Cloetingh, Vice president of the Trustees, Academia Europea, agreed to help set up the committee. On the basis of nominations provided by the ECORD Council members and ESO, S. Cloeting prioritized the possible members. The process took some time because some declined and the final membership was established last October.

	Affiliation	expertise
Arne Bjorlykke (chair)	Museum of Natural History, Oslo, Norway	Marine geology
Joe Cann	University of Leeds, UK	Ocean lithosphere
Katherine Richardson	University of Copenhagen, Denmark	Biological oceanography
Miquel Canals	University of Barcelona, Spain	Sedimentology, slope failure
Ilmo Kukkonen	Geological Survey of Finland	Applied geophysics, ICDP
Hedi Oberhänsli	GFZ, Potsdam, Germany	paleoclimate
Rémi Eschard	IFP Energies nouvelles, France	Sedimentology

The committee is well balanced in term of scientific expertise. The Terms of Reference have been drafted by the ECORD executive.

The first meeting of the evaluation committee will be hosted at IPGP in Paris, February 1-2-3, 2011.

Seven scientists have been invited to give presentations on key science topics. ESO will summarize operations, ESSAC will present statistics about ECORD involvement and Mike Bickle (chair of the SPWC) will present the new science plan. The chair is coming to Paris on Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> to set up the agenda with C. Mével and discuss what material is required for the committee.

The first draft of the report will be submitted on March 2011 and the final report will be presented to the ECORD Council meeting on June 2011.

In parallel, the U.S. National Academy of Science has been tasked by NSF to conduct an evaluation of the scientific achievements of ocean drilling from DSDP to IODP as well as the post-2013 science plan. The report will be available next year.

#### **Agenda Item 25- Discussion on IWG+ activities and preparation for the January meeting (Catherine Mével)**

(See Discussion on IWG+ activities report by C. Mével at <http://www.ecord.org/c/access-council.html>)

C. Mével introduced the progress made on the Point of Agreement for the program renewal. She also explained that the NSF position has evolved since the NSF-MEXT-ECORD meeting held in Tokyo last March. The three remaining key issues are the following:

- the annual contribution of 10 M\$ to the Chikyu from the commingled funds to support riser operations
- ECORD rights: 1/3 of the berths to the “others” (non-LAs)
- architecture and ToR for the new SAS

1) Funding the Chikyu : C. Mével explained that NSF expressed the frustration of the US community about the Chikyu accomplishments. R. Batiza asked ECORD on what it would think about some/all of these funds going to JR. M. Webb informed that the UK community strongly supports the JR, as indicated by the first outputs of an independent review requested by NERC on the benefits of IODP to UK. For J. De Leeuw, the IODP community would welcome the proposal of the JR operating 12 months with a profound enthusiasm. The Council members acknowledged that some high science projects can be achieved only with the Chikyu. But the vessel has only partly implemented one project in Japanese waters so far. Meanwhile, the JR offers numerous expeditions to the community explaining why the vessel draws the community’s support.

Another concern is to make sure that there are enough commingled funds to support integrative activities.

2) ECORD rights. ECORD has already expressed concern that if ECORD shares 1/3 of the berths with the other members, this may result in a significant reduction compared to the current situation. We have the NSF support to secure 8 berths to ECORD. This will be possible because the number of berths on the JR and the Chikyu has been expanded to ~30. This statement should be clearly included in the MoU (core or annex).

3) New SAS. The overall SAS structure has been simplified, following the advice of the Triennium Review Committee report. SAS ToRs have been developed by a SASEC subcommittee together with IODP-MI. Community workshops will play an important role in developing proposals. The evaluation will not lead to ranking. Instead, Proposal Evaluation Panel (PEP) will decide on a “selected group” of proposals to send to (Science Implementation and Policy Committee (SIPCom) for scheduling. The role of service panels still needs to be clarified. The funding agencies will play an executive role as members of the Program Governing Board

(PGB) that will act as the sole executive authority of the program. The final approval of the science plan will remain with the Lead Agencies.

The Council agreed on the major comments to send before the AGU meeting where a NSF-MEXT-ECORD meeting is scheduled:

**ECORD Council consensus 10-02-4**

Recommendations from ECORD to be conveyed at the IWG+ meeting:

- Need for clarifications regarding the securing of 8 berths for ECORD
- Need to revise the US\$10M allocated to the Chikyu
- Need to secure a minimum budget to support the integrative activities at the programme level
- Need to clarify the relation between the Program Governing Board (PGB) and the Board of Governors (BOG)
- Need to clarify the membership of the Program Governing Board (PGB) and to support the representation of the scientific community as members and not observers
- Need to maintain a standing Engineering Development Panel (EDP), possibly as a subgroup of the planned Technology Panel (TP)

ACTION EMA: Send the ECORD comments to the Lead Agencies before AGU meeting

ACTION EMA: Contact Gerold Wefer to discuss about the role of BoG in the new program

**Agenda Item 26 – Review of motions, consensus and actions (Catherine Mével)**

**Agenda Item 27 - Next ECORD council meeting (Mireille Perrin / Anne de Vernal)**

**ECORD Council consensus 10-02-5**

The next Council meeting will be hosted by Anne de Vernal in Montreal, Canada, May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011

**Agenda Item 28 – AOB (Mireille Perrin)**

The Council warmly thanked C. Mével and A. Benchikh for organising the meeting.