



ECORD Council Spring Meeting #3

Schiphol airport, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Consensus and actions

Absent (4): Stine Vad Bovtrup (Denmark), Dominique Weis (Canada), Koen Verbruggen (Ireland), José Ramón Sánchez Quintana (Spain)

Present (12):

Members (11): Bernhard Plunger (Austria), Minna Räisänen (Finland), Eric Humler (France), Guido Lüniger (Germany), Marco Sacchi (Italy), Bernard Westerop (Netherlands), Heidi Roggen (Norway), Luis Menezes Pinheiro (Portugal), , Magnus Friberg (Sweden), Martina Kern-Lütschg (Switzerland), Michael Webb (UK)

Alternate (1): Sofia Cordero (Portugal)

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-01

The ECORD Council welcomes the NSF proposal concerning the NSF-ECORD MoU but expresses some concerns about the impact on 'smaller' ECORD partners (i.e. outside UK, Germany and France) of the withdrawal of free berths for Co-chief Scientists and Educational Officers on *JOIDES Resolution* expeditions. In the event that NSF maintains this procedure, ECORD may consider providing 'smaller' ECORD partners with a free berth from the ECORD berth allocation on the JR (i.e. 7 berths per JR expedition).

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-02

The ECORD Council agrees that berths for Co-chief Scientists and Educational Officers on MSP expeditions will not be counted against participation levels for ECORD partners, and most likely non-ECORD partners in the next phase of the current programme (2019-2023).

Action item 1 : EMA

To contact the NSF: 1) to welcome the main elements of the emerging ECORD-NSF agreement, 2) to discuss the issues related to the impact of the withdrawal of free berths for Co-chief Scientists and Educational Officers, and 3) to inform our partners that it is likely that ECORD will keep the principle of free berths for Co-chief Scientists and Educational Officers on MSP expeditions in the next phase of the current programme, with hopes to convince NSF and JAMSTEC to maintain it for other IODP expeditions.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-03

The ECORD Council thanks warmly the ECORD Evaluation Committee (EEC) for its efficient work and its efforts to deliver the ECORD evaluation Report in a timely manner. The ECORD Council receives the EEC recommendations on the three major review objectives, which will be of pivotal importance for the future of ECORD in the International Ocean Discovery Program.

Action item 2 : EEC

To include the following changes in the ECORD Evaluation Report :

- 1) to include the EEC composition paragraph on page 2 ;
- 2) to enhance the profile of the main recommendations on the renewal of EMA and ESO (i.e. strong support for the continuation of EMA and ESO to the end of the programme) ;
- 3) to put the outstanding/excellent achievement text in a final paragraph of the executive summary

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-04

The ECORD Council receives the EEC recommendations related to the review of achievements of ECORD within IODP.

1) ECORD publication strategies

- The ECORD Council decides that ECORD will provide funding to support the first high-profile open access publication (e.g. *Nature, Science, Geology*) submitted within 18 months of the onshore party.
- The ECORD Council recommends that the documentation of bibliometric data be improved for MSP expeditions and seek to persuade the JR Science Operator and JAMSTEC to take a similar approach with JR and Chikyu expeditions, respectively.
- The ECORD Council does not encourage the organization of specific sessions at EGU and/or Goldschmidt to develop a strategy to capitalize on the scientific impact of multi-expedition coordinated scientific drilling programs, as this may represent too much work for little prospect of success.

2) The role of geomicrobiology in ECORD

- The ECORD Council strongly encourages the MagellanPlus (MP+) committee to include a geomicrobiologist on the MagellanPlus Steering Committee.
- The ECORD Council endorses the finding of the limited number of focused expeditions with a strong focus on biosphere frontiers topics but emphasizes that the submission of drilling proposals follows a bottom up approach. However, the ECORD Council recommends that ECORD informs the scientific community that the ECORD Evaluation has identified that the deep biosphere theme is not covered as well as other IODP themes and, therefore encourages the community to develop more deep biosphere related activities to fill this gap.

3) Working towards a homogenization of funding strategies for early career and established scientists across ECORD partners

The ECORD Council receives the EEC recommendations on that matter but recognizes that there is no opportunity to have a common strategy as was

proposed by the EEC, as national funding agencies will develop their own approaches to funding their communities.

Action item 3 : ESO

To reflect the funding offer to support the first high profile open access publication in its letter to participants and to share the proposed revised letter with the ECORD Council for comment.

Action item 4 : ESO and EMA

To propose the JR Science Operator and JAMSTEC at the upcoming meeting of the IODP Forum to improve the documentation of bibliometric data for JR and Chikyu expeditions, respectively.

Action item 5 : MagellanPlus Committee

To include a geomicrobiologist on the MagellanPlus Steering Committee.

Action item 6 : MagellanPlus Committee and EMA

To inform through an ECORD Headline the scientific community that the ECORD Evaluation has identified that the deep biosphere theme is not covered as well as other IODP themes and, therefore encourages the community to develop more deep biosphere related activities to fill this gap.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-05

The ECORD Council receives the EEC recommendations related to the review of the impact of Mission Specific Platforms.

- The ECORD Council reiterates that ECORD will continue to schedule some high-risk, high-reward expeditions, such as those in polar regions, and to maintain the implementation of one MSP expedition a year if funding allows.
- The ECORD Council accepts EEC's recommendation regarding the strengthening of the financial contribution to MSP expeditions and emphasizes that ECORD will actively seek in-kind contributions and also encourage the community to help ECORD in seeking these opportunities.
- The ECORD Council accepts EEC's recommendation to strengthen collaboration with ICDP, especially through the development of amphibious drilling proposals.

Action item 7 : EFB and ESO

To publish an EOS letter including the scheduling of the MSP expeditions at an early stage.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-06

The ECORD Council receives the EEC recommendations related to the review of the effectiveness/efficiency of ECORD entities.

- The ECORD Council strongly recommends the following changes in the ESSAC ToRs :

- 1) The ESSAC Chair appointment to move to: 12-month appointment initially as incoming vice-Chair (1st Jan. - 31st Dec. Year 1) followed by 24-month appointment as chair (1st Jan. Year 2 - 31st Dec. Year 3), followed by 12-months as outgoing vice-Chair (1st Jan. Year 4 - 31st Dec. Year 4).
 - 2) An open call for the ESSAC Chair position to be published 6 months in advance of the incoming vice-Chair starting in post (i.e. Jun. – Jul. Year 0).
 - 3) The ECORD Council agrees to fund incoming vice-Chair at 0.1 FTE for 12-months to support ramp up period and to support the current ESSAC Chair as required (e.g. meeting attendance as alternate).
- The ECORD Council understands the rationale behind the EEC's recommendation to treat ESSAC Chair applications from smaller countries preferentially. However, the ECORD Council re-confirms its support to a merit-based procedure. The ECORD Council emphasizes that this will continue to require that ECORD is seen to have a truly open competition for the role amongst ECORD partner countries.
 - The ECORD Council endorses the EEC recommendation that ESSAC member should rotate off in 6 yrs. The ECORD Council considers that best practice for its committees should be that members rotate off committees ideally every 3 years, although the ECORD Council recognises that in some instances members may stay in post for up to 6 years. ECORD Council strongly encourages all member countries to follow this best practice. In the future, the ECORD Council will require that the ESSAC Chair provides a report to the Council on the length of time that members have been on committees.

Action item 8 : ESSAC

- 1) *To consider scrupulously the ECORD Council's recommendations regarding the necessary changes in the ESSAC ToRs and to revise them accordingly.*
- 2) *To come up with a rotation scheme for ESSAC sub-groups that is in line with what the ECORD Council considers as best practice.*

Action item 9 : ESSAC Chair

To routinely report to the ECORD Council on the length of terms of all members of ESSAC to allow for Council to monitor, and discuss when required, the rotation of members.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-07

The ECORD Council welcomes the strong recommendation from the EEC to maintain the current ECORD Management arrangements until the end of the International Ocean Discovery Program. The review's findings provide the Council with appropriate reassurance regarding the service provided by both EMA and ESO to ECORD and as a consequence of this, the ECORD Council has decided that EMA and ESO will be administered by the CNRS and the BGS respectively until the end of 2023.

The ECORD Council also decides to start developing plans in 2020 for the new programme post-2023. The ECORD Council will use an appropriate mechanism to solicit expressions of interest to provide the EMA and ESO functions in the new programme. This may lead to the Council deciding to open a competition to host EMA and/or ESO in the new programme.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-08

The ECORD Council welcomes a potential in-kind contribution offered by Russia in a timely fashion (i.e. before the ArcOP contract has to be awarded in October 2017) to implement the IODP Expedition 377 Arctic Ocean Paleoceanography (ArcOP) in Autumn 2018. In compensation, the ECORD Council will offer to Russia an ECORD membership until the end of the current programme period for the International Ocean Discovery Program. This offer will include all opportunities that ECORD makes available to scientists in ECORD partner countries, including ECORD educational activities. A continued Russian membership in a new programme post-2023 will require a financial commitment to be made as other ECORD partners currently do.

Action item 10 : ESO

To keep the ECORD Council updated on the development with Russia and on the risks associated with the contract for the ArcOP expedition, especially at the upcoming ECORD Council-ESSAC meeting #5 in October 2017 so that the ECORD Council can feel assured before the contract is placed by ESO that any remaining risks are appropriately managed. ESO will also provide updates on the contracting processes to the ECORD Council after the ECORD Council-ESSAC meeting #5.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-09

The ECORD Council thanks Dave McInroy and Robert Gatliff for providing an update on upcoming MSP expeditions.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-010

The ECORD Council accepts the time schedule and the process leading up to the new 2019-2023 ECORD MoU to be signed in 2018, as presented by Gilbert Camoin and summarized below :

- Jul. – Sept. 2017 : Revision of ToRs by each ECORD entity (Council, EMA, ESO, ESSAC, EFB, OETF) and ECORD general principles (ECORD Exec) ;
- Sept. – Oct. 2017 : Revision and compilation of a first draft of the ECORD MoU (ECORD Exec) ;
- Oct. 24/25, 2017 : Closed ECORD session on the first draft of the ECORD MoU ;
- Nov. – Dec. 2017 : Completion of the ECORD MoU (ECORD Exec) ;
- Early/Mid 2018 : Sending of the ECORD MoU to the ECORD funding agencies for approval and signature (EMA)

Action item 11 : EMA

To present a document summarizing all necessary changes in the 2019-2023 ECORD MoU and short motivations why these updates are made to the funding agencies.

ECORD Council Consensus 17-06-11

The ECORD Council receives the EEC recommendations related to outreach activities and agrees with this committee on the importance on targeting the wider public and to reach out to potential users. The ECORD Council emphasizes that ECORD will have to be more efficient in its communication in the future.

The ECORD Council recommends the OETF :

- 1) to reconsider its actions towards teachers and educators in light both of the real impact of the related activities and of the changes that will be brought by the withdrawal of free berths for Educational Officers on *JOIDES Resolution* expeditions ;
- 2) to consider teachers and educators' involvement only in the onshore phase of the MSP expeditions ;
- 3) to use webinars for classrooms.

Action item 12 : OETF

To come up with plans and ways of working to reach out more to the general public. The plan is to be presented to the ECORD Council at the ECORD Council-ESSAC meeting #5 in October 2017.