29th OFEG Southampton, UK  
October 2012

Attendees:  
Tom Ole Drange  IMR  
Erika Koning  NIOZ  
Jordi Soribas  CSIC  
Barbara Tanner  PTJ/BMBF  
Klas Lackschewitz  Marum  
Colin Day  NOCS  
Geraint West  NOCS  
Beth Woodward  NERC  
Olivier Lefort  Ifremer  
Jean-Xavier Castrec  Ifremer

Invited:  
Bob Houtman  NSF  
Admiral M Devany  NOAA

1/ Welcome and introduction by Erika Koning

2/ Approval of minutes of last meeting and revue of actions list

The minutes of the 28th OFEG meeting held in Vigo are approved.  
As a conclusion of that meeting, barter points file is completed concerning heavy seismic with a value of 7 points. There is a discussion about the fact that OFEG should consider a dedicated number of points by sub-component of the seismic (streamers, compressors,…). BMBF also propose to add OBS to the list. The discussion reaches to the point that before new modifications, the barter point grid should be re-evaluated on the same technical and financial perimeter for all the countries. It is decided to have a dedicated discussion during next OFEG-Tech meeting on that subject (Action 29/1)

Revue of actions list:

24/06 : No action has been done since last meeting. To keep on list and examine during a further meeting.

25/04 : To be kept as a subject concerning Seismic cooperation. A meeting to be planned during next OFEG-Tech.

26/02 : Colin to send British medical standard requirements before next meeting.

28/01. Property rights concerning acquired data during OFEG Barters to be discussed on case by case. All each participant shall check property rights and national legal context for a discussion during a further OFEG meeting.

28/02. Closed

28/03. To check if everybody agree during next OFEG meeting

28/04. Closed

28/05 and 28/06. Closed and replaced by actions 29/02 and 29/03
3/ CSIC situation

Jordi Soribas represents CSIC at that meeting. Juanjo Danobeitia is no longer director of CSIC. Enrique Tortosa (previously IEO director) is now appointed as director for a transition phase of one or two years. Cuts in CSIC budget could be of 40% in 2013, with an important impact on ship scheduling.

4/ OFEG Tech

This year, OFEG-Tech has been reduced to half a day due to Inmartech. Next OFEG-Tech will be held in Marum, without connection with OFEG which shall be held in Waremunde.

5/ Cruise planning system

NERC is faced to the obsolescence of its actual cruise planning system. At the same time NIOZ, CSIC and Ifremer are looking for a system, when IMR has developed recently a system. There is a discussion about the possibility of adapting and using IMR cruise planning system to fulfil NERC, NIOZ and Ifremer requirements, without any conclusion due to the fact that there is no common technical statement of requirements at this stage. It is proposed that NIOZ write a draft to be discussed by NERC, NIOZ, Ifremer, CSIC and IMR before end of 2012 (Action 29/2). The five institutes indicate there wishes to go ahead with a common cruise planning system, even if formal confirmation is awaited from IMR and CSIC. Erika shall propose a draft of MOU on the subject within next OFEG meeting (Action 29/3). Property rights and interactions with Eurofleets II to be discussed later.

6/ Eurofleets II

See presentation in Appendix. The discussion is focused on the lack of visibility and recognition of OFEG by EU. The question of lobbying for the defence, value and finance of global and ocean vessels is opened with no uniform response between OFEG partners. It is suggested that an update of OFWG report could be supported by OFEG members. The question of link of OFEG with FP7 and JPI Ocean lobbying is opened. Olivier Lefort to get information for next meeting (Action 29/4).

7/ Update on OFEG cruise programs for 2013 and 2014

See Norwegian, German, Spanish, and French schedules in Appendix

8/ NOAA and NSF presentation

Bob Houtman (NSF) and Mike Devany (director of NOAA corps and office of Marine and Aviation operations) reach the meeting in the afternoon. See presentation of NOAA Marine and Aviation facilities in Appendix.

9/ New barters and training berth opportunities

Ifremer could be interested by the realisation of AMOP campaign in January 2014 on new Discovery. To confirm on both sides as soon as possible.

NOCS is looking for seismic technicians for the first semester 2014.

Colin Day indicates that there are possibilities to participate to Discovery scientific trials. Schedule to be send by Colin to all OFEG partners (Action 29/5).