

**Minutes from meeting:**

Present: Colin, Erica, Olivier, Sylvie Van Iseghem, Juanjo, Klas, Doreen, Per, OJ, Yuko (from JAMSTEC, “intern” @ IMR for 3 months)

Apologies: Natalie, Miki

**Minutes and actions**

Colin proposed that the Chair/Vice Chair will provide the first draft of the meeting minutes plus actions within a week of the end of the meeting. It was noted this may be difficult on this occasion due to the timing of the Easter break, and the handover of supplying the minutes to the vice chair, but Colin/OJ will progress the minutes/actions ASAP.

It was also discussed that all partners will work to complete all actions ‘at the earliest opportunity’ as opposed to leaving actions close to the following meeting date.

**Review of actions and minutes:**

5.2.3.1 – Still outstanding, this was identified as an important action on all to be completed prior to next meeting.

7.1.1 – Still outstanding; all partners to resend their documents to include:
- Name of ship
- Classification of Polar Certificate

4.1 – Still outstanding; Erica to finalise and distribute for comment

36.10 – Still outstanding; this item can be progressed at OFEG-TECH in Toulon

37.1 – The Ifremer project to procure a new seismic system is delayed but ongoing. It is planned to carry out trials in April 2018 following which the system will be operational, the system will comprise:
- 6km Sercel Sentinel MCSS plus two winches (2x3 Km)
- New Sercel airgun source and handling systems
- Ramp(s) fitted to L’Atalante, Pour quoi pas?, Marion Dufresne.
- System can be used for 2D and 3D operations

The equipment will be offered to the barter system for use by OFEG partners

37.2 – The Ifremer HROV will be available for barter and Olivier will provide more details at the next meeting

37.4 – NSF ships barter points of NERC/ NSF ships with NSF. Item postponed to next meeting.
37.7 – IMR provided a format for the OFEG Post Cruise Assessment form which was agreed and accepted by all partners, this will now be implemented, and completed by all PIs for all future barter cruise, and the submitted forms will be reviewed as a standing agenda item at each meeting.

37.12 - Still outstanding; All partners check Erica’s new activity document for previous years 2014/15/16, add comments to briefly describe cruise activity and send details to Erica to update the master table.

37.12.1 – Still outstanding; this was identified as an important item. The meeting reviewed the security operating policy for the “Dr. Fridtjof Nansen” which has been produced as the ship routinely operates West Africa. From discussion my partners manage the security issues of their cruises on a case by case basis. Ifremer review security issues for cruises on a 1 year, 6 month, 1 month basis.

It was discussed that the benefit of having a ‘security policy’ in place is that when an issue emerges there is a policy framework in place which has been discussed and agreed by the organisation in advance which can inform and support the specific security decision when it arises, as opposed to developing a plan of action from scratch for each emerging event.

All partners are requested to share documents/policies as they stand within each organisation to review and discuss at the next meeting.

New items:

VPT website discussion:
- Erica to email updated OFEG activity map to Colin to upload onto OFEG web site home page replacing the ‘welcome to the OFEG website box’
  Action: Map for website – Colin/Erica

- All partners to send pictures of barter ships and any other useful pictures to be uploaded onto the OFEG website gallery.
  Action: All

- Links to ‘News items does not work; Colin to advise EurOcean to fix
  Action: Colin

General items:
- Colin to provide details of NERC, NMF autonomous vehicles and gliders to next meeting with a view to adding this equipment to the equipment barter process
  Action: Colin

- Erica produced a draft Barter Guide document to discuss. Erica will develop the guide and send out to all to comment, following which Erica will complete the guide.
Action: Erica

- All partners to propose and decide on a new OFEG-TECH chair with a view handover of the chair at the forthcoming Toulon meeting
  
Action: All

- Following the presentation from Mr Boening regarding OFEG equipment insurance. All partners are to provide information to complete a table of OFEG equipment for the broker to quote against. Colin will produce a template and all partners then add information to the table, Colin will collate and forward to the broker.
  
Action all/Colin

Excerpt from presentation:

- Presentation by Mr Roland Boening, head of Marine Insurance brokering @ AKP. Insures equipment for amongst others Geomar and Marum.
- Marine Cargo Insurance basics: printed conditions – ICC, DTV, special written conditions
- All Risk coverage/ insurance protects the shipper against physical loss or damage to their cargo from external causes, sub terms and conditions. Limited cover – applicable for used cargo. Total loss only – already damaged cargo.
- Perils covered, with exemptions of nuclear energy or chemical: War/ strikes incl. terrorism/ confiscation, biological. The insurer is not responsible for: delay in transport/ inherent vice of the nature of the goods (steel will rust when wet)/ ordinary humidity/ inappropriate packaging/ indirect loss/ damage.
- Cover will be granted (scientific equipment) – EXW (ex work) all the way to the vessel, during the voyage, whilst on board, until deployment up to 20 m below surface (and vice versa). Whilst operating in the water, and all the way the back to the storage. (Fazit = all except operation less the 20m).
- Info for declaration – project name, list of equipment, ttl value of cargo, itinerary etc.
- World wide coverage. No exclusions.
- Self-insured? Approach own government in order to argument why insurance is a good idea! AKP/ Roland to assist in wording a document. Use Germany as example.

- It was noted that during 2017 there will be six trans-Atlantic crossings by OFEG ships, and also three North/South trans-Atlantic passages. It was noted this is a key area to investigate efficiency measures and a common planning system to be able to view ship locations would be an asset in this situation. It was suggested that the North/South transects may be an initial area to look at a solution, but more broadly OFEG partners should look at how we could better collaborate to assist this position.
  
To be discussed further.

- UK/France/Germany to send further updates of vessel availability in June when there is more progress with constructing their ship programmes.
  
Action: Colin/Olivier/Klas/Doreen

- Colin tabled an agenda item to discuss accident an incident reporting to assess if OFEG could produce a comparison of reporting statistics across the organisations. A number of partners provided examples of reporting formats for their ships to review and discuss at the meeting. Following discussion there was a strong view not to progress this initiative as the diverse formats and different reporting criteria would generate excessive work to normalise the data
and provide a meaningful output. There was also a view that reviewing and coordinating these types of statistics is not a key area that OFEG should put effort into. It was agreed that OFEG partners will table specific operational H&S events and issues such as equipment failure leading to safety issues, safety/security issues around the World etc. for the agenda, which can be presented and discussed at future meeting which all partners can learn from and advise on.

- Juanjo asked if there were still any issues with OFEG partners getting Spanish Clearance. It was noted by Olivier and Colin that this can be problematic if the time scale is short. Juanjo asked for examples so he could talk to his Spanish colleagues to see if he could help out.
  **Action Colin/Olivier/Juanjo**

**Emerging issues and new projects:**

- A general discussion took place as to how future emerging issues and projects should be progressed within OFEG. It was agreed that any new projects should be proposed as an agenda item, discussed within the meeting, then if agreed, a clear proposal outlined to deliver the initiative. This would include identifying which partners will provide input, what the deliverables are, and the time scale for the delivery.
  - Emerging issue/project proposal:
    - OJ proposed setting up a Facebook page for OFEG. OFEG identifies itself as a ‘bottom up’ organisation, but there can be little understanding of OFEG activities at the operating levels of OFEG outside the management areas of each organisation. The proposal is to set up a face book page to generate more exposure; EurOcean can set up the face book page with OJ leading in the communication with EurOcean, but it is critical that all OFEG partners contribute and engage with the initiative if it is to be successful.
      **Action: OJ to progress page set up with EurOcean**
      **Action: All to engage and provide input when set up**
    - Per discussed the proposal for the updating of the 2007 OFWG report within ERVO and proposed OFEG members should get involved with the project. It was agreed by all partners that this is a very positive initiative and OFEG should take a role in this initiative. ERVO have proposed to the Marine Board/EuroGOOS that this should take place, who will discuss this 26th April. We will get feedback from this meeting prior to the ERVO meeting 12th June, so OFEG partners should formulate a position on how we will engage with this project and present this at the ERVO meeting.
      Some concept areas to consider for the report were discussed such as:
      - Polar operations
      - Deep Ocean operations
      - Deep sea mining
      - Autonomous equipment development

**Next meeting 4th – 5th October 2017 Texel**
### Actions from previous meetings

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
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<th>Due date</th>
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</table>
| OFEG 33  | Action 5.2.3.1| All partners to send their operating policy for MLC2006 to Erica clarifying the classifications of ship staff, scientists and technicians as 'seafarers', 'transitional seafarers', 'other'; Erica will collate in a suitable format to be uploaded to the OFEG website (minutes item 3).  
**Note: This is an important item still open from OFEG 33** | All send MLC policy. Erica collates. Colin uploads. | By OFEG 39 meeting |
| OFEG 34  | Action 7.1.1  | All partners identify which ships they operate will be certified under the new Polar code and what level within the code.  
**Note: This is an important item still open from OFEG 34.** Colin to collate submissions into a table. | All                               | By OFEG 39 meeting |
| OFEG 35  | Action 4.1    | Erica to develop a new proposal for a "Barter cruise planning guide" to replace the "Obligations for barter cruise participants".  
Erica to finalise the draft, send out and all partners to advise changes. | Erika                             | At OFEG 39               |
<p>| OFEG 36  | Action 36.10  | Colin to forward nominated names for the EIA workshop to Cecile Ducatel to progress workshop. | CD                                | ASAP                  |
| OFEG 37  | Action 37.1   | Olivier to confirm the new IFREMER MCS capability and its status for barter exchange                                                                                                                   | Olivier                          | By OFEG 39               |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>Olivier to advise proposed barter points for HROV for inclusion in barter table</td>
<td>Olivier</td>
<td>OFEG 39</td>
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<tr>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>Natalie/Colin to discuss NSF ships barter points of NERC/NSF ships with NSF</td>
<td>Natalie/Colin</td>
<td>OFEG 39</td>
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<td>37.12</td>
<td>All partners check Erica’s new activity document for previous years 2014/15/16, add comments to briefly describe cruise activity and send details to Erica to update the master table. Erica to send updated table with all comments to Colin to upload on website</td>
<td>All / Erica / Colin</td>
<td>OFEG 39</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>New / Emerging items:</strong> Develop OFEG position for the support of the updating of the Marine Board OFWG report</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>May 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>New / Emerging items:</strong> OFEG to develop an OFEG Facebook page via EurOcean; Per to initiate and Odd to take the lead. All partners to contribute to content.</td>
<td>Per/Odd/All</td>
<td>OFEG 39</td>
</tr>
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| 38.1    | **OFEG web site actions:**  
1. Erica update global barter map and send to Colin to upload onto front page of website  
2. Monthly email OFEG members for story updates for OFEG website  
3. Upload details of NSF ships to OFEG website (under meeting documents)  
38th meeting of the Ocean Facilities Exchange Group

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<td>UK/France/Germany to send further updates of vessel availability in June when there is more progress with constructing their ship programmes.</td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td>Action 38.5</td>
<td>Olivier and Colin to send examples of issues with OGEF partners getting Spanish clearance so he could talk to his Spanish colleagues to see if he could help out.</td>
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<td>Asap</td>
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<td>Set up a face book page to generate more exposure; EurOcean set up the face book page, OJ lead in the communication with EurOcean. All OFEG partners contribute and engage with the initiative.</td>
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5. Add information about MFP on the web in some shape or form (Slides? Plain text?).
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