

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE NORTH PACIFIC MARINE SCIENCE ORGANIZATION
AND
OCEAN DECADE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CENTER,
CHINA

The North Pacific Marine Science Organization, hereinafter called “PICES”, and the Ocean Decade International Cooperation Center, China, hereinafter called “the ODCC”;

RECOGNIZING that the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), exists to:

- a) Promote and coordinate marine scientific research in order to advance scientific knowledge of the area concerned and of its living resources including, but not necessarily limited to, research with respect to the ocean environment and its interaction with land and atmosphere, its role in and response to global weather and climate change, its flora, fauna, and ecosystems, its uses and resources, and impacts upon it from human activities; and
- b) Promote the collection and exchange of information and data related to marine scientific research in the area concerned;

NOTING that in order to further enhance its institutional capabilities, the PICES seeks to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations that have related objectives;

RECOGNIZING that the Ocean Decade International Cooperation Center (ODCC), China was

jointly established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, PRC, the Shandong Provincial People's Government and the People's Government of Qingdao Municipality and it aims to become a comprehensive, innovative, and leading international cooperation platform to promote sustainable development of the oceans. The ODCC aims to support the UN Ocean Decade with cross-sectoral collaborative efforts and serves as a Secretariat office for the Chinese National Decade Committee.

The main duties and missions of ODCC include:

- a) In-depth engagement in the Ocean Decade.
- b) Establish a concentration area for ocean-related international organizations.
- c) Construct the East Asia Marine Cooperation Platform.
- d) Foster the best practices to support the Ocean Decade.

NOTING that in order to carry out these tasks appropriately and efficiently, the ODCC seeks to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations which have related objectives;

RECOGNISING that the achievement of the objectives of PICES and ODCC will benefit from Cooperation, and DESIRING to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to support the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

NOW THEREFORE, PICES and ODCC, hereinafter called "the Parties", have agreed to the following:

I. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to facilitate cooperation between PICES and ODCC (the Parties) with a view to promote the UN Ocean Decade

Initiative.

II. AREAS OF COOPERATION

2. Both Parties may establish and maintain consultation, cooperation and collaboration with respect of matters of common interest under the framework of the Ocean Decade, including, but not limited to:

- a) Jointly support, incubate, and initiate Decade Actions, ultimately aim to catalyze transformative scientific solutions.
- b) ODCC will arrange for a coordinator to support the PICES-ICES UNDOS endorsed program “SmartNet”, and promote cooperation between the two sides.
- c) Jointly organize international conferences or fora on the Ocean Decade.
- d) Jointly organize training courses or other related activities to build capacity for the younger generation.
- e) Reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of each organization.

III. MODIFICATION

3. This MoU may be modified at any time by the mutual written consent of both sides.

IV. LEGAL STATUS

4. Both Parties acknowledge that this MoU is not legally binding between them.

V. HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE

5. Each party agrees that it will be responsible for its own acts and the results thereof and shall not be responsible for the acts of the other party thereof.

6. Each Party shall undertake to observe the confidentiality and secrecy of personal documents, information and other personal data received from or supplied to, the other Party during the

period of the implementation of this MoU.

VI. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

7. This MoU will continue to operate for 5 years from the date of signing. At that stage the Parties will review the operation of the MoU and decide whether it will be renewed or modified.

a) Either Party may terminate this MoU by giving six (6) months prior written notice to the other Party.

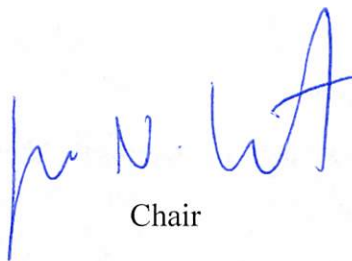
b) This MoU will come into effect on the day of signature.

c) This MoU shall be executed in English in two (2) original copies. Each Party shall receive one (1) original copy, all of which shall be equally valid and enforceable.

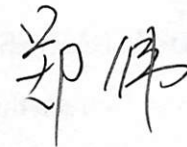
VII. SIGNATURES

Signature Date

Signature Date *November 3, 2024*



Chair



Executive Director

North Pacific Marine Science Organization

Ocean Decade International Cooperation
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