

GC Appendix A

2019 Governing Council Decisions

(The following decisions were taken at the Governing Council Meeting at PICES-2019 in Victoria, Canada on November 3 and 4, 2019)

2019/A/1: (This Decision taken at 2019 IGC is reported separately)

2019/A/2: 2018 Auditor's Report

Council accepted the audited accounts for FY 2018.

2019/A/3: Annual contributions

- i. Council re-iterated the importance for all Contracting Parties to pay the Annual Fee by the January 1 deadline and confirmed that for planning of their funding requests for annual contributions, Contracting Parties should continue to use the guideline generally accepted at PICES-1999 (Decision 1999/A/2(ii)), which states that the annual contributions will increase at the rate of inflation in Canada.
- ii. Council instructed the Executive Secretary to send letters to all Contracting Parties requesting payment of Annual Fees shortly after the completion of PICES-2019.

2019/A/4: Budgetary considerations

- i. Council approved the FY 2020 budget of \$1,088,000. The amount of \$219,900 will be transferred from the Working Capital Fund to balance the budget, setting the total annual contributions at \$820,200 and the 2020 annual contribution at \$136,700 per Contracting Party.
- ii. To address the pension plan liability, Council recommends that each Contracting Party make an additional \$8000 Extraordinary Contribution for FY2020 and that the Extraordinary Contribution shall continue until pension plan liability is extinguished. Russia is requested to confirm their intention to provide this contribution in 2020 no later than the end of February 2020 to complete budget planning.
- iii. Council approved a transfer from the Working Capital Fund to the Trust Fund to recover the 2019 expenses and restore the Trust Fund to the level of \$110,000.
- iv. Council approved a transfer of \$110,000 from the Working Capital Reserve to the Home Leave and Relocation Fund on January 2020, in anticipation of the retirement of the Deputy of Administration and relocation expenses for the incoming Executive Secretary.
- v. Council directs the Executive Secretary to investigate the potential of expanding travel grants as a potential option to reducing Secretariat workload.

2019/A/5: Future PICES Annual Meetings and 2020 Inter-sessional Science Board meeting

- i. Council approved the proposal from China to hold the 2020 PICES Annual Meeting from October 22 – November 1, 2020 in Qingdao.
- ii. Council approved the expenditure of up to \$40,000 from the General Fund to defray the costs of the 2020 Meeting, as requested by China.
- iii. Council accepted the offer from Korea to host the 2021 PICES Annual Meeting at a location and time to be determined and accepted the request for up to \$40,000 from PICES from the General Fund to defray the costs of the 2021 Meeting.
- iv. Council requested the U.S.A. to confirm by March 31, 2020 their intention to host the 2022 PICES Annual Meeting in the U.S.A.
- v. Council agreed to continue with the fee structure adopted for PICES-2019 for PICES-2020:

Type of registration fee	CAD \$
Regular	325
Early	250
Student	50
Spousal/guest	50

- vi. Council approved an Inter-sessional Science Board meeting to be hosted in April - June 2020 at a location to be determined. Russia indicated their willingness to host such a meeting, subject to confirmation of the meeting size and scope.
- vii. Council requests that the Secretariat continue to work individually with Contracting Parties to implement approaches for funding annual meetings that are consistent with PICES Financial Regulations.
- viii. Council directed that a small working group be established from the PICES Secretariat, the ICES Secretariat and the U.S.A. to conduct a more detailed examination of the costs and feasibility of a joint ICES-PICES Science Conference in 2020 in the U.S.A.

2019/A/6: PICES Intern Program

- i. Considering funding currently available for the Intern Program and stated intentions for contributions by Contracting Parties, Council agreed to initiate the process to obtain an intern for the 2019/2020 term. To ensure continuity of the program, an earlier starting date, such as early May was suggested. Following the existing rotation cycle, Russia was requested to nominate an intern by February 28, 2020.
- ii. Council instructed the Executive Secretary to invite Contracting Parties to provide voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund to support the Intern Program in 2020 and beyond.

2019/A/7: Financial Reserve Planning

Council directs the Executive Secretary and the Chair of Finance & Administration Committee to gather information to establish appropriate upper and lower limits for the PICES Working Capital Fund Reserve including a) seeking advice from the PICES auditors; b) assessing risk-management approaches adopted by other similar commissions; and. c) examining plausible scenarios for contingency funding that PICES might encounter.

2019/A/8: Tracking the activity of the Secretariat

- i. The Committee recommends that tracking and reporting of these indicators be continued indefinitely.
- ii. Council directs the Executive Secretary to add footnotes that explain anomalies and consider adding/replacing tables with graphs. F&A recommends that the Executive Secretary investigate the potential of expanding travel grants as a potential option to reducing Secretariat workload.

2019/A/9: Determining the uptake/impact of Science Activities

Council instructed the Executive Secretary to continue the research with other organizations on approaches to determine the uptake/impact of science activities, with an analysis presented to the Finance and Administration Committee at PICES-2020. This analysis should include steps that PICES should take to improve the impact as well as resource implications for the Organization.

2019/A/10: Recruitment of the next Executive Secretary

- i. Council selected the primary and secondary applicant for the position of Executive Secretary
- ii. Council instructed the Chairman, in collaboration with the Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee to proceed with an offer of employment.

2019/A/11: Framework Agreement with the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC)

Council approved a new Framework Agreement with the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC)

2019/A/12: PICES Expert Groups – attendance, communications and agenda planning

Council directs that the Executive Secretary work with Science Board Chair and F&A to:

- i. Review current attendance, agenda planning and communication practices of the PICES expert groups.
- ii. As appropriate, suggest revisions to the current handbook to address any identified deficiencies and promulgate best practices.
- iii. Consider changes to expert group Terms of Reference as necessary to complement suggested handbook revisions.
- iv. Implement some simple tracking to ensure that any revisions/changes are being implemented.

2019/A/13: A Code of Ethics for the operations of PICES (members and Secretariat staff) to promote the fair, transparent and equitable treatment of all participants.

Council directs that the Executive Secretary work with Science Board Chair and F&A to:

- i. Review best practices, policies and experience of similar organizations
- ii. Draft new policies and practices for discussion by expert groups at the Intersessional Science Board meeting in Spring 2020 and by correspondence between ISB and PICES-2020.
- iii. These policies and practices to be reviewed by Science Board and F&A at PICES-2020 for potential adoption at PICES-2020 by Council.

- 2019/S/1:** (This Decision taken at 2019 IGC and reported separately)
2019/S/2: (This Decision taken at 2019 IGC and reported separately)
2019/S/3: (This Decision taken at 2019 IGC and reported separately)

2019/S/4: PICES-2020 Annual Meeting

i. The following scientific sessions are to be convened at PICES-2020:

Topic Session Title	Potential Co-sponsors	Duration (days)
Science Board Symposium – How does 30 years of research on changing North Pacific ecosystems inform the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?		0.75
Global warming patterns and multiscale climate variability in the North Pacific		1
How studies on human dimensions can contribute to meet the six societal needs of the Decade of Ocean Science?		1
Upper ocean energetics from mesoscale, submesoscale to small-scale turbulence in the North Pacific		1
Atmospheric nutrient deposition and microbial community responses, and predictions for the future in the North Pacific Ocean	SOLAS	0.5
Environmental variability and small pelagic fishes in the North Pacific: exploring mechanistic and pragmatic methods for integrating ecosystem considerations into assessment and management	NPFC	1
Managing for pathways of resilience in a changing climate: recent examples and emerging approaches		1
Marine Ecosystem Services – Connecting science to decision making		0.5
Applications of artificial intelligence to advance the understanding of North Pacific ecosystems		1
The effect of ocean acidification on harmful algal species growth and toxicity	GlobalHAB, IOC UNESCO, ICES WGHABD, ISSHA	0.5
Impacts of climate change on aquaculture		1
Using environmental indicators to assess baselines, targets, and risk of plastic pollution in the North Pacific		1
Predictions of extreme events in the North Pacific and their incorporation into management strategies	CLIVAR	1
Using eDNA to assess and manage non-indigenous species in the North Pacific		1
Implementing a collaborative, integrated ecosystem high seas survey program to determine climate/ocean mechanisms affecting the productivity and distribution of salmon and associated pelagic fishes across the North Pacific Ocean	NPAFC, NPFC	1
Species migration and shifts responding to climate change: linking physics, plankton dynamics and fish ecology		1
FUTURE plenary on the PICES role in UN Decade		1
BIO Contributed Paper Session		0.5

FIS Contributed Paper Session		0.5
HD Contributed Paper Session		0.5
MEQ Contributed Paper Session		0.5
POC Contributed Paper Session		0.5

ii. The following workshops are to be convened at PICES-2020:

Workshop Title	Potential Co-sponsors	Duration (days)
The Expansion of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) from lower to higher latitudes	GlobalHAB, IOC UNESCO, ICES WGHABD, NOWPAP, ISSHA	1
Can we link zooplankton production to fisheries recruitment?		1
Integrating biological research, fisheries science and management of broadly distributed flatfish species across the North Pacific Ocean in the face of climate and environmental variability	IPHC	1
How does the Pacific Arctic gateway affect the marine system in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO)?		0.5
Pelagic and forage species – predicting response and evaluating resiliency to environmental variability		1
Research priorities for understanding the population dynamics of small pelagic fish in the North Pacific	NPFC	0.5
The social-ecological-environmental dynamics of climate extremes in Pacific coastal systems	ONC	2
Sea turtles and environmental stressors in the North Pacific		1
Building a PICES early career professional network		1

iii. The following business meetings are to be held at PICES-2020:

Expert Group/Committee	Duration (day)
WG-43 - Joint ICES PICES Working Group on <i>Small Pelagic Fish</i>	1
WG- 44- an Integrated Ecosystem Assessment for the Northern Bering Sea -Chukchi Sea	1
S-CC - Section on <i>Carbon and Climate</i>	0.5
S-HAB - Section on <i>Ecology of Harmful Algal Blooms in the North Pacific</i>	1
S-CCME - Section on <i>Climate Change Effects on Marine Ecosystem</i>	0.5
S-MBM - Section on <i>Marine Birds and Mammals</i>	0.5
WG 35 - Working Group on <i>Third North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report (NPESR3)</i>	0.5
WG 37- Working Group on <i>Zooplankton Production Methodologies, Applications and Measurements in PICES Regions</i>	0.5
WG 39 - Joint PICES/ICES/PAME Working Group on <i>an Integrated Ecosystem Assessment for the Central Arctic Ocean</i>	0.5
WG 40 - Working Group on <i>Climate and Ecosystem Predictability</i>	1
WG 41 - Working Group on <i>Marine Ecosystem Services</i>	1
WG 42 - Working Group on <i>Indicators of Marine Plastic Pollution</i>	1

AP-CREAMS - Advisory Panel for a <i>CREAMS/PICES Program in East Asian Marginal Seas</i>	0.5
AP-NPCOOS - Advisory Panel on <i>North Pacific Coastal Ocean Observing Systems</i>	0.5
AP-NIS - Advisory Panel on <i>Marine Non-indigenous Species</i>	1.5
FUTURE Scientific Steering Committee	1
Science Board	3 h Sun.; 5 h Fri.; 1 day Sat.
Scientific and Technical Committees (BIO, FIS, MONITOR, POC, TCODE, MEQ, HD)	2 h Sun; 0.5 day
Finance and Administration Committee	1.0
Governing Council	2.0
FishGIS - Building capacity for coastal monitoring by local small-scale fishers	0.5
Ciguatera fish poisoning project (assuming intersessional approval by Governing Council)	1
SEATurtle project - Sea turtle ecology in relation to environmental stressors in the North Pacific region	1

2019/S/5: Intersessional symposia/sessions/workshops and meetings

Council approved the following activities. Entries in italics were approved in previous Decisions but retained here for clarity:

Event	Dates	Location	PICES Role	Support Provided
Intersessional Workshops/meeting of PICES Expert Groups				
FUTURE SSC Workshop Plus Business Mtg	Spring 2020 3 days	Vladivostok (TBC) or Victoria		Most support from national funds of travelers; some may come from FUTURE acct.)
ISB-2020	Spring 2020 2.5 days	same venue as FUTURE SSC meeting		Most support from national funds of travelers; some may come from PICES
<i>FUTURE Open Science Meeting [Decision 2019/S/1]</i>	<i>April 2021</i>	<i>TBD (Possibly Hawaii?) Recommend joint event with ISB- 2021.</i>	<i>Primary Sponsor</i>	<i>Note 1</i>
Other Activities of PICES				
Fifth meeting of ICES/PICES/PAME Working Group for Integrated Ecosystem Assessment of the Central Arctic Ocean – WGICA (WG39)	Apr 27-29, 2020	Tromsø, Norway	Co- convenor	\$3.5K for Co-Chair travel
S-CCME meeting following MSEAS	May 2020 (1 day)	Yokohama	Co- convenor	1 PICES participant; TBD; \$3K

ICES/PICES Small Pelagic Fish WG inter-sessional meeting	Early spring 2020 (2 days)	Co-convenor	Co-convenor	2-3 PICES participants; \$7-\$10K;
<i>International Symposium on Small Pelagics</i>	<i>Fall 2021</i>	<i>TBD- possibly Spain or Peru</i>	<i>Co-Sponsor with ICES and other partners</i>	<i>Note 1</i>
<i>5th International Symposium on the Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans (ECCWO-5) [Decision 2019/S/1]</i>	<i>Spring, 2023</i>	<i>Bergen, Norway</i>	<i>Primary International Sponsor with ICES, IOC and FAO.</i>	<i>Note 1</i>
Summer Schools and capacity building/enhancement				
Pacific Ecology and Evolution Conference (PEEC)	Feb, 2020	Bamfield, Canada	Capacity Building	\$1.5K for partial support of conference logistics
<i>WG-37/AP-NPCOOS Summer School "Understanding marine ecosystem responses to climate change [Decision 2019/S/1]</i>	<i>March 3-9, 2020</i>	<i>Kagoshima, Japan</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Not to exceed \$15K</i>
ICES/PICES Early Career Scientist Conference (ECSC-4)	2022	Likely in Europe; local arrangements hosted by locals or ICES	Capacity Building	\$65K
Co-sponsorship of other Organizations' activities				
<i>International Symposium on "Plastics in the arctic and subarctic regions" [Decision 2019/S/1]</i>	<i>April 21-23, 2020</i>	<i>Reykjavik, Iceland</i>	<i>Co-Sponsor with PICES, PAME, IOC and others</i>	<i>Co-convenor Seung-Kyu Kim (KOR) and one or two ECS - not to exceed \$10K</i>
ICES WG on Harmful Algal Bloom Dynamics	April 2020	TBD, Europe	Contributor	Travel for HAB member \$2.5K
ESSAS Annual Science Meeting 2020	June 1-3, 2020	Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan	Capacity Building	\$7.5K for ECS support
ICES ASC 2020 Theme Sessions	Sep 2020	Copenhagen	PICES Co-Convenor/Invited speaker	\$6K Note 2
7 th Zooplankton Production Symposium.	Mar 2022 (5 days)	Hobart, Tasmania, Australia	Co-Sponsor with ICES	\$10K from General Fund + \$10K CAD from Trust Fund for ECS

Note 1: Tentative approval granted for the purpose of entering into more detailed planning including discussions with partners. Final approval will require a more complete assessment of schedule, costs and workload.

Note 2: The sessions of joint interest are Topic Session 1-Top predators, food webs and ecosystem-based fisheries management; Topic Session 10-Advances and challenges in marine litter pollution and Topic Session 11- Taking stock on ocean acidification research for provision of future efforts.

2019/S/6: Publications

- i. The following publications are to be produced in or submitted to primary journals in 2019–2020:
 - a. WG -38 - *Mesoscale and Submesoscale Processes* synthesis review paper to be submitted to *Progress in Oceanography* in early 2020.
- ii. The following publications are to be produced in the PICES Scientific Report series in 2020, upon completion of the required review:
 - a. WG 34 - Joint PICES/ISC Working Group on *Ocean Conditions and the Distribution and Productivity of Highly Migratory Fish* - final report in the PICES Scientific Report Series
 - b. WG 36 - *Common Ecosystem Reference Points across PICES Member Countries* - final report in the PICES Scientific Report Series
 - c. WG 38 - *Mesoscale and Submesoscale Processes* - final report in the PICES Scientific Report Series

2019/S/7: Future of Current Expert Groups

Council approved the following changes to existing Expert Groups:

- i. The Joint PICES/ISC Working Group on *Ocean Conditions and the Distribution and Productivity of Highly Migratory Fish* (WG 34) shall be disbanded on completion of their final report.
- ii. The Working Group on *Common Ecosystem Reference Points across PICES Member Countries* (WG 36) be extend to PICES-2020 and shall be disbanded on completion of their final report.
- iii. The Working Group on *Third North Pacific Ecosystem Status Report (NPESR3)* be extend to PICES-2020 and shall be disbanded on completion of their final report.
- iv. The Working Group on *Mesoscale and Submesoscale Processes* (WG 38) shall be disbanded on completion of their final report.
- v. The Advisory Panel for a *CREAMS/PICES Program in East Asian Marginal Seas (AP-CREAMS)* shall be extended until PICES-2024 with revised Terms of Reference.
- vi. Revised Terms of Reference were approved for the Section on *Marine Birds and Mammals (S-MBM)*.
- vii. Revised Terms of Reference were approved for the Section on *Ecology of Harmful Algal Blooms in the North Pacific (S-HAB)*.
- viii. Revised Terms of Reference were approved for the Working Group on *Indicators of Marine Plastic Pollution (WG 42)*.

2019/S/8: New Expert Groups

The following expert groups, with draft terms of reference as described in GC Appendix B, were established:

- i. Joint PICES/ICES Working Group on Small Pelagic Fish (WG 43) with the request to revise/clarify these Terms of Reference with the ICES Secretariat and to circulate the revised Terms of Reference to the Governing Council.
- ii. Working Group on an Integrated Ecosystem Assessment of the Northern Bering Sea-Chukchi Sea (NBS-CS) (WG 44). This Working Group was established with the provision that Science Board and Governing Council review progress at PICES-2020 to ensure that concerns over national balance, appropriate data sharing and engagement of indigenous people are addressed.

2019/S/9: Chairmanship and membership for Science Board, Standing Committees and expert groups

- i. Dr. Vera Trainer (U.S.A) succeeded Dr. Hiroaki Saito (Japan) as Chair of Science Board;
- ii. Dr. Igor Shevchenko (Russia) was elected as Vice-Chair for 1 year term;
- iii. Dr. Akash Sastri was elected Chair of BIO, replacing Dr. Se-Jong Ju (Korea);
- iv. Dr. Wongyu Park (Korea) was elected Vice-Chair of BIO, replacing Dr. Sastri;

- v. Dr. Mitsutaku Makino (Japan) was elected Chair of HD, replacing Dr. Keith Criddle (USA);
- vi. Ms. Karen Hunter (Canada) was elected Vice-Chair of HD, replacing Dr. Makino (Japan);
- vii. Dr. Sung Yong Kim (Korea) was elected as Chair of MONITOR, replacing Dr. Jennifer L. Boldt (Canada);
- viii. Dr. Lisa Eisner (USA) was elected Vice-Chair of MONITOR, replacing Dr. Sanae Chiba (Japan);
- ix. Dr. Jeanette Gann (USA) was elected Chair of TCODE, replacing Dr. Joon Soo Lee (Korea);
- x. Mr. Peter Chandler (Canada) was re-elected Vice-Chair of TCODE for a 1-year term (from Oct. 2019-Oct. 2020);
- xi. Dr. Emanuele Di Lorenzo (USA) was re-elected at Chair of POC for a second term (from Oct. 2019-Oct. 2022);
- xii. Dr. Yury Zuenko (Russia) was re-elected as Vice-Chair of POC for 2 more years (from Oct. 2019-Oct. 2021);
- xiii. Dr. Xiujuan Shan (China) was elected Co-Chair of S-CCME, replacing Dr. Shin-ich Ito (Japan);
- xiv. Dr. Alex Kozyr (USA) was elected Co-Chair of S-CC, replacing Dr. Jim Christian (Canada).

2019/S/10: Zhu-Peterson Early Career Scientist Award

Council approved the establishment of the Zhu-Peterson Early Career Scientist Award to recognize early career scientists who have performed innovative research at the frontier of science relevant to the PICES mission.

2019/S/11: FUTURE Early Career Scientist Award

Council approved the establishment of the FUTURE Early Career Scientist Award to recognize early career scientists who have demonstrated application of the FUTURE Socio-Ecological-Environmental Systems (SEES) framework in their research.

2019/S/12: PICES Ocean Monitoring Award (POMA) – revised wording/eligibility

Council approved revised wording for the PICES Ocean Monitoring Award to recognize contributions in innovative advances in ocean observing and service.