

- (d) Development of appropriate and new marine technologies to utilise under-exploited resources, for aquaculture, food processing and for pollution control including marine environmental accountancy as a management tool.
- (e) Response of critical or sensitive marine ecosystems and rehabilitation strategies of degraded areas relevant for coastal sustainable development.(76)

Data and Information

131. Improved systems to collect, synthesize, and disseminate data and information on coastal and marine systems are essential to reduce uncertainties and improve predictability. The Global Ocean Observation System (GOOS) of the IOC is being designed to provide some of the required information. An effective system must contain more elements than GOOS. States and relevant international organizations should provide analyses into appropriate international data networks. Specifically, States should:

132.

- (a) Support development of the multi-parametric cross-disciplinary global ocean systematic observation of nearshore and coastal areas to build an understanding of climate change, e.g. GOOS (Document A/CONF.151/PC/70.)(74(c))
- (b) Create regional accessible and readily-transferred multi-sectorial information bases, covering the results of research and systematic observation programmes, linked to existing data and information services and mechanisms for communicating these results to decision makers (including environmental managers) and the public in general.(72)
- (c) Endorse the storage and archiving of, as well as [access] [exchange of] to, data and information collected in marine scientific research and systematic observation programs through the World Data Centers.

Capacity Building

133. Recognizing the need to acquire new information on oceans to address all marine-related management topics, including climate change, nations agree to:

- (a) Establish funding mechanisms for an inter-disciplinary systematic observation system through coordination among United Nations Agencies and development agencies including a programme on marine technology and engineering and to help ensure implementation of on-going and planned global and regional ocean climate-related research programmes.(73)
- (b) Offer technical cooperation, with the participation of relevant international organizations, in developing the capacity of coastal States to carry out and participate in research and monitoring, as well as to assimilate its results.

(iv) International and Regional Cooperation and Coordination.

134. Relevant United Nations Agencies should develop and integrate [monitoring] and systematic observations networks and establish high-level inter-agency coordination and monitoring and systematic observation mechanisms. This would include a comprehensive review of existing national, regional and global data bases. These activities would involve as appropriate: