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Geneva, 18 July 1997

Dear Chairman and Vice-Chairmen,

With reference to the 6th meeting of the Executive Committee on 5 June 1997 in Newport (Rhode Island), I have the pleasure of sending you attached the following documents :

- Corrigendum 5th EC Report, Geneva (IWCO/EC/18/corr.1);
- Draft Report of the 6th meeting of the EC, Rhode Island (IWCO/EC/22).

Yours sincerely,

for his use 

Layashi Yaker,
Secretary General

**Executive Committee
5th Meeting
Geneva, 28 April 1997**

IWCO/EC/18/corr.1

Corrigendum to the Report

In the last sentence of the third paragraph on page 2, delete the words "two Coordinators" and replace by "Coordinator".

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Executive Committee
6th Meeting
Rhode Island, 5 June 1997

IWCO/EC/22

Draft Report

1. Opening

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Dr. Mário Soares, who welcomed the participants present. He also extended the Commission's welcome to the retired United States Senator from Rhode Island, Claiborne Pell and thanked Matt Braunstein, who was attending the meeting in Vice Chairman Patrick Kennedy's absence, for the arrangements that had been made for holding the Fourth Session of the Commission in Newport, Rhode Island. (List of participants is attached as Annex I).

2. Agenda

The agenda was adopted without modification (Annex II).

3. 5th Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Chairman expressed regret that illness had prevented him from presiding the 5th Meeting and thanked Eduardo Faleiro for chairing that meeting. The Draft Report of the 5th Meeting held in Geneva (IWCO/EC/18) was adopted after the introduction of an amendment requested by Elisabeth Mann Borgese concerning the number of Coordinators for the Study Group on Economic Uses of the Oceans. In the last sentence of the third paragraph on page 2, delete the words "two Coordinators" and replace by "Coordinator". The Secretariat will issue a Corrigendum reflecting this amendment.

4. Progress Report

It was decided to concentrate on financial matters since the report on activities of the Commission and its Secretariat would be discussed at the plenary.

The Treasurer, in reviewing the Draft Budget and Funding Plan for 1995 - 1998 (IWCO/EC/20), highlighted two interrelated points concerning costs and fund-raising. The CHF 50,000 further reduction has been over-shadowed by an upward revision of CHF 240,000 because of the loan made by the Commission to cover the costs of Meetings for Rhode Island. This made fund-raising all the more urgent. The Treasurer reiterated the urgency of securing USD 1 million before the end of 1997. Matt Braunstein assured the Committee that the organizers of the Rhode Island session would make every effort to repay the USD 200,000.

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Concerning the \$US 1 million funding requirements, the Secretary General stated that he was in contact with 20 potential donors. He requested the assistance of all members of the Executive Committee and of the Commission as a whole in the fund raising effort and expressed confidence that the money would be found by the end of 1997.

The Committee gave its approval to the audited financial accounts of the Commission.

Several participants informed the Committee of contributions to the Commission's budget. Eduardo Faleiro announced that the Government of India had decided to donate USD150,000 for the meeting in Capetown. Any money that might be left after covering these expenses would be contributed to the general budget. His Government also stood ready to cover the local costs of any Commission member who accepted the invitation to attend the Indian Ocean Rim Meeting that it was organizing for 29-30 September 1997. José Israel Vargas informed the Committee of the decision of the Government of Brazil to contribute in 1998 an additional USD100,000 to the Commission's budget. Vice Chairman Elisabeth Mann Borgese expressed her that her claim of USD 40,000 in establishment costs of the Commission had been recognized and informed the Committee that she was donating this sum to the Commission.

5. Arrangements for the Fourth Session (Rhode Island)

The Secretary General reported that the hosts for the Session had worked out an interesting program and the documentation had been prepared and distributed. Marty Alford from the local organizing committee reviewed the schedule of activities that had been planned for the session. The Executive Secretary explained the functioning of the five sessional working groups under item 4 of the Commission's agenda relating to the preparation of the Final Report

A discussion took place of selected substantive aspects of the preparation of the Final Report. Owing to its overwhelming importance in sustaining life on earth, the Committee agreed that reference to fresh water aspects should be included as a relevant related issue in the Final Report. Although it would not constitute a separate chapter *per se*, the issue of fresh water resources should be brought in to relevant parts of the Report. Apart from the interaction between oceans and freshwater bodies, the supply of fresh water was an important security issue both within and between countries.

It was noted that a great deal of work had been accomplished since Rotterdam towards preparation of the Final Report and that the quality of some of the inputs included in the documentation for this session was high. Despite the valuable

contributions of developing country members to the work of the Commission, there was still a need to bring in the Southern perspective more effectively. Satisfaction was expressed with the Commission's work on Peaceful Uses of the Ocean – particularly as regards some of its recommendations for preventing ocean-related disputes between countries and the freezing of claims.

6. Preparation of the Fifth Session (Capetown)

In the absence of Kader Asmal who had sent his apologies for not being able to attend, John Cooper described the arrangements for the Capetown Session. Formal meetings would be taking place from Monday, 10 November through the morning of Saturday, 15 November 1997 at the Lord Charles Hotel (where the participants would also be lodging) located at Sommerset West about 40 minutes outside of Capetown with a view on the ocean. The emphasis in this Session would be on substantive discussion of the Final Report. President Nelson Mandela would be opening the Session and giving the welcoming address to the participants on the morning of Tuesday, 11 November in the old Parliamentary Complex in Capetown. This would be a good occasion for statements on national and regional ocean issues including the Indian Ocean and African perspectives on the ocean. The possibility of a special address on the Indian Ocean and the Law of the Sea was being envisaged for Tuesday evening. Plans were also being made to arrange for the presence of political leaders from several Southern African States including Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Mauritius.

In clarifying how the Capetown Session fitted in to the design of the Commission's work, the Executive Secretary emphasized that we now had a number of "building blocks" for the Report. These included the conclusions and recommendations of the Study Groups and papers by the Rapporteurs and resource persons in connection with the various subjects taken up by the Commission. A drafting group under the guidance of the General Editor, would produce a first consolidated draft of the Report by October for consideration by the Commission at Capetown. On the basis of this discussion it was hoped to have a published Report with recommendations ready for the Lisbon session in July 1998. The substance of the recommendations would be transmitted to the UN General Assembly in December 1998 for consideration under the Year of the Ocean agenda item. It was hoped that the General Assembly would be in a position to endorse the major recommendations.

7. Preparation of Sixth Session (Lisbon)

Mario Ruivo reviewed preparations for the Sixth Session in Lisbon. He highlighted the discussions with the organizers of Expo '98 concerning how best to incorporate the final session of the Commission into the Expo '98 where its Conclusions would be adopted and the Declaration of Lisbon approved. It was

hoped that the gathering of high level personalities from outside the Commission would endorse the Declaration. A youth forum and an artistic component would be included at Lisbon in order to draw greater attention to the Commission.

8. 7th Meeting of Executive Committee

The Secretary General stated that the next meeting of the Executive Committee would take place just before the start of the Capetown Session. The Chairman stated that he had spoken to Driss Ben Sari and to the King of Morocco concerning the possibility of convening an inter-sessional meeting in Rabat in January/February 1998.

9. Closing

As there were no other business left to be discussed, the Chairman closed the meeting.

Annex I

**Executive Committee
6th Meeting
Rhode Island, 5 June 1997**

IWCO/EC/Inf.13**List of Participants**

Mário Soares	Chairman
Abdelmohsin M. Al-Sudeary	Vice-Chairman
Eduardo Faleiro	“
Elisabeth Mann Borgese	“
Yoshio Suzuki	“
José Israel Vargas	“
Mário Ruivo	Coordinator
Salvino Busuttil	Treasurer
Sidney Holt	General Editor

Ex Officio Members

Layashi Yaker	Secretary General
Jean-Pierre Lévy	Executive Secretary

Special Guest

Claiborne Pell

Secretariat

Jan van Ettinger	Senior Officer
Thomas Ganiatsos	“
Paul Ress	Media Consultant
Peter Sand	Consultant

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Office of the Chairman

Mário Baptista Coelho

Personal Assistant
to the Chairman

Ana Maria Plimer Casquilho

Personal Assistant
to Coordinator

Observers

Marty Alford

Office Congressman
P. Kennedy

Matthew Braunstein

Office Congressman
P. Kennedy

John Cooper

Local Organizer
Cape Town

Luis F. Costa Fernandes

Brazilian Committee

Antonio José Teixeira

Brazilian Committee

Annex II

**Executive Committee
6th Meeting
Rhode Island, 5 June 1997**

IWCO/EC/19/Rev.1

Agenda

1. Opening

2. Adoption of the Agenda (IWCO/EC/19/Rev.1)

3. Report of the 5th Meeting of the EC (IWCO/EC/18)

4. Progress Report
 - Budget and funding plan '95 - '98 (IWCO/EC/20)
 - Audited financial statements '95 - '96 (IWCO/EC/21)

5. Arrangements for the Fourth Session (Rhode Island)

6. Preparation of the Fifth Session (Cape Town)

7. Planning of the Sixth Session (Lisbon)

8. Next meeting of the EC

9. Closing