

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND
THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA**

Recognizing that the European Environment Agency (EEA), hereinafter called “the Agency”, was established by Council (CEE) Regulation 1210/90 to provide the community and the Member States with (a) objective, reliable and comparable information at European level enabling them to take requisite measures to protect the environment, to assess the results of such measures and to ensure that the public is properly informed about the state of the environment; (b) to that end, the necessary technical and scientific support. For the purpose of achieving these objectives, the Agency has established, in co-operation with the Member States, a European environment and information observation network, with, as one of its elements, a network of European Topic Centres entrusted with specific tasks identified in the Multi Annual Work Programme and shall, *inter alia* cooperate with other relevant national, regional and global environment programmes and institutions.

Recognizing that the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, hereinafter called “the Council”, exists to: (a) promote and encourage research and investigations for the study of the sea particularly related to the living resources thereof; (b) draw up programmes required for this purpose and to organise, in agreement with its Contracting Parties, such research and investigations as may appear necessary; (c) publish or otherwise disseminate the results of this work; and (d) provide scientific information and advice to Member Country governments, and the regulatory commissions with which cooperative relationships have been established. In order to carry out these tasks appropriately and efficiently, the Council seeks, *inter alia*, to establish and maintain mutually agreed working arrangements with other international organizations which have related objectives.

The Agency and the Council, hereinafter called “the Parties”, have therefore, agreed to the following Understanding:

1. There shall be reciprocal consultations and regular contacts between the Parties on matters of common interest in the field of marine scientific research, environmental and resource management, fisheries and living marine resources, data exchange, and related activities, including environmental studies, particularly those involving studies in those seas where the geographical competencies of the Parties overlap.
2. There shall be regular exchange between the Parties of information, documents and publications relating to programme and project plans and to the results of activities agreed to be of mutual interest, joint or otherwise.
3. The Parties shall invite each other to be represented, in an observer capacity, at meetings of common interest, to the extent that this is possible within their respective working procedures.
4. The Parties shall, as appropriate, undertake joint activities, including when required, the establishment of joint subsidiary bodies or other suitable arrangements, to study and report on matters of common interest, including the support of those activities that concern them both.
5. The Parties shall consult regularly on ways in which cooperation between them can be further improved and extended. Specific joint programmes and activities may be defined through addenda to this framework agreement on a biennial basis.
6. The terms of this Understanding may be revised by the Parties if they both agree. If they fail to agree on new terms, the Understanding shall continue on the basis of the existing terms until new terms have been agreed. Either Party may withdraw from the Understanding at any time subject to giving one year’s written notice.
7. Recognizing and fully respecting their various mandates, policies and priorities, the signatories agree that this Understanding shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force unless either Party withdraws pursuant to Paragraph 6 above.

8. The present MOU does not entail any financial commitment for the parties. No agreement, arrangement or joint activity that may involve a transfer of money to the other party may be entered into as a consequence of this Memorandum of Understanding without a prior, written and separate agreement signed by both parties..

Signed:

Signed:

Mike Sissenwine
President
International Council for the
Exploration of the Sea

Jacqueline McGlade
Executive Director
European Environment
Agency

Date:

Date: