

8.1 Update on the Programme & Budget 2026-2027 (Draft 43 C/5)

Outcomes of 43rd UNESCO General Conference



United Nations
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
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联合国教育、
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43 C

General Conference
43rd session, Samarkand 2025

5. Recalls that by means of 216 EX/Decision 44 the Executive Board recommended that the General Conference at its 42nd session agree to an increase in the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's (IOC) share of the UNESCO regular budget of [1%], not to be decreased by transfers of funds to other parts of the budget and that a baseline be identified and agreed for IOC's share of UNESCO's regular budget under document 42 C/5 and future C/5 documents and that no reduction to this baseline be made in the future unless agreed by the General Conference; and *recommits* to 216 EX/Decision 44 in order to ensure that IOC receives no less than 3% of the available overall regular budget;

II

Recognizing that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) is established as a body with functional autonomy within UNESCO, with the IOC Assembly being the principal organ under the IOC Statutes adopted by the General Conference at its 30th session,

1. Takes note of IOC Resolution A-33/3.II on the Draft Programme and Budget for 2026–2027 and decides to include in document 43 C/5 Approved the relevant elements of the IOC Results Framework, as determined by the IOC Assembly and presented in Part II of document IOC/A-33/5.1.Doc(1);
2. Also takes note of IOC Resolution A-33/3.III on the assessment of governance and management processes;

[Item 3.4 of the revised agenda](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2026–2029 (43 C/5) AND FUTURE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET CYCLES

OUTLINE

Source: 222 EX/Decision 21, 43 C/6 Add.

Background: This item has been included in the revised agenda of the 43rd session of the General Conference following a request by Canada addressed to the President of the General Conference on 1 November 2025.

Purpose: The present document submits a draft resolution for the General Conference reflecting the relevant paragraphs from the 43 C/6 Add. concerning the Draft Programme and Budget for 2026–2029 (43 C/5) and future Programme and Budget cycles.

Decision required: paragraph 2.

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43 C

General Conference

43rd session, Samarkand 2025

43 C/64
10 November 2025
Original: English

3. *Invites the Director-General to contribute to the full implementation of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's (IOC) functions as established in its Statutes as well as the tasks assigned to the IOC Secretariat, including by the delegation of authority to the Executive Secretary of IOC, when applicable;*
4. *Invites the Executive Secretary of IOC to submit draft sections relating to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in Volumes 1 and 2 of future Draft Programme and Budget documents (Draft C/5 documents) to the IOC Assembly;*
5. *Invites the Director-General to forward the IOC Assembly's recommendations concerning the sections relating to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) in Volumes 1 and 2 of future Draft Programme and Budget documents (Draft C/5 documents) to the Executive Board for transmission to the General Conference as part of the C/6 document.*

[Item 3.4 of the revised agenda](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2026–2029 (43 C/5) AND FUTURE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET CYCLES

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Outcomes of 43rd UNESCO General Conference

PROPOSED RESULTS FRAMEWORK FOR UNESCO 43 C/5	
IOC Core Output 2.4:	Member States critically supported in strengthening their capacity to conduct marine scientific research, generate knowledge, and develop and implement science-based tools, services, and policies in order to reverse the decline in ocean health and accelerate the transition towards sustainable management of ocean-related risks and opportunities
<i>Performance Indicators</i>	
2.4.IOC 1	Number of Member States routinely collecting and managing FAIR EOV data on biodiversity and ecosystems through GOOS, ODIS and OBIS
2.4.IOC 2	Number of Member States engaged in ocean climate research networks, including ocean acidification, deoxygenation and blue carbon
2.4.IOC 3	Number of Member States' communities recognised as Tsunami Ready
2.4.IOC 4	Number of Member States supported in Sustainable Ocean Planning and Management (incl. Marine Spatial Planning)
2.4.IOC 5	Percentage of leadership roles in the UN Ocean Decade Actions held by women or Early Career Ocean Professionals



Update on 43 C/5 Budgeting process

Total UNESCO regular budget: \$ 610 M (ZNG)

IOC at 3% minimal baseline: ZNG1 (lowest) scenario
as presented to the Assembly - \$ 18.4M or – 13% vs
42 C/5

Total UNESCO Expenditure Plan: \$ 534.6 M

IOC at 3% : \$ 16.2M or -23% vs 42 C/5

\$ 31M of additional funding from UNESCO MCA/WCF
surplus

IOC request \$1.5M for Observations & data/tsunami
resilience – decision pending



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Joint meeting of Commissions

[Item 3.2 of the revised agenda](#)

43 C
General Conference
43rd session, Samarkand 2025

43 C/13
10 November 2025
Original: English

ADOPTION OF THE APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR 2026–2027

From 42 C/5 to 43 C/5 Rev. Expenditure Plan – key figures

42 C/5:

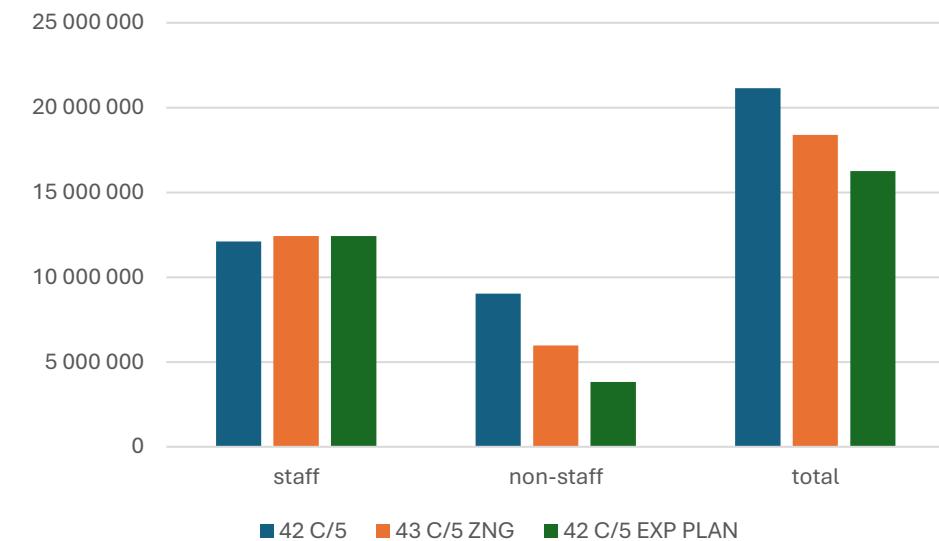
Staff	\$ 12 102 087 = 57%
Non-staff	\$ 9 032 599 = 43%
Total	\$ 21 134 686

43 C/5 Rev:

Staff	\$ 12 422 197 = 68%
Non-staff	\$ 5 967 201 = 32%
Total	\$ 18 389 398

43 C/5 Expenditure Plan:

Staff	\$ 12 422 197 = 76%
Non-staff	\$ 3 827 872 = 24%
Total	\$ 16 250 069



IOC Expenditure Plan Proposal

Assembly resolution: maintain 42C/5
Regular Budget Staff of **34.5 posts**

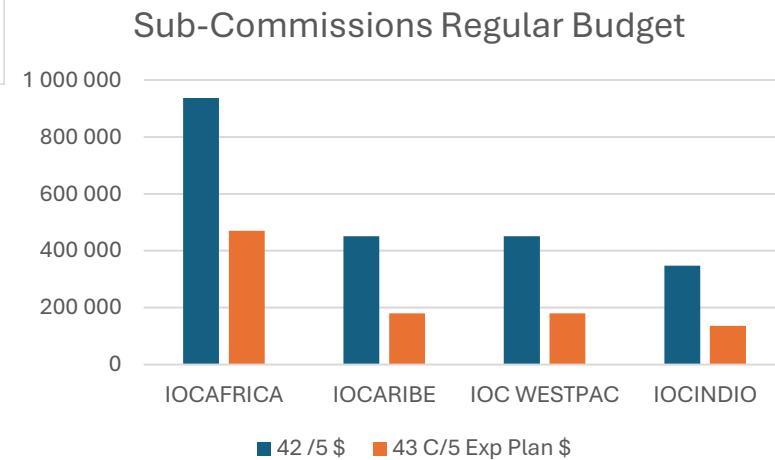
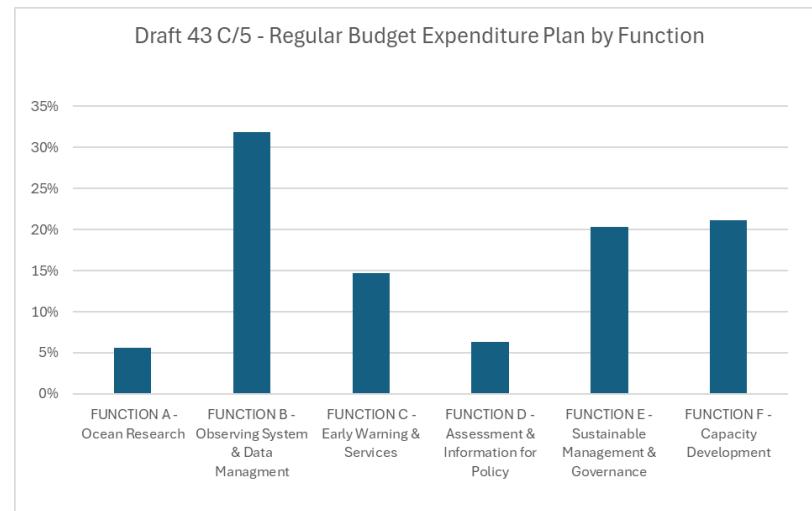
Staff cost – **12.4 M** / Non-Staff – **3.8 M**

Overall ratio **77/23**

Keep prioritization determined by
Assembly in 42 C/5

Reallocating IOC contribution to
Intersectoral output (Ocean Literacy)
to RSB core capacity development
budget

Keeping priority to IOCAFIRCA and
contribution to SIDS/EWS
intersectoral output



Regular Budget situation as of today

- UNESCO Regular budget & Expenditure Plan to be approved by the UNESCO Executive Board in April
- \$ 100 M advance approved by the General Conference will cover 4 months of salaries, fixed and incompressible costs (ex. Operating costs, Statutory meetings etc)
- \$ 152 K were allocated to IOC for Executive Council preparations and HQ & Sub-Commissions operating costs
- Out of the total of 34.5 regular budget posts, 8.5 are currently vacant (25% vacancy rate)
- Recruitment will be launched asap, appointments will only be possible after the budget is approved