



**INTER-ISLAMIC NETWORK ON OCEANOGRAPHY (INOC)
İSLAM ÜLKELERİ OŞİNOGRAFI AĞI
RÉSEAU INTERISLAMIQUE SUR L'OCÉANOGRAPHIE**

www.inoctr.org Haydar Aliyev Bul. No:32 35340 İnciraltı-İzmir / TURKEY

**INTER-ISLAMIC NETWORK ON OCEANOGRAPHY
12th GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT**

19 JANUARY 2024

İZMİR - TÜRKİYE

Participant Lists

| No | Name and Surname | Institute | Country | e-mail | Participation |
|----|--|--|--------------|--|---------------|
| 1 | Sermin ACIK CINAR, President | INOC | Türkiye | serminacik@yahoo.com | Face to face |
| 2 | Hina SAEED BAIG, Vice President | INOC | Pakistan | hina_baig@hotmail.com | Online |
| 3 | Hamet DIADHIOU, Vice President | INOC | Senegal | hamet_diadhiou@yahoo.fr | Online |
| 4 | Behrooz ABTAHİ, Vice President | INOC | Iran | abtahi.b@gmail.com | Face to face |
| 5 | Bulent CAVAS, Secretary | INOC | Türkiye | bulentcavas@gmail.com | Face to face |
| 6 | Mohammed Ali Mahesar, Consultant | COMSTECH | Pakistan | mamahesar@gmail.com | Online |
| 9 | Assad Ahmed AL- THUKAIR | King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals Dhahran, | Saudi Arabia | thukair@kfupm.edu.sa | Face to face |
| 10 | Dr Wisam Razzaq Muttashar | Marine Science Center - University of Basrah | Iraq | wisam.muttashar@uobasrah.edu.iq | Face to face |
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| 12 | Dr Omar ETTAHİRİ | National Fisheries Research Institute | Morocco | ettahiri@inrh.ma | Face to face |
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| 14 | Harun ÖZDAŞ | DEU - IMST | Türkiye | Harun.ozdas@deu.edu.tr | Face to face |
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General Assembly Programme

Arrival and registration of delegates attending 12th General Assembly meeting of INOC

Opening Session

09:30 Welcome address by President of the INOC

09:35 Address by Representative of COMSTECH

09:40 Opening remarks by the Executive Director INOC

SESSION I (09:45-10:45)

Item-1: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda.

Item-2: Confirmation of the decisions of Eleventh General Assembly meeting of INOC.

Item-3: Election of President.

Item-4: Election of Vice-Presidents.

Item-5: Appointment of INOC Executive Director by the President of the INOC.

Item-6: Audit report for ratification of the General Assembly.

Item-7: Report on the activities of INOC since its Eleventh General Assembly meeting and its endorsement by the General Assembly.

10:45-11:00 Coffee & Tea Break

SESSION II (11:00-13:00)

Item-8: Short reports, not exceeding 4 minutes, by Heads of the delegations of INOC member states highlighting measures to strengthen the relevant activities in their respective countries.

Item-9: Policy guidelines and fresh proposals from INOC Executive Committee.

Item-10: Draft Program and Budget for 2024-2026

Item-11: Mobilization of resources and suggestions by the member states of INOC for regular contributions to INOC to enable it to expand its programs and services to its member states.

Item-12: Any Other Business with permission of the Chair

End of the meeting

13:00-14:00: Lunch

14:00-17:00: Institute of Marine Sciences and Technology and Research Vessel Visit

19:30: Dinner



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General Assembly Participants



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Opening Session

1. Welcome Address by Prof.Dr.Şermin AÇIK ÇINAR, President of the INOC (09:30 AM - 09:35 AM):

The Opening Session of the Inter-Islamic Network on Oceanography (INOC) commenced on 19 January 2024 with a warm welcome from the President of INOC. The President's address set the tone for the event, expressing gratitude for the participants and emphasizing the importance of collaboration and knowledge.

President's Welcome Address:

Dear members of INOC and participants

We are very pleased to see you among us at the twelfth INOC General Assembly. It is very important for us that you attend this general assembly today and share your valuable opinions with us. Before briefly talking about the studies, we did after the eleventh General Assembly held in November 2020, I would like to introduce myself. I work as a professor in the field of Marine biology at Dokuz Eylül University, Institute of Marine Sciences and Technology. My main research topics are benthic invertebrate species, alien invertebrate species and their effects on prevailing ecosystem and the effects of pollution on benthic invertebrate species.

As you know, the Inter Islamic Network on Oceanography is one of the networks of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) that carries out studies on the promotion and cooperation of science and technology activities among the member countries of the Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH).

INOC's main objectives are to establish effective collaborations in marine research areas in Islamic countries, to ensure that collaborations are sustainable, to strengthen communication between COMSTECH and INOC member countries, to ensure the participation of stakeholders in processes, etc.

I have been working as INOC President since November 2020 which carries out important international studies in the field of marine sciences. For 3 years, we have worked hard to contribute to increasing the national and international visibility and awareness of this important international network. At this general assembly, the report containing all the studies we have done at INOC for 3 years will be presented to you. To tell you briefly, we contacted more than fifteen Islamic countries and organized fourteen international events. We also improved our communication network by presenting 5 full text papers at conferences and congresses. We have carried out valuable studies on Ocean Literacy. We sent one graduate student to the Ocean Literacy Winter School, where all expenses were supported by UNESCO IOC. In two thousand twenty two and two thousand twenty three, we carried out social contribution activities to increase the Sea and Sea Animals literacy levels of fifty students at our university. Additionally, we conducted Marine Literacy Training in two thousand twenty-three for free. With this training, we gave Certificates to approximately three hundred people.

I would like to thank to COMSTECH consultant Dr. Muhammed Ali Maheser, INOC Secretary Prof. Dr. Bülent ÇAVAŞ, INOC's executive committee and advisory members, and all the Islamic countries that supported INOC's successful studies for 3 years.

This meeting is a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of ideas. It is an opportunity for us to learn from one another, to build collaboration, and to identify areas where our institutions can work together to enhance the quality of marine science, create a more robust research ecosystem, and contribute to the sustainable development of the maritime industry.



Once again, I extend my warmest welcome to all of you.

2. Address by Representative of COMSTECH, Mohammed Ali MAHESAR (09:35 AM - 09:40 AM):

Following the welcome address, a representative from COMSTECH took the stage to deliver an insightful address. The representative acknowledged the collaborative efforts between INOC and COMSTECH, emphasizing the mutual commitment to promoting science and technology across member countries.

The address delved into the role of COMSTECH in advancing scientific research and technological development, aligning with the broader goals of fostering regional cooperation. The representative emphasized the importance of international partnerships in addressing global challenges and creating a conducive environment for scientific progress.

3. Opening Remarks by the Executive Director INOC, Prof.Dr.Bulent CAVAS (09:40 AM - 10:00 AM):

The final segment of the Opening Session featured the Executive Director of INOC, who provided opening remarks. The Executive Director outlined the key themes of the General Assembly, highlighting the diverse range of topics that would be covered during the event.

The Executive Director expressed gratitude for the INOC President who contributed to the success of the event. Furthermore, insights were shared regarding the General Assembly agenda and sessions scheduled for the day.

In closing, the Executive Director encouraged active participation, networking, and knowledge exchange throughout the conference. Attendees were reminded of the significance of their contributions to the collective pursuit of advancing knowledge and addressing global challenges.

The Opening Session successfully set the stage for the subsequent sessions, creating an atmosphere of enthusiasm and collaboration among the diverse group of participants gathered for the INOC. The event promises to be an engaging platform for the exchange of ideas, fostering meaningful connections, and pushing the boundaries of innovation and research.



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SESSION I (09:45-10:45)

Item-1: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda

Provisional Agenda has been accepted and adopted by the all participants

Item-2: Confirmation of the decisions of Eleventh General Assembly meeting of INOC

The report of Eleventh General Assembly meeting of INOC was presented to the participants. The report of Eleventh General Assembly meeting of INOC has accepted and adopted by the all participants.

Item-3: Election of President

Prof.Dr.Şermin AÇIK ÇINAR has been elected by the General Assembly

Item-4: Election of Vice-Presidents

Following people have been elected as Vice President by the General Assembly

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------|------------------------|
| Behrooz ABTAHI | Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran | Iran | abtahi.b@gmail.com |
| Samina KIDWAI | National Institute of Oceanography | Pakistan | niopk.gov.pk@gmail.com |
| Assad Ahmed AL-THUKAIR | King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals Dhahran, | Saudi Arabia | thukair@kfupm.edu.sa |

Item-5: Appointment of INOC Executive Director by the President of the INOC.

Executive Director will be appointed by INOC President and will be informed member states of INOC.

Item-6: Audit report for ratification of the General Assembly

The financial situation of INOC was presented. Following table is summarizes the financial situation of INOC

| Years | Income | Expenses |
|-------|---------------|---------------|
| 2021* | 42.889,77 TL | 98.862,47 TL |
| 2022 | - | 172.986,95 TL |
| 2023 | 693.597,50 TL | 213.340,15 TL |

* There was 29.943,73 USD in INOC bank account when INOC management started.



Item-7: Report on the activities of INOC since its Eleventh General Assembly meeting and its endorsement by the General Assembly.

All activities carried out by INOC between 2020-2023 were presented to the participants by Prof. Dr. Bülent Cavas. All details of the activities carried out in these 3 years are available in Appendix 1.

SESSION II (11:00-13:00)

Item-8: Short reports, not exceeding 4 minutes, by Heads of the delegations of INOC member states highlighting measures to strengthen the relevant activities in their respective countries.

It was suggested by participants that the new INOC Board of Directors Develop Strategies on the following issues.

-To carry out collaborative studies to further increase the collaboration between physical oceanographers, marine biologists, geologists, and environmental scientists, which have been established with intense effort for 3 years under the umbrella of INOC in order to comprehensively address oceanographic studies (such as climate change, biodiversity loss and marine pollution).

-Strengthening partnerships with technology companies, oceanographic research institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organizations

-Continuing and developing education programs for institutions that emphasize the importance of oceans.

-Funding from government agencies, private foundations and international organizations to support research initiatives planned to be carried out at INOC.

-Continuing to communicate research findings through publications and conferences.

-Regular review and updating of research strategy based on feedback, emerging priorities and developments in the field.

Item-9: Policy guidelines and fresh proposals from INOC Executive Committee.

Item-10: Draft Program and Budget for 2024-2026

Fresh proposals from INOC Executive Committee were presented. All details can be found in Appendix 2.



Item-11: Mobilization of resources and suggestions by the member states of INOC for regular contributions to INOC to enable it to expand its programs and services to its member states.

All participants, representing diverse backgrounds, institutions, and countries, expressed a shared commitment to strengthen the financial standing of INOC. The consensus among participants underscored the importance of financial sustainability in achieving the organization's objectives. Acknowledging the financial challenges faced by INOC, participants engaged in open discussions about the need for increased resources to sustain existing programs and fund new initiatives. Speakers highlighted the potential impact of improved funding on the quality and scope of oceanographic research and collaboration within the network. Recognizing the importance of engaging with governments, private sectors, and international organizations, participants pledged to actively advocate for increased support for INOC. Strategies for effective communication and collaboration with potential donors and sponsors were discussed.

Item-12: Any Other Business with permission of the Chair

There was no any other issue and General Assembly closed at 13:00 as planned.

13:00-14:00: Lunch





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14:00-17:00: Institute of Marine Sciences and Technology and Research Vessel Visit

Participants visited Institute of Marine Sciences and Technology and Research Vessel (K. Piri Reis) Visit:





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19:30: Dinner



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