

2007/3/ACE06

An ICES **Symposium on issues confronting the deep oceans** will be held in the Azores in April 2009. The prime focus will be on the North Atlantic (ICES + NAFO Areas) but relevant contributions from elsewhere will be included. Conveners will be Robert Brock (USA) and Gui Menezes (Portugal). A scientific committee will be established to include relevant scientific disciplines and regulatory authorities. In consultation with the conveners, the General Secretary will solicit appropriate co-sponsorship.

The proceedings will be published in the ICES *Journal of Marine Science* in 2010.

Supporting Information

PRIORITY:	High. Topics expected to include emerging issues of high priority such as (1) Deep-Sea Fisheries; (2) Habitat importance, impacts, and protection; (3) Enforcement challenges (4) Underwater Sound/Sonar; and (5) Acidification. The scope of the meeting may be extended by UNCLOS and RFMO issues such as developing high seas marine protected areas and IUU fishing.
SCIENTIFIC JUSTIFICATION AND RELATION TO ACTION PLAN:	With increasing pursuit of new food, energy, mineral, and medicinal resources, technological advancements have made exploration and exploitation of the deep ocean (depths >200m) more possible today than ever before. With human activities expanding into the deep ocean, issues such as understanding deep ocean ecosystems, resilience of deep ocean resources to human disturbance, developing science-based regulations to ensure protection and sustainability, and being able to enforce existing and future management regulations are becoming priorities. Whether it be assessing deep ocean fisheries, habitats, potential energy and mineral resources, or potential development of high sea marine protected areas, pulling all interested stakeholders together (e.g., industry, enforcement, scientists, decision makers) under one symposia is thought never to have ever adequately occurred. This proposed symposium clearly addresses ICES goals of understanding the physical, chemical, and biological functioning of marine ecosystems as well as quantifying human impacts on marine ecosystems, including living marine resources.
RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS:	There will be significant resource requirements, part of which will be met by the imposition of a Conference Registration Fee.
PARTICIPANTS:	A wide range of participants from ICES member countries, affiliates and other countries can be anticipated. We would like particularly to involve all relevant regulatory authorities
SECRETARIAT FACILITIES:	The Secretariat will be involved as normal in general professional and secretarial support, and the Secretariat should provide direct assistance during the Symposium.
FINANCIAL:	ICES is expected to cover travel and subsistence of keynote speakers, book of abstracts
LINKAGES TO ADVISORY COMMITTEES:	The proposal has linkages to ACFM, ACE and ACME.
LINKAGES TO OTHER COMMITTEES OR GROUPS:	There are linkages to LRC, RMC, MHC, OCC
LINKAGES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:	We hope that this symposium will be of particular interest to NEAFC, NAFO, International Seabed Authority, EU and fisheries managers from countries surrounding the North Atlantic. The topic of this symposium is also relevant to PICES. We hope that stakeholder organisations in the form of environmental and fishers NGOs, and the EU's distant water RAC would be interested.