



Report  
of

the Working Group on the Variability in  
the Physical Marine Environment, 1968

A circular letter was sent to the members of the Working Group (Messrs. Kvinge, Lee, Soskin, Steele, Svansson). The terms of reference

- (a) Exchange of information concerning cruise plans
- (b) Exchange of experiences concerning instrumentation
- (c) Encouragement of long time series of observations with anchored stations and weather ships
- (d) Preparation of proposals for possible experiments for discussion by the IOC Working Group on Variability on its next meetings

were repeated, and the members were asked to give their reports concerning the work done and the plans in preparation. There was reported as follows:

Germany (G. Dietrich), Kiel)

The analysis of data from the 1967 variability measurements in the Eastern North Atlantic was continued (see paper C:14, "The Influence of a Seamount on the Circulation of the Upper Layers in the Ocean Shown on the Example of Great Meteor-Seamount" (by J. Meincke)). A number of current meters, a thermistor-chain and a ship using a STD-device (Bathysonde) were anchored for a period of ten days in the northern North Sea to investigate the vertical and horizontal coherence of short-term variations. This survey was to serve as a preparation for an intensive study of variability in the Norwegian Sea in 1969.

Norway (T. Kvinge, Bergen)

Data of the Norway-UK Study of Variability in the Norwegian Sea in 1967 along latitude 66°N were analysed. A report was submitted to the Hydrography Committee (see paper C:28, "Report on Study of Variability in the Norwegian Sea April/May 1967" (by T. Kvinge, A.J. Lee and R. Sætre)). The report also contains a proposal for further work in this area.

Sweden (A. Svansson, Gothenburg)

As more and more of the Swedish light ships are being replaced by light towers it will soon be time to work up all the material from the light ships.

Future measurements on the variability are planned in the Baltic Year 1969/70 and during one month in the Gulf of Bothnia in 1970.

United Kingdom (A.J. Lee, Lowestoft; J.H. Steele, Aberdeen)

Work on the data of the Norway-UK Study of Variability was continued and further plans for work in this region was proposed (see report of Kvinge).

Experiences were made in the use of radio dhans for the tracking over longer times of parachute drogues. There is great interest in any suggestion of joint work in the North Sea in 1969.

An intensification of the activities in the field of the physical variability can be expected from the international Symposium on Physical Variability in the North Atlantic. It will be organized by ICES, with the support of IOC/UNESCO, SCOR, IAPSO, and ICNAF, for a period of three days, from 25th to 27th September, 1969, in conjunction with the ICES Statutory Meeting in Dublin.

The Scientific Organizing Committee which has been nominated by the organizations mentioned above, consists of:-

IOC/UNESCO	Dr. K.N. Fedorov, Paris
SCOR	Dr. K. Voigt, Warnemünde
IAPSO	Dr. N.P. Fofonoff, Woods Hole
ICNAF	Dr. A.P. Alekseev, Murmansk
ICES	Prof. G. Dietrich, Kiel

Further details will be available on the ICES Statutory Meeting 1968 in Copenhagen.

G. Dietrich  
Chairman