

Forum Consensus Item 18-01: In response to presentations from IODP platform providers, the Forum notes their positive reaction to IODP multiple platform coordination and collaboration, streamlined program panel review, and nurturing of drilling proposals submitted by the international community. The Forum applauds this funding agency enthusiasm, which should underpin nascent planning efforts by multiple member countries/consortia to support scientific ocean drilling over the long term (i.e., post-2024).

Forum Consensus Item 18-02: The Forum received updates on both mid-term (i.e., 2019-2023) IODP renewal and planning for the long-term (post-2024) continuation of scientific ocean drilling from all member countries/consortia. Mid-term renewal is well advanced; IODP looks healthy for the next 5 years. The Forum applauds that progress.

Forum Consensus Item 18-03: Multiple planning efforts underway to continue scientific ocean drilling beyond 2023 will eventually require coordination, both to reconsider the extant decadal Science Plan, and to evaluate the envisioned mix of drilling platform capabilities that will be necessary to respond to the expected continued flow of high-quality proposals. The Forum, or its successor, should play an important role in that process.

Forum Consensus Item 18-04: The Forum enthusiastically thanks the IODP-India Office, and all of the individuals supporting its fifth meeting at Goa, India. We are especially grateful to our Ministry of Earth Sciences and National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research colleagues: Brijesh Bansal, Dhananjai Pandey, Nisha Nair and Ajeet Kumar, who have been wonderful in their various roles as our local hosts. The IODP Forum looks forward to a continued prominent role for India in scientific ocean drilling.

Forum Consensus Item 18-05: The IODP Forum accepts the invitation from Japan to hold the next (2019) meetings of the Forum (#6) on 11-13 September and the Program Member Office (PMO) (#4) on 14 September, in Osaka. The U.S. has offered to host the Forum #7/PMO #5 meetings at a venue (to be determined) in September 2020. ECORD has offered to host these meetings at a venue within a consortium country (to be determined) in September 2021. The Forum greets all of these invitations with enthusiasm.

Forum Consensus Item 18-06: The IODP Forum thanks Dr. Jamie Austin for his outstanding leadership over the past three years. His vision, dedication, and determination have forged the Forum into a mature body that not only oversees the progress of IODP toward fulfilling its Science Plan, but more importantly provides a critical venue for the multiple parts of IODP to engage in a collaborative manner and prepare the overall program for future (post-2023) renewal.