

Report of the CIESM Round Table on

OPERATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHY: ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERSPECTIVES

The round table was very well attended by more than 55-60 participants, not only physicists or operational oceanographers but biologists, chemists, etc. as well.

Following the presentations by the panelists, an interesting and vivid discussion occurred with a large number of interventions and questions from the audience.

Main issues/questions raised were :

- During the Congress afternoon sessions a large number of new data were presented. These data as well as any other new data should be made available to data centers.
- Data used by models in data assimilation should be quality-controlled before being used by the models.
- Predictive skill of models should be a major concern and should be checked against data.
- Maybe the major concern expressed by a number of interventions (including moderator A. Lascaratos) was the sustainability of existing data collection systems and operational models. Contrary to basic research projects, operational oceanography should have a much longer time scale than the usual 2-3 years duration of EU and other projects. Operational oceanography projects should be secured by national funding as well.
- Operational oceanography satellites are not yet sustained and we need to ensure their sustainability.
- Operational oceanography should feed-back on research and still be supported by new understanding in the research.
- MedGloss: Increase the Real Time (RT) data release.

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Moderator