

International Leadership in Ocean Sciences

19 INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN OCEAN SCIENCES

20 DR. COLEMAN: The third area, and one that was

21 mandated under the Oceans Act, was the international

22 aspect of ocean sciences. Again, we had four

1 recommendations. Probably the reason for four is they
2 will all fit on one slide at one time. The U.S. needs
3 to increase its commitment to and participation in
4 global ocean science technology and education. In
5 particular, for the U.S. to take a lead role and
6 participate in these large, cooperative projects that
7 are of critical importance to global environmental
8 health and discovery.

9 There was a time when the U.S. was a leader in
10 this area and not only participated in international
11 expeditions, but in actually leading them. Over the
12 past 10 to 15 years, this has decreased and we strongly
13 recommend that the U.S. increase its commitment to these
14 types of endeavors.

15 The second recommendation is the U.S. should
16 call for and lead a new long-term oceans initiative
17 similar to that of the highly successful IDOE,
18 "International Decade of Ocean Exploration," Program.

19 However, that program, although raising a tremendous
20 amount of excitement when it was being accomplished,
21 suddenly ended and there was no follow up on it. We
22 would like to see a plan longer term that has an

1 enduring commitment from the various agencies and our
2 nation.

3 CHAIRMAN WATKINS: For those who may not know,
4 what does "IDOE" mean?

5 DR. COLEMAN: International Decade of Ocean
6 Exploration.

7 The third recommendation is that we need to
8 expand, the U.S. needs to expand, and maintain its
9 international capacity-building role in education,
10 research, exploration, infrastructure, and data
11 exchange. Again, this is an area where at one time the
12 U.S. was the leader. We no longer are a leader even in
13 data exchange, and so we felt very strongly we should
14 reexamine our role, the international capacity-building
15 role.

16 The last one is the Department of State needs
17 to improve communications while streamlining its
18 coordination of U.S. participation in marine research,

19 operations, and education within the international
20 arena. This is the one department that has that
21 capability, and yet from our deliberations we feel that
22 it really needs to improve its communications and

- 1 streamline this process.

**FOR THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE DISCUSSION ON THIS TOPIC,
GO TO:**

National Ocean Research Leadership Council

This workgroup presented all of its draft policy recommendations and then moved to the discussion phase, which included all of the following topics:

- Academic Research Funding in Ocean Sciences
- Exploration
- International Leadership in Ocean Sciences
- Technology Development
- Existing and Required Ocean Science Infrastructure
- National Ocean Research Leadership Council