

G E B C O
GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



**INVITATION TO ATTEND THE XXXVII GEBCO GUIDING COMMITTEE (GGC),
JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL UNDERSEA MAPPING (SCRUM),
TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE ON OCEAN MAPPING (TSCOM) AND SUB-COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS, OUTREACH AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (SCOPE) MEETINGS, AND
THE GEBCO SYMPOSIUM**

**IOC OF UNESCO, PARIS, FRANCE
11 – 20 January 2021**

24 July 2020

Dear Colleagues,

1. The GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC), Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM), Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM), and Sub-Committee on Communications, Outreach and Public Engagement (SCOPE) will meet in Paris, France from 11 to 20 January 2021. The GEBCO Symposium will also take place during this time. The meetings will be supported and hosted by Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO at the HQ of UNESCO.
2. Please let the Point of Contact (POC) designated by IOC, Isabel Chavez (i.chavez@unesco.org), and Shom, Thierry Schmitt (thierry.schmitt@shom.fr), know as soon as possible and not later than **9 October 2020**, if you plan to attend so that some idea of numbers can be ascertained for logistic purposes. All attending the meeting must complete the online registration via the Map The Gaps website (<https://www.mapthegaps.org>) **no later than 16 November 2020**, this will generate notifications for IOC contact and me. It is most unfair and very unhelpful to delay both your initial indication of participation and final registration until the last minute; it also threatens the viability of the events and certainly impacts on all aspects of the planning for our hosts.
3. Details of the hotel options are available in the Logistics Information document available on the IHO-GEBCO web page and at Annex A. All meetings and the symposium are taking place in the HQ UNESCO. Members attending must make their reservations directly with the hotel.
4. Programme

The programme planned is for eight days (11-15 January 2021 for the Sub-Committees and Symposium, and 18-20 January 2021 for the GGC), and is listed below; the Joint TSCOM-SCRUM-SCOPE meetings are open to all who are interested in ocean mapping. If you plan on attending, please inform the Chairs of your interest (TSCOM – Dr. Thierry Schmitt, email: thierry.schmitt@shom.fr, SCRUM - Dr. Vicki Ferrini, email: ferrini@ldeo.columbia.edu and SCOPE - Prof Hyo Sung, email: hhsung@ewha.ac.kr). Please signify your intention to attend to any of these meetings when you register via [Map The Gaps](https://www.mapthegaps.org) website. The GEBCO Guiding Committee is open to all appointed members, ex-officio members, official observers and nominated representatives of IHO and IOC Member States as observers. Expert contributors may attend as observers at the invitation of the committee, through the Secretary, with the approval of the Chair.

In view of the current global pandemic and the associated uncertainties, the final arrangements and confirmation of alternative access formats will be provided nearer the event. It is planned to include some form of remote access element to the symposium to increase the participation beyond those who can/would normally travel with the hope that more early career participants will be able to gain an insight into GEBCO and its activities. For the Sub-Committees and the GGC, a decision on format will be advised when the situation is clearer and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs have been able to judge the most appropriate way to facilitate the meetings and progress the work.

The GEBCO Symposium will be open to all, supporting a maximum of 200 seated guests. A call for presentations and posters will be issued shortly.

The program details are as follows:

| Date | Meetings/ Activities |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 11 January 2021 (Monday) | Joint meetings of the Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM), the Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM) and Sub-Committee on Communications, Outreach and Public Engagement (SCOPE) |
| 12 January 2021 (Tuesday) | Joint meetings TSCOM, SCRUM and SCOPE |
| 13 January 2021 (Wednesday) | GEBCO Symposium 2021 |
| 14 January 2021 (Thursday) | GEBCO Symposium and Seabed 2030 Workshops |
| 15 January 2021 (Friday) | Joint meetings TSCOM, SCRUM and SCOPE |
| 18 January 2021 (Monday) | 1 st Day 37 th Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) |
| 19 January 2021 (Tuesday) | 2 nd Day 37 th Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) |
| 20 January 2021 (Wednesday) | 3 rd Day 37 th Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) |

5. As I anticipate a full GGC agenda with discussions requiring at least until midday on Wednesday 20 January, I encourage those attending the GGC meeting to make their travel arrangements to depart on Thursday 21 January 2021 or later.
6. Finally, anyone requiring a letter of invitation from France for the purposes of obtaining a Visa is requested to inform the POC at the earliest opportunity.

On behalf of the Chairs
Yours sincerely,



David Wyatt
GEBCO Secretary

Annex:

- A. Logistics information