

05-05 2014 001243

Cc.: -----

Dr. Kostas Nittis
Secretary General
EuroGOOS AISBL
Avenue Louise 231
1050 Brussels, Belgium

Sua referência/Your reference

Sua comunicação de/Your letter of

28-04-2014

Nossa referência/Our reference

Assunto/Subject: Request for Membership in EUROGOOS

Dear Dr. Nittis,

The *Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera* (IPMA) is a Public Research Institution devoted to **Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences and Technology**, established in 2012, with the merge of the Institute of Meteorology (IM), the Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research (IPIMAR) and the Marine Geology Unit of the National Laboratory for Energy and Geology. IPMA's mission is the provision of technical and scientific support for the definition of national policy, operating and maintaining scientific infrastructures, marine platforms and research vessels, data acquisition and processing, maintenance of national scientific databases on its areas of competence, and promotion and coordination of scientific research and technological development in its areas of expertise.

Following a transition period for the administrative consolidation of the new institute, we are now taking actions to increase our activities in the field of operational oceanography, specially focused on the southern and western Iberian coast. We are in the process of implementing one coastal buoys focused on the monitoring of the marine environment and supporting offshore aquaculture activities in the south of Portugal mainland.

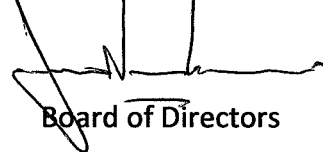
Since 2005 we run a monitoring station in the Cascais Bay under ICES Working Group on Zooplankton Ecology (WGZE) Atlantic Ocean monitoring network. The main objective of this station is to obtain time series of physical and biogeochemical parameters to support studies on marine ecosystems and global change. Monthly measurements are carried out and include CTD cast to measure temperature, salinity and chlorophyll-a, water samples for nutrient and phytoplankton analyses, and plankton hauls for zooplankton and ichthyoplankton sampling. In a near future, we plan to extend this type of stations to the Marine Protected Areas of Berlengas and Arrábida (central coast), as well as to the offshore aquaculture areas of Aveiro (northern coast), for a better coverage of the Portuguese mainland shelf.

IPMA monitors and predicts key oceanic parameters in the NE Atlantic. We perform multiscale modeling (at 16 km, 10 km and 2.5 km) to provide surface wind speed and a broad set of parameters related to ocean waves, covering Mainland Portugal, Azores and Madeira EEZ's. We provide information to the maritime community as defined in WMO METAREAS in our vicinity, within the scope of the corresponding Global Maritime Distress Safety System. We analyze remote sensing information related to Sea Surface Temperature and Ocean Colour, surface wind speed and wave height. Most of the information collected is disseminated through our webpage.

Considering the range of activities of IPMA and the scope of EuroGOOS, we feel that this is the right time to candidate IPMA for a membership. We hope you consider us a suitable candidate, and one which might bring added value to your organization

Best regards,

Nuno Vilhena Lourenço



Board of Directors