



*31<sup>st</sup> Conférence*  
New England Governors and  
Eastern Canadian Premiers

*31<sup>e</sup> Conférence*  
Gouverneurs de la Nouvelle-Angleterre  
et premiers ministres de l'Est du Canada



## Resolution 31-5

### *OCEANS RESOLUTION*

---

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast Region, as represented by the six New England states and the five Eastern Canadian provinces, is a region whose culture, history, and economy has been and will continue to be closely aligned and impacted by its coastal and marine interests; and

**WHEREAS**, the NEG/ECP Oceans Working Committee, consisting of the Northeast Regional Oceans Committee (NROC) and the Eastern Canadian provinces, have been working to foster international cooperation and collaboration on all aspects of marine and oceans-related research and development, education, exploration, observation, and oceans management; and

**WHEREAS**, the NROC and the Canadian representatives of the NEG/ECP Oceans Working Committee continue to meet with their respective states and provinces to refine prioritization of regional issues for the councils to address; and

**WHEREAS**, the Eastern Canadian provinces and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) are in the process of establishing cooperative and collaborative mechanisms, such as the Regional Committee on Oceans Management; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 2007, NROC will issue a report on its initial activities and its priorities for regional coastal and ocean governance in the northeastern United States.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Oceans Working Committee focus its efforts on completing a long-term strategy to advance regional governance issues including:

- marine and oceans-related research and development, education, exploration, observation, oceans management and security;
- invasive species, disease identification and control, and environmental factors; partnerships and synergies to facilitate existing initiatives such as the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment and encourage new initiatives and partnership; monitoring and management actions to assess effectiveness of addressing regional ocean priorities; and data sharing, technology development and coordinated funding strategies; and

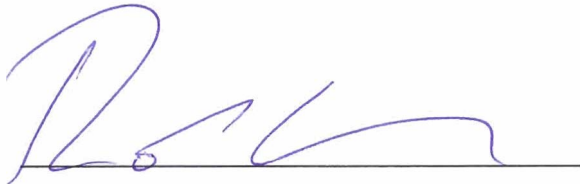
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the members of the Oceans Working Committee work cooperatively with agencies, organizations and institutions with related mandates to:

foster international cooperation and collaboration on all aspects of marine and oceans-related research and development, education, exploration, observation, and oceans management, and facilitate the exchange of information, including reports, discussions, initiatives and plans which may be developed or considered; and

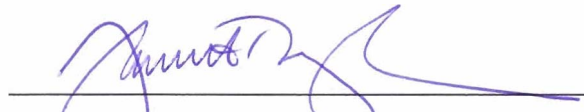
- over the longer term, explore the opportunity for collaborative work on renewable energy development in the marine environment with the Northeast International Committee on Energy.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Oceans Working Committee report back to the next Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers on the status of these initiatives.

*Adopted at the 31<sup>st</sup> Conference of New England Governors  
and Eastern Canadian Premiers, June 26, 2007.*



**Premier Robert Ghiz**  
**Prince Edward Island**  
**Co-chair**



**Governor James Douglas**  
**Vermont**  
**Co-chair**