

Proposal of Two Training Programmes by COMRA in 2015

Overview of on-land training programmes in 2015

In accordance with the Annex 3 of the 'CONTRACT FOR EXPLORATION FOR POLYMETALLIC SULPHIDES' between the International Seabed Authority (ISA) and China Ocean Mineral Resources R & D Association (COMRA), COMRA is scheduling to provide on-land training opportunities for four trainees in 2015. Two trainees from developing states will receive training in a fellowship programme, and another two trainees from developing states will be trained in an engineering training programme.

Objectives of the training programmes

- The objectives of the fellowship training programme are for the capacity building of trainees from developing States through theoretical graduate courses, practical laboratory data analysis, which may help the trainees improve their future scientific research level, especially in study of ocean polymetallic sulphides.
- The objectives of the engineering training programme are for the capacity building of trainees from developing States through graduate engineering courses, training of investigation skills as well as data analysis and interpretation, which may attribute to the applications of engineering and techniques in their future career.

Training institutions for the programmes

The fellowship training programme and engineering training programme will be undertaken in cooperation with both Second Institute of Oceanography in Hangzhou, China and Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China.

Second Institute of Oceanography has experiences in providing training courses in the field of marine science and technology, especially in mid-ocean ridge study.

Zhejiang University provides graduates and undergraduates with tens of courses involving marine science and engineering every year.

Contents of the training programmes

Both the two training programmes will have two parts: theoretical training in classroom and practical training in laboratory. The fellowship training programme will emphasize on theoretical training in classroom whereas the engineering training programme will be

focused on practical training in laboratory.

- Theoretical training in classroom will mainly be provided by Zhejiang University. In accordance with the specialized field of the individual trainees, Zhejiang University will provide courses involving marine geology, mineralization, marine ecology, marine environment as well as marine instrumentation.
- Practical training in laboratory will mainly be provided by Second Institute of Oceanography. The training will consist of marine geology (analysis of rock samples and sedimentary samples), marine geophysics (analysis and process of geophysical data), marine biology (process of biological samples) as well as marine geochemistry (analysis and process of geochemical samples).

Schedule of the training programmes

The fellowship training programme is planned between March and July in 2015 for duration of 5 months; the engineering training programme will be performed between March and April in 2015 for duration of 6 weeks.

General qualifications of candidates

Candidates for the fellowship programme should hold Bachelor's degrees in geology/geophysics/biology/environment, or equivalent education acceptable to the respective university;

Candidates for the engineering training programme should hold either Bachelor's degree/Master's degree in marine engineering, mining engineering, mechanical engineering, or electrical engineering. They should engage in marine research, development or management in the future.

Besides, candidates for both the fellowship programme and the engineering training programme should meet the following requirements:

- Less than 45 years of age;
- Good written and spoken English; and
- Possess certain scientific research ability or marine management ability (the criterion of scientific research ability or marine management ability will be determined by COMRA in consultation with the Authority).

Cost-bearing

COMRA will pay for a round-trip airline tickets (economy class) for the trainees. Local ground transportation, accommodations, travel insurance and allowance will be also provided by COMRA.

Other requirements

As required, the trainees should:

- Submit reports on the outcome of their training to COMRA and to the Authority;
- Candidates for engineering training programme shall sign a confidentiality agreement with COMRA.