



≡ † **The São Paulo Declaration** † ≡

The Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans (POGO) was formed in 1999, and represents major oceanographic institutions, departments, organisations and their consortia around the world, committed to the development of an integrated global ocean observing network to support both research and operational needs.

This development and commitment recognizes that:

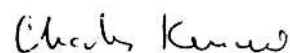
- * understanding of the role of the oceans as a whole is of vital importance in areas such as climate change, food security, biodiversity, and others;
- * governments and scientific organisations have committed to major international programmes requiring comprehensive information on the global oceans;
- * about 60% of the global oceans are in the Southern Hemisphere, and that these ocean areas are much less well observed and monitored than oceans in the Northern Hemisphere; and
- * opportunities to observe the Southern Hemisphere are limited by its difficulty of access, and by the concentration of financial, scientific, and technological resources in the Northern Hemisphere.

Therefore,

the Participants of POGO call upon the world leaders of government, industry, science, and education to use their influence and resources, within their own countries and through relations with others, to devote necessary attention and appropriate resources to extending ocean observing systems in the Southern Hemisphere, as a minimum requirement towards implementing an integrated strategy for observing the global oceans.

We the participants at the Second Meeting of the Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans, unani-
mously and unequivocally adopt the São Paulo Declaration.

Signed on behalf of all participants by :



Dr. Charles Kennel
Chairman, POGO

Dated 18 April 2001