

# **A Proposal to Semi-Permanently Renew the Contract for the PICES Remote Server**

Co-sponsored by TCODE and MONITOR

## **Background:**

Since 2007, TCODE requests the annual renewal of a contract with AdHost to rent a remote server for one year. On a test basis, the server was part of the PICES web resource. The rented server has proven to be a valuable asset and is currently being used: 1) to serve the PICES Metadata Federation through a GeoNetwork portal, 2) as a platform from which to coordinate the preparation of the next Ecosystem Status Report, and 3) as a resource for the efficient distribution of the PICES digital library. We expect that in the future the server will host data products arising from the FUTURE program. The annual cost to rent the server is \$2340.

## **Recommendation:**

We propose that PICES consider the cost of the server as a part of the scientific infrastructure of a maturing and quickly expanding PICES scientific program. We recommend that the renewal be extended annually for a period of two years, after which time it will be re-evaluated in 2011. Committing to a longer annual contract as opposed to paying month-to-month will save 12%. The cost will change from \$2340/year (\$195/month) to \$2050/year (\$171/month). This strategy will preclude the need to formally request an annual renewal. TCODE (i.e. Megrey and Shevchenko) will continue to assume the responsibility to managing the server on behalf of PICES.