

**PRO-3.4                      Access to software, hardware and training courses**

**Submitted by:              Islamic Republic of Iran**

**References:                IHO Convention, IHO Strategic Plan,  
6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting – Summary Report**

**PROPOSAL**

**The Assembly is invited:**

**to consider a suggestion that in order to enhance global safety of navigation, Member States should have access to specialized related software and hardware, together with practical and professional training courses, aiming to improve hydrographic operations, as well as nautical charts.**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Persian Gulf is one of the most strategic waterways in the world, due to its importance in world oil transportation, and therefore its blockage, even temporarily, would lead to substantial disruption in energy markets. The waters in the Persian Gulf are relatively shallow, and deep-draught vessels may have to navigate for a considerable distance with little water beneath their keels. Moreover, in order to provide better quality services for safety of navigation and human life at sea, as well as the protection of the environment in this region, it is crucial that SOLAS contracting states undertake hydrographic surveys as required. Thus, they can arrange for the compilation and publication of hydrographic data, the dissemination and keeping up-to-date of all nautical information necessary to enhance safety of navigation.

To fulfil the goals of IHO Convention, Strategic Plan and C6 Summary Report, it is essential for all Member States to implement S-100 standards series from the designated date (01 January 2026), which will be impossible without making optimum use of specialized related software, hardware and training courses.