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08 January 2021

## THEME FOR WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY 2021 AND MEDIA OUTREACH

Reference: IHO CL 37/2020 dated 27 November - *World Hydrography Day – Report on Member States activities in 2020 and the proposed theme for 2021*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As announced in the Reference, the theme proposed for the celebration of World Hydrography Day in 2021 (WHD 2021) was *"One hundred years of international cooperation in hydrography"*. The IHO Secretariat thanks Portugal and Ecuador for their supportive comments. In the absence of further Member States' comments it was decided that the theme would remain as initially proposed:

### ***"One hundred years of international cooperation in hydrography"***

2. The theme is designed to showcase progress in knowledge and technology over the past 100 years, while celebrating the ground-breaking work which was done during this period. The goal is to highlight the past, present, and future of hydrography by showing the important work of early hydrographers, progress in technology, and state of the art in technology. The Secretariat would like to invite Member States to share historical pictures of their work as well as pictures/videos of modern technologies such as autonomous vehicles and drones. Member States are invited to send such material to the IHO Secretariat - attention to the Public Relations and Communication Officer (email: [prco@iho.int](mailto:prco@iho.int)) by **15 March 2021**.

3. The IHO Secretariat would like to create new videos highlighting these different aspects. Member States which are interested and able to assist with the technical production of videos are invited to contact the Secretariat.

4. In support of WHD 2021, the IHO Secretariat will feed the IHO Facebook page, Twitter account, LinkedIn account and YouTube channel. In addition, the IHO Secretariat will organize a dedicated page on the IHO website, where papers and other material relevant to the celebration will be posted. Member States and Stakeholders are invited to forward to the Secretariat any material that they may create in support of their national WHD 2021 celebrations for posting on any of these platforms.

5. Focus of the IHO Secretariat's media outreach activities for 2021 will be the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the International Hydrographic Bureau – later the International Hydrographic Organization – on 21 June 1921 in Monaco. 2021 is effectively regarded as the third of the triennium of the centenary celebrations of international cooperation in hydrography 2019 - 2021.

6. As always, the Secretariat welcomes any comments and suggestions to improve the organization and support of this important annual event or future activities with relation to the triennium of celebrations. The Secretariat takes this opportunity to thank all of those Member States who have already contributed through ideas, advice and materials to this important process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mathias Jonas", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General.