

**IHO File No S1/1900/A**

**CIRCULAR LETTER 21/2021  
08 June 2021**

**PEAK-OF-THE-PEAK EVENT FOR THE CELEBRATIONS OF THE IHO CENTENARY**

References:

- A. IHO CL 16/2021 dated 20 April – *Celebrations of the IHO World Hydrography Day 21 June 2021*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As announced in Reference A, the “Peak-of-the-peak” event for the celebrations of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the International Hydrographic Bureau on 21 June 1921 – later to become the International Hydrographic Organization - will be held as a hybrid event consisting of a reception at the IHO Secretariat with a select number of representatives of local authorities and stakeholders, demonstrations in Monaco harbour and a webinar on the future of hydrography and the implications for the work of the IHO.
2. The reception at the IHO Secretariat is scheduled for 10:00 to 11:30 CEST on Monday 21 June 2021 and will be broadcast live via the IHO YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpMKDQTKKIJSXmQCQzFqZPA/featured>.
3. In addition to a speech by the Secretary-General Dr Mathias Jonas, the following participants have confirmed that they will address the local audience and remote spectators:
  - HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco
  - Laurent Kerléguer, Director General of the French Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service (Shom).
  - HEM Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean.
4. The morning gathering will include the presentation of the flag of the Lebanese Republic to symbolize Lebanon’s accession as the 94<sup>th</sup> IHO Member State.
5. The webinar will start at 14:00 CEST and will include a panel discussion focused on the future of hydrography and implications for the work of the IHO and is planned to last 90 minutes.
6. The highly respected panellists represent a wide range of IHO stakeholders, namely:
  - Dr Geneviève Béchard (Canada) – National Hydrographer of Canada and Chair of the IHO Council
  - Bjørn Jalving (Norway) - Senior Vice President Technology at Kongsberg
  - Emma Wise (United Kingdom) – Sales Director at SevenCs/ChartWorld International
  - Dr Peter Heffernan (Ireland), Ocean Ambassador, Former CEO Marine Institute Ireland

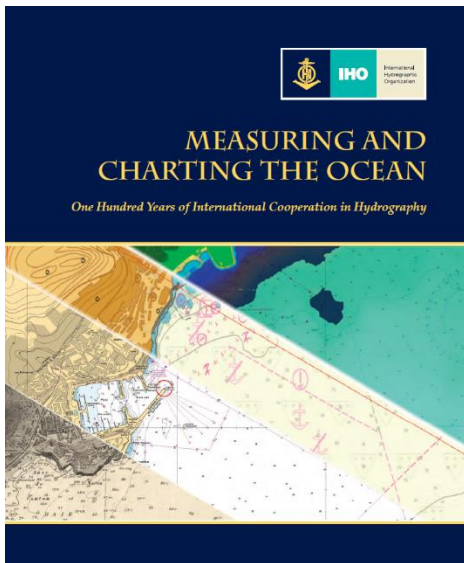
7. To register to watch the webinar and participate via the chat function, please visit: [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0od-6vqz0sEtajq1iyMhErfge3b2plpjy](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJ0od-6vqz0sEtajq1iyMhErfge3b2plpjy)

8. The webinar will include an overview of the past 100 years of international collaboration in hydrography as well as of the future of hydrography, with implications for a data centric approach. There will also be interventions from partner organizations including:

- Dr Valdimir Ryabinin, IOC UNESCO Executive-Secretary
- HEM Kitack Lim, IMO Secretary-General
- Prof. Petteri Taalas, WMO Secretary General
- HEM Michael Lodge, ISA Secretary-General
- Frances Baskerville, Secretary-General CIRM
- Francis Zachariae, Secretary-General IALA

9. All information on the centenary celebrations as well as how to access the digital components can be found at <https://iho.int/en/iho-100-years>

10. The Secretariat thanks Member States and partner organizations which helped to coordinate all these activities under challenging pandemic conditions. It is hoped that the copy of the IHO Prestige Book “Measuring and charting the Ocean - One Hundred years of International Collaboration in Hydrography” and the Monaco stamp highlighting the creation of the IHO in Monaco one hundred years ago which were dispatched to all Member States has arrived in the interim.



11. The IHO Secretariat regrets that the celebrations of this important milestone in the existence of the Organization have had to be downsized and are lacking wider representation of Member States and collaborating partners in person, but hopes that later on in 2021 or 2022 the situation will have improved and that another IHO event will provide better conditions for a gathering in person with Member State representatives from diverse regions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mathias Jonas".

Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General