



IHO File No. S1/0506

CIRCULAR LETTER 30/2023

14 September 2023

HYDROGRAPHIC POLICY OFFICER SECONDMENT OPPORTUNITY

IHO SECRETARIAT, MONACO

Reference:

- A. IHO Resolution 3/1987 as amended – Secondment of personnel from Member States to the IHO Secretariat

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Under the terms of IHO Resolution 3/1987 (Reference A), the Organization has benefitted from the generous placement of several officers from IHO Member States to assist in progressing the work of the IHO.
2. In light of the growing demand for hydrographic expertise within the broader ocean science and policy arena, a secondment opportunity for a Hydrographic Policy Officer has been identified at the IHO Secretariat.
3. Goals 2 and 3 of the IHO Strategy require us to *increase the use of hydrographic data for the benefit of society* and to *participate actively in international initiatives related to the knowledge and the sustainable use of the Ocean*. As endeavors such as the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (the UN Ocean Decade) mature to the point of delivery, the requirement for the IHO to be aware of, be represented at and to actively engage in a variety of international fora is increasing
4. At the same time, the General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean (GEBCO) programme, through its collaborative project the Nippon Foundation GEBCO Seabed 2030, is being reinvigorated and growing in scope and relevance. Its mission to produce the definitive map of our oceans is underpinning critical activities such as Challenge 8 of the UN Ocean Decade – Create a digital representation of the ocean.
5. In order to achieve IHO Strategic Goals 2 and 3, and in doing so, ensure that the IHO community is appropriately represented within the international oceans policy arena, dedicated support to the existing secretariat staff is required.
6. As per the above, you are kindly requested to consider proposing a suitable candidate(s) for this exciting opportunity. Candidates should be proposed by Member States, but do not necessarily have to be employees of the responsible national hydrographic entity. The successful candidate will be employed as an Associate Professional Officer (APO) under the job description shown in Annex A and the general terms and conditions set out in Reference A, which should be read carefully as it sets

out the obligations of the sponsoring Member State with regards to the funding and financial support of the seconded officer.

7. Applications should be made in accordance with the Job Description provided at Annex A, noting the deadline of **Friday 24 November 2023**. It is anticipated that interviews will take place in December 2023 – January 2024, with commencement of the secondment beginning in February/March 2024 for a minimum period of 1 year, with the possibility for extension.

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

Annex A: Job Description

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: Hydrographic Policy Officer - Secondment

The Opportunity

Applicants are invited for a 1 year secondment (with the possibility for extension) based at the IHO Secretariat in Monaco. The secondment will support the growing area of international oceans policy as relates to seabed mapping, allowing the secondee to gain a broad understanding of how relevant developments in oceans affairs (for example the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development) impact the work of the IHO. Specific IHO work plan items that the secondee would support include the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) Programme, the Advisory Board on Law of the Sea, liaison with other international bodies (such as UNESCO-IOC, IMO, OECD and WMO) and IHO participation in high level events such as the UN Ocean Conference.

The secondee will get a valuable insight into working in an Inter-Governmental Organisation and in addition to providing support across the portfolio, will have the opportunity to lead a dedicated piece of project delivery that will be tailored to the specific skills and interests of the successful candidate. There will be the opportunity to attend international meetings and develop network opportunities through interactions with world leading experts in hydrography and ocean science. The successful candidate will also support the day to day administration of IHO working groups

The Person

The position would be suited to an early to mid-career hydrographic professional looking to develop the skills and experience required to take on a role that requires strategic planning, portfolio delivery and the ability to work across the science policy interface. The successful candidate will be a fluent English speaker, naturally curious, self-motivated and have a desire to work outside of their comfort zone. They will be either a policy professional with a background in hydrography, oceanography or a related marine science, or a hydrographic surveyor who wishes to broaden their skills in order to influence international oceans policy.

Skills and Experience

Essential:

- Formal education in Hydrography, Oceanography or related scientific marine discipline;
- Fluent English speaker;
- Experience of delivering/supporting a range of projects and/or programmes;
- Strong communication skills including report writing and being comfortable giving presentations;
- Strong IT skills;

Desirable:

- Experience of working in an international environment;
- Experience with evidence gathering to inform strategy and policy decisions/creation;
- Hydrographic or other operational ocean science field experience;
- Appreciation of basic economic principles;

- Project management experience;
- Understanding/operational knowledge of AI systems.

Timing

Whilst the start date of the secondment is flexible, the aim would be to have the successful candidate start the position as early in 2024 as possible, for a minimum period of 1 year (Exact length subject to negotiation with the successful candidate). A period of remote working prior to arrival at the Secretariat would also be possible.

Application

Interested applicants should submit a CV, together with a 500 word personal statement detailing their interest, suitability and what they would hope to gain from the secondment. In making an application, the candidate is committing to the duration of the secondment and is individually responsible for ensuring that they have made appropriate arrangements including the support of their Member State.

Applications should be sent to:

Email: info@iho.int – cc'd to adso@iho.int

Deadline

24 Nov 2023

Interview

Interviews are scheduled to be held between Dec 2023 and Jan 2024.

Further information

For further information or to arrange a time discuss the secondment further, please contact:

Mr Sam Harper – Assistant Director Survey and Operations

Email: samuel.harper@iho.int