



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
 BETWEEN
 THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO)
 AND
 THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

1. Parties

The Memorandum of Understanding constitutes the formal framework for co-operation between the International Hydrographic Organization (hereinafter referred to as the IHO) represented by the President of the IHO and the Association of Caribbean States (hereinafter referred to as the ACS) represented by the Secretary General. The Memorandum is signed in Havana, Cuba, on 14th October 2014.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO)

AND

THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

RECOGNIZING that the IHO is an inter-governmental organization of a comprehensive and technical nature comprising over 100 Member States represented in 170 hydrographic offices (HGO) and that the IHO's objectives include the coordination of national hydrographic activities, the promotion of technical co-operation and the adoption of uniform methods and effective methods to conduct hydrographic surveys, all aimed at contributing to a better knowledge and the protection of the marine environment; that the IHO is supported by the work of several Regional Hydrographic Commissions to provide focus on regional issues as well as several Commissions and Working Groups to deal with particular issues; and that the IHO is the

RECOGNIZING that the ACS is an inter-governmental organization of States, Countries and Territories of the Greater Caribbean established in 1994. The main objective of the ACS is to promote consultation, cooperation and concerted action with the shared identity and promoting the implementation of policies and programmes designed to: (a) harness, utilize and develop the collective capabilities of the Greater Caribbean Region to achieve sustained cultural, economic, social, scientific and technological advancement; (b) develop the potential of the Caribbean Sea through interaction among Member States and with third parties; (c) promote an enhanced economic zone; (d) trade and investment with opportunities for cooperation and concerted action in order to increase the benefits that accrue to the peoples of the Caribbean from their resources and assets, including the Caribbean Sea; (e) establish, consolidate and augment an economic, institutional, scientific and cooperative arrangements responsive to the various cultural identities, developmental needs and economic systems within the region.

CONSIDERING that the ACS has Member (22) Associated Member and Observer. The Government of the ACS are the Ministerial Council and the Secretariat.



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANISATION (IHO)
AND
THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)**

1. Parties

This Memorandum of Understanding constitutes the formal frame-work for co-operation between the International Hydrographic Organization (hereinafter referred to as IHO) represented by the President of the Directing Committee, Vice-Admiral Alexandros Maratos and the Association of Caribbean States (hereinafter referred to as ACS) represented by its Secretary General, Ambassador Luis Fernando Andrade Falla.

2. Background

WHEREAS The IHO and ACS each recognises that the other is an international organisation with responsibilities for activities serving related professional constituencies.

RECOGNISING IHO is an intergovernmental organization of a consultative and technical nature comprising over 80 Member States represented by their respective national hydrographic offices. IHO objectives include the coordination of national hydrographic offices' activities, standardization of nautical charts and publications and the adoption of reliable and efficient methods to conduct hydrographic surveys, all aiming to contribute to safety of navigation and the protection of the marine environment. In its endeavor, IHO is supported by the work of several Regional Hydrographic Commissions to provide focus on regional issues as well as several Committees and Working Groups to deal with particular technical and policy topics. The International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) is the secretariat of the IHO.

RECOGNISING The ACS is an inter-governmental organization of States, Countries and Territories of the Greater Caribbean, established in 1994. The main objective of the ACS is to promote consultation, cooperation and concerted action, with the aim of identifying and promoting the implementation of policies and programmes designed to: (a) harness, utilize and develop the collective capabilities of the Greater Caribbean Region to achieve sustained cultural, economic, social, scientific and technological advancement; (b) develop the potential of the Caribbean Sea through interaction among Member States and with third parties; (c) promote an enhanced economic space for trade and investment with opportunities for cooperation and concerted action, in order to increase the benefits which accrue to the peoples of the Caribbean from their resources and assets, including the Caribbean Sea; (d) establish, consolidate and augment, as appropriate, institutional structures and cooperative arrangements responsive to the various cultural identities, developmental needs and normative systems within the region.

CONSIDERING The ACS has Members (25); Associated Members and Observers. The Permanent Organs of the ACS are the Ministerial Council and the Secretariat.



CONSIDERING The ACS has also been assigned the task of prosecuting the thrust by the countries of the Greater Caribbean to have the Caribbean Sea Declared A Special Area in the Context of Sustainable Development and in that regard, has established a Caribbean Sea Commission (hereinafter referred to as CSC), with competencies which permit for positive collaboration with the IHO.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a framework for a regular liaison between the IHO and the ACS, as well as between the IHO and the CSC a view of improving and consolidating, with their consent and participation, the hydrographic capabilities of the Members of the ACS through the co-ordination of capacity building, training and technical assistance initiatives.

4. Programme of Activities

In accordance with the background and purpose described above, both organisations agree to endeavour to increase their co-operation for mutual benefit. The following steps will be taken, among others:

- a) Regular contact is to be established between the Secretariats of the two organisations in order to identify initiatives of common interest and to agree on the appropriate procedures for the development of specific action; establishing their objectives, programs and control mechanisms.
- b) Each organisation shall inform the other of relevant areas of its work programme to enable joint participation in agreed events, as appropriate. Both organisations shall identify opportunities to organise specialised seminars, workshops or courses under joint sponsorship.
- c) Each organisation, - the ACS and the IHO -, shall invite, as appropriate, a representative from the other organisation to attend respective meetings and offer complimentary registration. The IHO shall be invited to participate in the work of the CSC generally, and as appropriate in the work of the Sub-Commissions.
- d) The implementation of specific activities shall be governed by Letters of Understanding; these documents shall detail the objectives, modalities of action, form of participation, obligations of each Party, contributions, timeframes, budget, as well as any other aspect that ensures the satisfactory fulfilment of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- e) Activities, programmes and projects agreed upon between the Parties and which may involve nationals or the national territory of ACS Member States or Associate Members, may only be implemented with the explicit concurrence of the Member State or Associate Member concerned.

5. Financial Commitment

Neither Party may commit the other to any expenditure, without the explicit written consent of both.

6. Legal Status

This Memorandum of Understanding does not create a legal link between the two organisations who will maintain their juridical status as subjects of international law.



7. Entry into Force

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon the date of last signature.

8. Amendments

Each Party has the right to propose amendments to this Memorandum of Understanding at any time. Proposed amendments shall be made in writing and subject to mutual consent. Amendments are to be interpreted and applied as being integral to this Memorandum of Understanding.

9. Termination

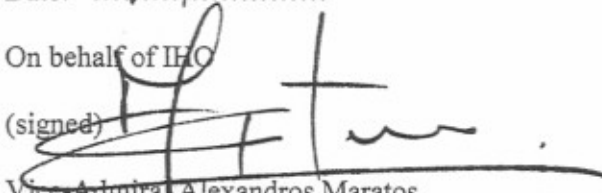
Any Party may at any time propose the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding. Proposals for termination shall be in writing and shall take effect three months after the date of notification by the Party proposing such termination.

In witness whereof, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties hereby subscribe to this Memorandum of Understanding, in duplication originals, both copies being equally valid, in the English, Spanish and French languages.

Date: 17/12/2010.....

On behalf of IHO

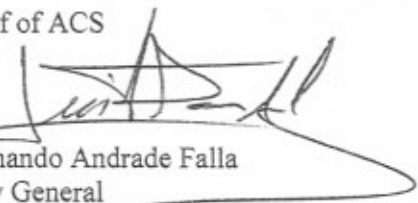
(signed)


Vice-Admiral Alexandros Maratos
President IHO
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Principality of Monaco

Date: 11-4-2011

On behalf of ACS

(signed)


Luis Fernando Andrade Falla
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