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**CIRCULAR LETTER 19/2017**  
**13 February 2017**

**CALL FOR APPROVAL OF EDITION 3.0.0 OF IHO PUBLICATION S-11 PART A**  
**- GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL (INT)**  
**CHART AND ENC SCHEMES**

**References:**

- A. IHO CL 75/2004 dated 10 November - *Guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International Chart Schemes*;
- B. IHO CL 23/2010 dated 3 March- *Approval of Edition 2.003 of S-11 Part A*;
- C. IHO CL 56/2012 dated 29 May - *Guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International Chart Schemes (S-11 Part A)*;
- D. IHO CL 89/2015 dated 17 December - *Modernization of IHO Publication S-11 Part B - International Chart Web Catalogue and Associated On-line Web Based Services*;
- E. IHO CL 8/2017 dated 25 January - *Outcome of the eighth Meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC)*.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. IHO Publication S-11 Part A - *Guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International Chart Schemes* was originally published in 2005 (see Reference A). Besides updating its annexes on printer nations (S-11 Part A - Annex A) and formats (S-11 Part A - Annex B), the only significant change was the addition of an Annex C containing the Terms of Reference for International Charting Coordination Working Groups (ICCWG) in 2010 (see Reference B). The current edition 2.0.5 was adopted in 2012 (see Reference C).
2. In 2009, the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) tasked the then Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG), now the Nautical Cartography Working Group (NCWG), to extend the scope of S-11 Part A in order to incorporate guidelines for the preparation and maintenance of small and medium scale ENC schemes.
3. A draft text prepared in liaison with the World-wide ENC Database WG (WENDWG), the North Sea ENC Harmonization Working Group and the INT Chart Coordinators was submitted to the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the HSSC (HSSC-7) in November 2015. The draft text proposed combining the guidance related to INT chart schemes and ENC schemes in a single document. Taking into account the comments received, the HSSC instructed the NCWG to develop a separate section on ENC schemes and to align the publication with the modernized S-11 Part B - International Chart Web-Catalogue and associated on-line web based services which was presented at HSSC-7 and then announced in Reference D.
4. Accordingly, the NCWG submitted a new draft text which was considered by the HSSC at its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting (Reference E). The HSSC endorsed the proposed text and agreed to move the Annexes A and B to S-11 Part B, and to publish separate English and French versions of S-11 Part A rather than a bilingual document. The NCWG was tasked to finalize the proposed new Edition 3.0.0 and forward it to the IHO Secretariat for circulation to IHO Member States, for their consideration and approval (action HSSC8/35).

5. As endorsed by the HSSC, the final proposed Edition 3.0.0 is structured as follows:
- Preface (revised from Edition 2.0.5);
  - Section 100: Guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International (INT) Chart Schemes (formerly the main part of S-11 Part A, revised from Edition 2.0.5);
  - Section 200: Guidance for the preparation and maintenance of ENC Schemes (new text);
  - Annex I: Terms of Reference for International Charting Coordination Working Groups (ICCWG) (formerly Annex C of S-11 Part A, revised from Edition 2.0.5).
6. The publication has been reformatted from an English/French bilingual text to separate English and French versions.
7. The information contained in S-11 Part A Edition 2.0.5, Annex A - *Potential Printer Nations* and Annex B - *Dimensions of Formats Used and Use of A0 Paper*, can now be extracted from S-11 Part B - *International Chart Web Catalogue*. These annexes have therefore been removed from S-11 Part A.
8. The final proposed Edition 3.0.0 and a marked up “redline” version, in English and in French, are now available on the IHO website at: [www.iho.int](http://www.iho.int) > Standards & Publications > Draft Publications Awaiting Approval by Member States.
9. Member States are requested to take into account the endorsement of the HSSC and to consider the adoption of Edition 3.0.0 of S-11 Part A by providing their reply on the Voting Form, provided in Annex A, at their earliest convenience and **no later than 15 April 2017**.

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO

Director

Annex A: Voting Form

**S-11 PART A - GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE OF  
INTERNATIONAL (INT) CHART AND ENC SCHEMES**

**Approval of Edition 3.0.0**

**Voting Form**

*(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat by 15 April 2017)*

*E-mail: [cl-lc@iho.int](mailto:cl-lc@iho.int) - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)*

Note: The boxes will expand as you type your answers.

**Member State:**

**Contact:**

**E-mail:**


Do you approve the adoption of Edition 3.0.0 of S-11 Part A (*tick the appropriate box*)?

YES

NO

If you answer 'NO', please explain your reasons in the comment section below.

**Comments:**

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**Signature:**

**Date:**
