



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION
CAPACITY BUILDING SUB COMMITTEE (CBSC)

Date: 21st December 2016

Members of the CBSC

CBSC letter 2 - 2016

Dear colleagues,

Already as a tradition, now for the sixth time, I am sending you an annual letter to inform you about some major issues since our last meeting in Abu Dhabi.

As you all know, since 2012 the available CB Funds provided are less than needed to cover all activities. The number and quality of the submissions are growing. The accepted submissions for 2017 sum up to the record amount of 1.1 M Euro. The expected available fund will probably be about 600.000€ by April 2017 including earmarked projects (ROK and Nippon Foundation) and an estimated surplus from the IHO budget of 100.000€ (to be confirmed by MS).

The proportion of available and needed funds is insufficient. An increase of the annual regular contribution from the IHO budget should be considered at the Assembly taking into account the foreseeable increase of IHO MS.

According to the CB Strategy the development of CB shall include comprehensive projects which can only be funded using the support of funding agencies, international organizations, national governments, maritime stakeholders and others. Currently several initiatives made very good progress. One good example is the Regional Hydrographic Project from the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) which is seeking funding from the World Bank by the assistance of the IHO Secretariat and the UKHO. Cost of the project is 25 Million USD. The usefulness of the start-up funds and the involvement of the regular CB Programme have been proven as very helpful to clear the way for such projects. Several meetings with the World Bank were helpful for networking and further activities.

Due to the significant increase in the level of activities of the CB, the secretarial and administrative support provided by the IHB, has come under increasing strain because of other competing IHO requirements and priorities. The IHB improved the support to the administrative work of CB execution and financial tasks since IRCC7 by reallocating resources within the IHO Staff, but there are limitations in the ability of the IHB to provide



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the necessary secretarial and administrative support of the CB. This has the potential to hamper the CB work programme and ultimately to put the overall success at risk.

The annual joint CB meeting of IHO, IMO, IOC, WMO, IALA, IAEA and FIG was planned to be held in November at the IMO headquarters in London. Unfortunately it had to be cancelled due to other commitments at that time and the lack of alternative dates. Thus the next joint CB meeting is scheduled at the IALA headquarters in 2017.

The number of submissions is growing, which is excellent. At the same time it increases the need to provide submissions in accordance with our procedures. The time limit for submissions of 1 April is as important as the processing according to the procedures well in advance of the meeting. As usual I would like to ask you to assure the timely and complete submissions within your Regional Hydrographic Commissions.

I would like to thank you for your most valuable participation in the IHO capacity building initiative and I am looking forward to seeing you all in good health at the next CBSC meeting in Paramaribo, Suriname on the 7 to 9 June 2017.

As the next CBSC meeting is shortly after the first Assembly of the IHO, there will be regular elections of the chair and vice chair of the CBSC.

I am happy to announce that India confirmed last month their kind invitation to Goa for the CBSC and IRCC meetings in 2018.

Let me finally send you warm seasonal greetings and the best wishes for a happy new year 2017 for you and your families.

Best personal regards,

Thomas Dehling

Chairman IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee