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CIRCULAR LETTER 09/2017
30 January 2017

**PARTICIPATION OF IHO MEMBER STATES IN
THE 28th INTERNATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE
(ICC 2017 - Washington, DC, USA, 2-7 July 2017)**

Reference: IHO CL 43/2016 dated 9 September - *ICC 2017 - 28th International Cartographic Conference (Washington, DC, USA, 2-7 July 2017)*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Circular Letter at Reference A invited IHO Member States to consider participating in the technical sessions and cartographic exhibition at the 28th Conference of the International Cartographic Association (ICA), ICC 2017, which will take place in Washington, DC, USA from 2 to 7 July 2017. This Circular Letter provides additional information on the cartographic exhibition and on the dedicated nautical cartography meeting organized by the US Hydrographic Office (Office of Coast Survey / National Ocean Service / NOAA) which was announced in the Reference.

Cartographic Exhibition

2. The Committee in charge of the cartographic exhibition has provided to the IHO Secretariat additional information on the exhibition, highlighting the significance and importance placed on traditional and digital charts by the ICA.

3. Accordingly, a special category “Charts on Panels” has been created, separate from the “Maps on Panels” category. This special category is devoted to paper nautical and aeronautical charts as well as to non-paper navigational products suitable for poster board display. The objective is to showcase international excellence in chart making by providing more exhibition space devoted solely to the display of charts, and to draw further attention to charts with a separate award category.

4. In addition, the category “Digital Products”, devoted to video presentations linking to actual on-line products, includes both digital charts and digital maps. The Committee also encourages IHO Member States to submit their entries to the “Educational Cartographic Products” or the “Other Cartographic Products” categories as relevant.

5. Entries to the exhibition should be submitted through the ICA National or Affiliate Member delegate with whom an organization or individual is affiliated. As indicated in the reference, on-line registration is open until **1 March 2017**. Further information is provided in the on-line guide at: <http://icc2017.org/international-cartographic-exhibition-submission/>. Member States are invited to contact the Exhibition Committee at carto.exhibition2017@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or requests they may have.

NOAA's Nautical Cartography Meeting

6. The US Office of Coast Survey has confirmed that they will host a one-day open house on nautical cartography. The event will be held on Friday 7 July at NOAA's headquarters, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA.
7. The goals of the event are to:
 - a) Report on current and future activities in cartography and GIS;
 - b) Establish a regional and international network of cartographers in the field of nautical charting;
 - c) Create more collaborative activities between IHO and ICA members; and
 - d) Identify challenges in generating, producing, maintaining and distributing Raster and Electronic Navigational Charts.
8. The event will include a tour of two exhibitions (Gateway to NOAA and Science on a Sphere), oral presentations, cartographic displays and poster sessions.
9. The presentations will be prepared by NOAA and are expected to address four main themes: from hydrography to cartography, nautical products, marine spatial data infrastructures and databases, and innovative cartography.
10. All Member States attending ICC 2017 are invited to participate in the NOAA open house on nautical cartography. The point of contact at NOAA for further information is Dr Shachak Pe'eri (shachak.peeri@noaa.gov), Branch Chief, Marine Charts Division, Chart Standards Group.

On behalf of the Secretary-General
Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO
Director