



**THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE**

IHO File Nos. S3/8151/HSSC-S3/0104

**CIRCULAR LETTER 64/2017**  
**16 November 2017**

**CALL FOR APPROVAL FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE ADOPTION PROCESS OF HSSC  
AND IRCC RECOMMENDATIONS**

**References:**

- A. IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended – *Principles and Procedures for Making Changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications*
- B. IHO CL 55/2017 dated 31 October – *Outcome of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the IHO Council*
- C. Convention on the International Hydrographic Organization
- D. General Regulations of the IHO
- E. Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council
- F. Rules of Procedure of the IHO Assembly

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As reported in Reference B, the first meeting of the IHO Council (C-1) reviewed the general tasks, responsibilities and scope of empowerment of this new organ of the Organization in the light of the Basic Documents (References C, D, E and F). Recognizing the intent of the revision process of the IHO Convention to gain flexibility and responsiveness, it was recommended that the subsidiary organs, namely the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC), should continue to work as it was before the establishment of the Council to prevent an additional delay in the procedure for adoption of technical standards and recommendations. The Council identified the need for clarification to be brought to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Assembly (A-2) regarding the operational control of subsidiary organs, in view of the routine approval process for their respective proposals (See Reference B, Action C1/05).
2. Meanwhile, the Council agreed to propose to the Member States to pursue until A-2, the procedure that was in force before the establishment of the Council, for approving the recommendations made by HSSC and IRCC. This applies in particular, but is not limited to, the standards and publications listed in Appendix 1 of IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended (See References A and C – Decision C1/03). It is noted, however, that some flexibility in the process was requested by the Council. As a consequence, it will remain the prerogative of the Chairs of HSSC and IRCC to appreciate and determine the need to approach the Council for recommendations on issues of strategic relevance.
3. Member States are now requested to consider the proposal of the IHO Council as described in paragraph 2 above, for the continuation of the adoption process of HSSC and IRCC recommendations by providing their reply on the Voting Form in Annex, at their earliest convenience and **no later than 31 January 2018**.

On behalf of the Secretary-General  
Yours sincerely,

Abri KAMPFER  
Director

Annex: Voting Form

IHO File No. S3/8151/HSSC-S3/0104

**APPROVAL FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE ADOPTION PROCESS OF HSSC AND  
IRCC RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Voting Form**

*(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat by 31 January 2018)*  
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 continuation of the adoption process of HSSC and IRCC recommendations *(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 :**
