

24th BUSINESS MEETING OF IHO-IAG ADVISORY BOARD ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF LAW OF THE SEA (ABLOS BM24)

IHO Secretariat 9th and 12th October 2017

1. Welcome Address

Director Abri Kampfner, on behalf of the Secretary-General, welcomed all to the IHO.

2. Domestic and Administrative Arrangements

ABLOS Secretary gave a short briefing on domestic and administrative arrangements for the meeting.

3. Opening Remarks by the Chair

The Chair welcomed all participants, in particular the new faces to ABLOS. The Chair made note of important topics to cover, being the upcoming ABLOS Conference and discussions about the future of ABLOS.

4. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr Luigi Santosuosso, UN DOALOS, volunteered to assist the Secretary by taking additional notes.

5. Introduction of Participants and Apologies

All participants introduced themselves, list Annex A.
Apologies received from Naohiko Nagasaka (Japan) and Chris Carleton (ABLOS Observer).
Secretary highlighted importance of the interaction and contribution from members.

6. Agenda

Draft agenda approved, without changes, see Annex B. List of meeting documents is at Annex C.

7. Approval of the minutes from BM23 and outcomes from HSSC8 and IAG Executive Committee Meetings

The Chair noted that the report of BM23 had been circulated to all members and observers, all comments received had been considered and no additional comments or amendments were provided at the meeting. The report as presented was approved and adopted.

Outcomes from HSSC8

The following action for ABLOS from the HSSC8 meeting was reviewed:

Action 6.1 on LOS Definitions, to identify and submit words and definitions to be considered by the HDWG for inclusion in S-32 – Hydrographic Dictionary. The Chair noted that, as the subject matter experts, ABLOS must undertake this task, which is best addressed by the Editorial Committee with the ABLOS addressing the detail of the task. There is a requirement to check whether key terms are already defined in the Dictionary and which ones have to be included. If there are terms which are not yet included, they should be defined and added. It was noted that a comparison between TALOS Manual (C-51) and Hydrograph Dictionary (S-32) terms needs to be undertaken to identify common terms and discrepancies, which can be reviewed at the next BM. **Action BRA**

IND introduced their submission on the expansion and updating of the C-51 to cover terms used in recent rulings by international courts and tribunals to ensure the manual remained current with the evolving jurisprudence. Concerns were raised that this could take C-51 out of its purely technical area and go beyond the competence of ABLOS. DOALOS emphasized that the interpretation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including its technical aspects, is a prerogative of the States party to it. The Chair felt that publishing comments on rulings was not the role of ABLOS or C-51. The Chair invited IND to submit draft proposals for possible inclusion into the Manual to be considered by the Editorial Committee at the BM25. **Action IND** JPN suggested to include comments to direct the readers of the Manual towards the sources where additional information on relevant fields of expertise can be found. It was agreed that the subject matter was dynamic and therefore the Manual should evolve to reflect current and future status. The Chair noted that there were a number of other organizations which cover similar topics to ABLOS and it could be useful if ABLOS had a simple web-page with links to relevant organizations with information on topics, manuals and other information of interest. The size of the task and the need to ensure that this web-page is kept up-to-date to prevent broken links or outdated information were acknowledged; DNK agreed to create a draft web-page for consideration at BM25 and ABLOS members to provide appropriate topics and links for inclusion. **Action DNK/All** It was identified there needed to be a link from the IHO ABLOS site to the DTU hosted ABLOS site. **Action IHO**

8. Review of Actions from BM23

Secretary went through the List of Action from BM23.

DNK highlighted actions in hand to address the issue of raising the profile of ABLOS within the IAG. He noted the creation of a website to link between IHO, IAG and the ABLOS websites would help increase availability and visibility. DNK indicated that ABLOS needed to investigate ways to increase engagement with IAG. DNK indicated an approach from FIG to participate in ABLOS. The Secretary highlighted the importance for ABLOS to count on members and observers having full authority to speak on behalf of their organization and to commit to actions. An approach had been made to IAG with the question on whether to propose the Vice-President, a geodesist from Sweden. IAG felt it made sense and they were enthusiastic to be represented by the Vice-President, making the organization a de-facto observer. It was agreed that this could be achieved as long as the representative attended with the authority to speak for the organization and commit to tasks on behalf of the parent organization.

The Chair reported on discussions with DOALOS about whether bathymetric datasets from CLCS submissions could be placed in the public domain. He stated that DOALOS had informed that it was not in a position to do so since such data belongs to the respective submitting States. It was noted that some States had voluntarily published the data and information contained in their submissions and it was suggested that other States could be encouraged to do so after the completion of the consideration of their submissions by the CLCS. In this connection, a view was expressed that DOALOS could informally draw the attention of submitting States to this possibility, if and when appropriate. JPN highlighted the new GEBCO Seabed2030 project, which would actively search out all bathymetric datasets and databases.

All other actions were considered to be covered by the other BM24 agenda items.

9. 9th ABLOS Conference – Final Arrangements

Secretary briefed on presence of M. Stéphane Nicolopoulos from Thélos Productions and his documentary project 'The Final Frontier'. ABLOS agreed in principle about the merits of working with Thélos Productions; however there were some reservations, which needed to be discussed and clarified before full unrestricted access was provided. It was agreed that the Chair and vice-Chair should discuss the project and report back at the Part 2 of the meeting.

Secretary briefed on numbers of registrations for the Conference and the outline of the ABLOS Fund. The Chair highlighted that the steps in the organization of the next Conference should be completed more in advance than had been the case for the current Conference. DNK raised concerns on the lack of abstracts as well as the slow up take of registrations. DNK noted there had been aspects which could have been better coordinated and the profile could have been raised earlier. The Chair asked for points to be raised in the planning for Conference10 discussions in Part 2.

The Chair reminded all ABLOS members and observers that they should be the first to register and not require reminders as it wastes time and was part of their ABLOS commitment to participate and assist in the planning and organization of the Conference.

The programme of each panel was finalized and the Chair asked the chairs of each panel to be mindful of timings and to manage the questions.

It was confirmed the questionnaire was ready. The Chair suggested session chairs on Day 2 could remind participants to complete a questionnaire for later analysis. It was agreed the questionnaires would be made available just before lunch. The Chair emphasized that for this Conference the analysis of questionnaires should be carried out immediately after the Conference is over, otherwise the questionnaires are not meaningful. Secretary confirmed the list of participants would be up loaded to the website. **Action IHO**

10. ABLOS the way forward

a) The participants reviewed the current terms of reference (ToRs). DOALOS suggested that article 1.1 of the ToRs should be amended. DOALOS noted that under the current wording of article 1.1. of the ToRs, ABLOS could be perceived as potentially acting beyond its remit and presented a draft revised article 1.1 which attempted at better explaining the technical nature of the mandate of ABLOS with respect to parent organizations, member States and other organizations. It was agreed that the perception should be avoided and that the proposed revised wording should be circulated for further consideration and for finalization prior to submission of the ABLOS report to HSSC10. **Action DOALOS/IHO**

The participants reviewed article 2.4; this initiated considerable discussion on the state and terms of conditions for officially appointed observers. It was agreed that the term lengths for appointed Observers should be aligned with that of appointed Members and that ABLOS would decide on their renewal. Revised proposals will be submitted to HSSC10 and IAG Executive Council for approval. The Secretary will circulate draft amendments as an annex to the meeting report; comments and input are to be provided by 3 November for preparation of a final draft version for inclusion in the Chair report to HSSC10. **Action IHO/All**

b) Membership including review of terms

The current membership list was reviewed. The end of terms of IHO and IAG members were highlighted; it was noted that two IHO members finished in October 2018 and three IAG members were due to finish in July 2019. The Chair will write to Bangladesh to clarify continued participation and engagement of its supported observer; the Chair will recommend participation as an IHO member state representative rather than a formally appointed Observer. **Action Chair** The ABLOS appointed observer indicated by email his continued willingness to contribute via correspondence, as opportunities to travel were limited. This was considered to be incompatible with the role of a formally appointed observer. It was suggested that a new volunteer to chair the Editorial Committee could be sought; the Chair asked participants to consider taking on the role. No volunteer was identified and therefore it was agreed to continue under the current arrangements for the chair of the Editorial Committee.

c) Capacity Building

The Chair briefed on an IHO capacity building course to be held in Turkey for the Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC). He noted that current attendance was only 8 students, which appeared low. The Chair asked the IHO to highlight CB requests to the ABLOS BM ahead of meetings when appropriate. **Action IHO** The Secretary noted there were no bids for training in the 2018 CB Work Plan, there was no indication whether the lack bids was due to lack of requirement or lack of knowledge about the course. DNK noted an approach from FIG members for training, IHO recommended an approach could be made through the Joint IHO/IMO/WMO/IOC/IALA/IAEA/FIG Capacity Building Coordination meetings and directly to the IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC). It was highlighted that there continues to be a major issue on measuring the immediate and on-going impact of CB training and its value. It was agreed that what ABLOS can provide in terms of capacity building needs to be raised at RHCs and with Regional CB Coordinators. **Action Chair/IHO**

d) The future of ABLOS

The Chair noted that the conference audience indicated there was a future for ABLOS. CAN highlighted the number of student participants, which should be encouraged in the future to provide them with their initial opportunity to present to an international audience. IHO suggested develop close engagement with other relevant international/intergovernmental organizations. DOALOS observed that a side event organized on the margins of meetings held at United Nations Headquarters, such as the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, could provide ABLOS with an opportunity to bring its technical expertise to the attention of diplomats and legal experts, events like the International Law Weekend annually organized by the American Branch of the International Law Association in New York –or the annual meeting of the American Society of International Law could also be considered. All were requested to bring appropriate events and meetings to the attention of AUS to allow wider advertising of the ABLOS Conference. **Action All/AUS** CAN noted the time gaps since the last BM meeting in New York, he also highlighted the benefit of having DOALOS direct participation.

11. 9th ABLOS Conference Wash-up

The Chair thanked all for their efforts and enthusiasm on putting on such a successful Conference. The Chair noted there was a need to analyse the feedback questionnaires and create the statics report for consideration at the next BM. **Action GBR** The Chair noted that a significant number of participants at the Conference were first time attendees. It was agreed that deadlines need to be earlier and individuals need to work their networks earlier to obtain abstracts and confirmed participation. There was a need to maintain and broaden the attendees and participants to be more inter-disciplinary. CAN noted the positive feedback and that more people would have attended if information had been made available earlier. DOALOS noted the high quality of the presentations delivered at the Conference but expressed the view that the presentations best suited and beneficial for a forum like ABLOS were those that provided detailed updates on technical advances and activities, whereas presentations that attempted the interpretation or commentary of legal issues could raise concerns of Member States, especially as ABLOS intends to raise its profile in the future. In this connection DOALOS suggested a number of technical topics that could be considered for future Conferences. The Chair suggested a letter could be sent out to all presenters and participants to thank them and remind them of the next Conference. **Action Chair** The Secretary highlighted that the title needs to be decided and a further reminder needs to be sent out about 18 months ahead to allow attendance be included in budgets and diaries. DOALOS suggested sub-topics should be identified to create themes and encourage more focused presentations. The general feeling was that speakers would submit abstracts on whatever they wished to present regardless of the suggested themes. General agreement that the venue of IHO Secretariat was a draw and a success, along with providing catering at the venue. CAN asked what went less well? It was noted that the sound system was not as good as it could have been and that some presenters did not provide presentations ahead of the sessions. It was suggested presenters for the initial two sessions should be asked to provide their presentations ahead

of the conference.

12. Election of vice-Chair

The Chair proposed BRA as the next vice-Chair. Izabel King Jeck was unanimously elected as vice-Chair.

13. 10th ABLOS Conference 2019 (thoughts and planning)

A) Dates and Venue

7-10 October (BM26 7 & 10 October and Conference 10 8-9 October)

B) Organising Committee

It was agreed that the organizing committee would be coordinated by Clive Schofield; Niels Andersen, Hyunsoo Kim, John Brown and Sunil Bisnath would assist.

C) Conference Fund status report

Secretary brief on the state of the Conference fund resulting from the income and expenditure from the 9th Conference. It was suggested that the number of student presenters should be maintained at about five and that the fees should be at a reduced rate of approximately half the standard rate.

D) 9th ABLOS Conference survey report and feedback

John Brown agreed to review the submitted abstracts and review the questionnaire forms.

E) Title and session themes

DOALOS suggested potential technical topics and themes, these initiated considerable discussion on ways to encompass the backgrounds of the desired audience. It was agreed the title should be 'ABLOS 10 Conference' which should be supported by a short descriptive paragraph covering the themes. The Chair requested Clive Schofield to further develop the supporting paragraph to be included in correspondence to presenters and participants and conference advertising. **Action AUS**

F) Publicity

Hyunsoo Kim agreed to coordinate the publicity and advertising with Sunil Bisnath. It was agreed the DTU ABLOS website should be updated to commence advertising the 10th Conference. **Action DNK** It was recommended that the 'Save-the-date' message should be published at least 18 months ahead. The Chair suggested that the publicity coordinators should finalise the message and circulate to the ABLOS for publishing at meetings/seminars/events they attend.

G) Key Note Speaker

It was suggested Professor Ronån Long (Professor of Ocean Governance, WMU in Malmo) should be invited. **Action AUS**

H) Sponsorship and Industry Involvement

It was agreed that this should not be considered again in the future.

14. TALOS Manual (C-51) - Report of the editorial board

JPN confirmed that the draft chapter 3 was sent to the Editor in November 2016. The Editor confirmed he had requested further information but had not received any update on progress. JPN to provide revised chapter 3 to Editor by 27 October. **Action JPN** The chair of the Editorial Board would then circulate the draft Edition 6.0.0 for comment prior to preparing the final draft version for submission to HSSC10. **Action Editor/All** FRA agreed to take on the editorial task of finalising the French version from the initial translation provided under contract as well as include the revised chapter 3. **Action FRA** CHL agreed to update the Spanish 4th Edition to Edition 6.0.0 to align with the English version. **Action CHL** The IHO was asked to provide the necessary Word files of the French and Spanish versions. **Action IHO** In the meantime work was proceeding on the translation into French of the slide animations.

15. Reports on Members' attendance at LOS related conferences

Details of reported activities were provided and are listed at Annex H.

ABLOS were encouraged to participate in the development of the S-121 Product Specification to ensure features and attributes were correctly described prior to inclusion the IHO S-100 registry.

16. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:

It was highlighted that there was a need to highlight the availability at IRCC. One bid had been received for a training course for the MBSHC.

17. Report to IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC), including review of Work Programme and representation/attendance

The Chair noted that CAN would represent ABLOS at HSSC9. The dates for HSSC10 were advised and DNK indicated the potential to represent ABLOS; it was also noted that the draft TALOS Edition 6.0.0 could be presented at this meeting.

The Secretary went through the draft Work Plan 2018-2019, which was approved to be submitted with the ABLOS report to HSSC9.

18. Any Other Business

CAN suggested an article based on the Chris Carleton presentation on the history of ABLOS could be generated to mark ABLOS BM25. It was agreed that it could be published on the IHO, IAG and DTU ABLOS websites. CAN agreed to coordinate. **Action CAN**

JPN highlighted the start of the GEBCO Seabed2030 project and the potential for a number of new undersea features.

19. Date of the 24th Business Meeting and 9th ABLOS Conference

BM25 - 22nd to 25th October 2018 in Qatar. 3 or 4 days for BM and seminar. Theme and programme need to be developed and advised as soon as possible. The Secretary will provide a draft letter of invitation and logistics early in 2018 for completion by Qatar hosts and publication in March 2018, 6 months ahead of the meeting. The observers from Qatar indicated that they will confirm the suitability of those dates after

consulting their authorities. They also provided an overview of the hospitality they envisaged. **Action IHO** The Chair suggested a seminar title of ‘Sustainable use of the seas by all users’. DOALOS suggested it could move outside the remit of ABLOS; DTECH recommended the focus should be on regional issues to benefit the presence of ABLOS. KOR highlighted the importance of the hosts having a major input into title and theme. It was agreed the title should be short; therefore ‘*Challenges in the implementation of UNCLOS – a regional perspective*’. The observers from Qatar concurred with the suitability of this title. It was also agreed that a narrative describing the seminar would make reference to the existence of legal, technical and economic aspects. Chair and DNK agreed to develop the ideas and themes further. **Action Chair/GBR**

17. Review of List of Actions for BM24 and draft agenda for 25th Business Meeting.

The list of Action Items was reviewed and agreed, Annex D. The draft agenda for BM24 was noted and it was agreed to refine it in light of progress on conference preparations, Annex G.

18. Closure of the Meeting

The Chair thanked the participants. The Chair thanked the IHO Secretariat for very well organised Meeting and Conference. The Chair declared the meeting officially closed. The participants expressed their gratitude to the outgoing Chair for his contribution to ABLOS during his term of office.

Annexes:

- A. List of Participants
- B. Agenda BM24
- C. List of Documents
- D. List of Actions
- E. Terms of Reference – draft proposed amendments
- F. Work Plan 2018-2019 - draft
- G. Draft agenda BM25
- H. Members LOS Related Activities

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Joint IAG-IHO Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea



24th ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING
IHO, Monaco, 9th and 12th October 2017

Agenda

1. Welcome address by Director Kampfer, International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
2. Domestic and administrative arrangements (*Secretary*)
3. Opening remarks by the Chairman, including welcome to new participants
4. Appointment of Rapporteur
5. Introduction of participants and apologies
6. Adoption of the Agenda
7. Approval of the minutes of the 23rd Business Meeting and outcomes of HSSC8.
8. Review of Actions from BM 23
9. 9th ABLOS Conference – Final arrangements
10. ABLOS the way forward:
 - a) Terms of Reference
 - b) Membership, including review of terms
 - c) Capacity Building Training Course
 - d) Future of ABLOS
11. 9th ABLOS Conference wash-up
12. Election of vice-Chair
13. 10th ABLOS Conference 2019 (initial thoughts and planning):
 - a) Dates and venue
 - b) Organizing Committee
 - c) Conference fund status report
 - d) Title and session themes
 - e) Publicity
 - f) Key Note Speaker
 - g) Sponsorship and Industry involvement
14. TALOS Manual (C-51) – Report of the Editorial Board. Consideration of initial translation into French by external contract.
15. Reports on members' attendance at LOS related conferences
16. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:



Joint IAG-IHO Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea



17. Report to IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC), including review of Work Programme and representation/attendance
18. Any Other Business
19. Confirmation of dates and venue of the 25th Business Meeting – date and venue and dates for 26th Business Meeting and 10th ABLOS Conference
20. Review of List of Actions for BM24 and draft agenda for 25th Business Meeting.
21. Closure of the Meeting

ABLOS BM24 List of Documents

ABLOS24 Invitation Letter	ABLOS24 Letter of Invitation
ABLOS24 Registration Form	Registration Form (Word Version)
ABLOS24 Hotel Form	Hotel Reservation Form
ABLOS24-02	Programmes for ABLOS24 BM and Conference
ABLOS24-06	Draft Agenda v2.0
ABLOS24-07a	ABLOS BM23 Minutes
ABLOS24-07b	HSSC8 Report and actions
ABLOS24-07c	HSSC8 Action 6.1 - Expansion of scope of TALOS Manual
ABLOS24-08	ABLOS BM23 List of Action - Updated 24 August 2017
ABLOS24-10a	ABLOS ToRs
ABLOS24-10b	Current ABLOS membership status
ABLOS24-13c.1	ABLOS Conference Fund Guidelines
ABLOS24-13c.2	ABLOS Fund Status
ABLOS24-11	ABLOS9 Conference Survey Report
ABLOS24-INF.15	Chamber of the ITLOS Ghana-Côte d'Ivoire ruling
ABLOS24-17	Work Plan 2018-2019
ABLOS24-20	Draft Agenda BM25
ABLOS24-List of Participants	List of Participants

LIST OF ABLOS24 BM ACTION ITEMS
(As of 10 November 2017)

Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
ABLOS23	Raising profile of ABLOS	On going	IHB to pass completed Bulletin Brief to vice-Chair for uploading on to IAG website	IHB
ABLOS23	Raising profile of ABLOS	On going	Investigate ways to raise profile of ABLOS amongst IAG community and recruit additional personnel as IAG Observers	All IAG members
ABLOS BM24				
ABLOS24 7	Outcomes of HSSC8	ABLOS BM25	Comparison between C-51 and S-32 terms to be undertaken to identify common terms and discrepancies	BRA
ABLOS24 7	Outcomes of HSSC8	ABLOS BM25	Submit draft proposals for consideration for inclusion in C-51	IND
ABLOS24 7	Outcomes of HSSC8	31 December	Create draft ABLOS website to link with other organizations	DNK
ABLOS24 7	Outcomes of HSSC8	On going	Provide appropriate organizations and links for inclusion in ABLOS website	All
ABLOS24 7	Outcomes of HSSC8	31 October Complete	Create link from ABLOS section of IHO website to ABLOS website hosted by DTU	IHO
ABLOS24 9	9th Conference preparations	12 October Complete	Upload list of participants to website	IHO
ABLOS24 10a	ToRs	12 October Complete	Provide proposed draft amendments to article 1.1 to inclusion in draft meeting report	DOALOS
ABLOS24 10a	ToRs	12 October Complete	Circulate proposed draft amendments with the draft meeting report of further comment	IHO
ABLOS24 10a	ToRs	3 November Complete	Provide feedback and comment on proposed draft amendments	All
ABLOS24 10b	Membership	31 December	Write to Bangladesh to propose changing observer's status to national representative	Chair
ABLOS24 10c	Capacity Building	On going	Highlight bids for training in advance of BM meetings	IHO

Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
ABLOS24 10c	Future of ABLOS	31 December 2016	Highlight to CB Regional Coordinators for them to raise at RHCs what ABLOS can provide in terms of CB training and regional based seminars, normally associated with an ABLOS BM	Chair/IHO
ABLOS24 10d	Future of ABLOS	On going	Undertake greater showcasing of ABLOS at relevant events and meetings	All
ABLOS24 11	ABLOS9 Conference Wash-up	ABLOS BM25	Raise profile and advertise Conference within region and own organizations to encourage increased participation; engage RHCs; engage with contacts and advertise Conference theme and dates; engage with companies, advertise Conference through various media to widest community	All
ABLOS24 11	ABLOS9 Conference Wash-up	ABLOS BM25 Complete	Analyse the feedback questionnaires and create the status report for consideration at the next BM	GBR
ABLOS24 11	ABLOS9 Conference Wash-up	27 October 2017	Write thank you to all presenters and participants at Conference9 and highlight details of Conference10	Chair
ABLOS24 13	ABLOS10 Conference	27 October 2017	Develop the supporting paragraph to be included in correspondence to presenters and participants and conference advertising	AUS
ABLOS24 13	ABLOS10 Conference	27 October 2017	Update DTU hosted ABLOS website to reflect details of Conference10	Chair
ABLOS24 13	ABLOS10 Conference	27 October 2017 Complete	Invite Professor Ronan Long to be keynote speaker at Conference10 Invitation accepted	AUS
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	27 October 2017	Provide revised chapter 3 to Editor	JPN
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	29 December 2017	Circulate to ABLOS members for comment	Chair Editorial Board
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	2 March 2018	Provide feedback and comments on revised chapter 3 and check current Edition 5.0.0 for errors and typos and notify Chair Editorial Board	All

Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	30 March 2018	Collate feedback and comments and prepare final draft for submission to HSSC10 and IAG Executive Council as Edition 6.0.0 for approval in accordance with IHO Resolution 2/2007	Chair Editorial Board
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	27 October 2017 Complete	Provide the Word files of the French and Spanish versions for updating and proofing	IHO
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	ABLOS BM25	Finalising the French version from the initial translation provided under contract as well as include the revised chapter 3 to align with the English version Edition 6.0.0	FRA
ABLOS24 14	TALOS Manual C-51	ABLOS BM25	Update the Spanish 4th Edition to Edition 6.0.0 align with the English version	CHL
ABLOS24 18	Any other business	ABLOS BM25	Coordinate generation of article on history of ABLOS for inclusion on IHO, IAG and DTU ABLOS websites	CAN
ABLOS24 19	BM25	26 January 2018	Provide draft versions of invitation letter and logistics for host input	IHO
ABLOS24 19	BM25	26 January 2018	Develop the ideas and themes for BM25 seminar	Chair/GBR
ABL9S24 19	BM25	23 March 2018	Issue invitation letter for BM25	IHO
ABLOS24 19	BM26	ABLOS BM25	Confirm venue, dates and Conference details	IHO
ABLOS24 17	Meeting report	20 October 2017 Complete	Circulate to ABLOS members and observers	All
ABLOS24 17	Meeting report	3 November 2017 Complete	Provide comments, inputs and amendments to IHB	All
ABLOS24 17	Meeting report	10 November 2017 Complete	Publish final report	IHO



TERMS OF REFERENCE
For the Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS)
of the
International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and
the International Association of Geodesy (IAG)
(as amended 27 October 2016)

Ref: 1st HSSC Meeting (Singapore 2009)

OBJECTIVE:

To provide information and advice on technical aspects of the Law of the Sea.

1. Terms of Reference

- 1.1. To provide advice, guidance and, where applicable, offer expert interpretation of the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG), their Member States or to other organizations on request.

OPTION A (SHORT):

To provide, on request, information and advice with regard to the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to:

- 1) the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) or to other organizations; and*
- 2) to their Member States.*

OPTION B (LONG):

To provide, on request:

- 1) Information and Advice with regard to the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) or to other organizations; and*
- 2) Advice/Assistance to Member States of the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) in their interpretation and implementation of the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea. [ALTERNATIVE, POSSIBLY BETTER, FOR PARA 2: Technical information and advice, as well as/assistance to Member States to support ~~in~~ their interpretation and implementation of the Law of the Sea].*

- 1.2. To review State practice and jurisprudence on Law of the Sea matters which are relevant to the work of ABLOS so as to be in a position to provide expert advice when needed.
- 1.3. To study, promote and encourage the development of appropriate techniques in the application of the technical concepts contained within certain provisions ~~contained within~~ of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- 1.4. To review and update IHO Special Publication C-51 "A Manual on Technical Aspects of the United Nations' Convention on the Law of the Sea - 1982" (TALOS Manual).
- 1.5. To prepare, review and update other ABLOS publications as required by the parent organizations (IHO/IAG).

2. Rules of Procedure

- 2.1. ABLOS shall be composed of eight full members, preferably chosen with wide geographic representation. Each parent Organization (IHO/IAG) shall appoint four members. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS), and the IHO Secretariat shall have representatives in an ex-officio capacity without voting rights.
- 2.2. ABLOS should normally take decisions by consensus. Should a vote be necessary then a simple majority of those present and voting is required, subject to a minimum of 4 voting members being present. In the case of a tied vote the Chair shall have a casting vote.
- 2.3. The Member States of the IHO, the IAG and ABLOS through its Chair may ~~nominate additional~~appoint observers to ABLOS. Observers may participate in correspondence and attend meetings but may not vote.
- 2.4. Appointed Members and Observers shall serve for a term of four years, renewable by a recommendation of the Board for one additional four-year term and with the approval of the corresponding parent organization. Observers may be reappointed with the approval of the ABLOS for further terms. The Chair shall inform the relevant parent organization of any foreseeable vacancy in a timely manner. Members and Observers are expected to attend every meeting of ABLOS. Where a Member or Observer fails to attend two consecutive meetings the Chair should raise the matter with the parent Organization (IHO/IAG) with a view to rectifying the situation.
- 2.5. Whilst members of ABLOS are appointed by their parent Organizations (IHO/IAG), to whom they are accountable, members are expected to serve as individual experts in their own right. No statements or publications may be issued in the name of ABLOS without ABLOS's prior approval.
- 2.6. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by ABLOS and should normally come from different parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) on a rotational basis. They will serve for a two-year period, after which the Vice-Chair becomes Chair and a new Vice-Chair is elected. If the Chair is not present or available, the Vice-Chair shall act in this capacity until the next meeting. Should the Vice-Chair not be available to take office as Chair when required, a new Chair and Vice-Chair should be elected.
- 2.7. ABLOS may establish Working Groups to carry out specific tasks.
- 2.8. ABLOS will have its permanent Secretariat at the IHO Secretariat, Monaco. The Secretariat will publish the documents and publications produced by the Board as required.
- 2.9. Members and Observers of ABLOS are expected to be supported by their own host organizations or governments for travel expenses and work. Exceptionally, ~~an~~ an ABLOS appointed ~~observer~~Observer may be supported by ABLOS for a specific task.
- 2.10. ABLOS will normally meet once a year at a venue and time that minimizes cost and conducts business by correspondence between meetings.
- 2.11. ABLOS may organise conferences and seminars. A biennial technical conference will normally be held in Monaco in conjunction with an ABLOS Meeting. ABLOS may operate a fund to cover the receipts and expenses of running such a conference. Guidelines for the operation of this fund are appended to these terms of reference.

- 2.12. The Chair or his nominated representative shall report on the activities of the Board to the annual meeting of the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and to each ordinary session of the Assembly through the Council. The Chair or his nominated representative shall also provide an annual report on ABLOS's activities to the IAG and a report covering the inter-sessional period to the General Assembly of the IAG.
- 2.13. These TOR should be reviewed by ABLOS as required and not less frequently than every 4 years. Amendments, recommended by ABLOS, are to be submitted to the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) for approval.

ABLOS CONFERENCE FUND GUIDELINES
(As amended 27 October 2016)

1. Introduction

1.1 The Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) is formed by four representatives from each of the following bodies: The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). Secretarial support for ABLOS is provided by the IHO Secretariat. The parent organizations (IHO/IAG) approve the Terms of Reference (TOR) for ABLOS. The ~~UN~~ Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (DOALOS) of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and the IHO Secretariat attend ABLOS meetings in an ex-Officio capacity.

2. Biennial Conference

2.1 The TOR invite ABLOS to organise seminars and technical conferences and permit the operation of a fund to support such activities.

3. Income

3.1 The primary source of income for the fund will be from the registration fees of delegates attending such seminars / conferences. ABLOS should set the level of registrations fees in order to provide a modest excess of income over expenditure given an estimated attendance.

4. Expenditure

4.1 The primary expenditure for the fund will be to cover the costs of running the seminars / conferences. Expenditure may include but is not limited to: assistance to speakers / tutorial leaders, conference equipment, documentation, proceedings, staff overtime, reception and tea breaks.

4.2 ABLOS may use any funds in excess of 3000 Euros remaining after all expenses for a seminar / conference have been settled, to fund other activities conducted by ABLOS. Limited support for travel / subsistence in connection with production of a new edition of C-51 'A Manual on Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea' might be considered such an activity. Such expenditure must be approved by a simple majority of the ABLOS Membership.

4.3 Routine expenditure in support of a seminar / conference may be transacted by the IHO Secretariat and reported in the fund accounts.

5. Operation

5.1 The fund will be operated by the IHO Secretariat on behalf of ABLOS. A copy of the fund accounts will be provided to the Annual Business Meeting of ABLOS and immediately after finalising the accounts following a seminar / conference.

6. Review

6.1 This guidance should be reviewed, and amended as necessary, by ABLOS at intervals not exceeding 4 years.

12. ABLOS WORK PLAN 2018-19

12.1 ABLOS Tasks

A	Organise the 10 th ABLOS Conference in 2019 (IHO Task 2.12.2)
B	Maintain IHO Publication C-51 “Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (TALOS) Manual” (IHO Task 2.12.3)
C	Deliver a standard training program on the hydrographic aspects of maritime delimitation (IHO Task 3.5.2)
D	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea to relevant organizations, bodies and Member States (IHO Task 2.12.3)
E	Organize and prepare ABLOS business meetings in 2018 and 2019 (IHO Task 2.12.1)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
A1	Organise 10 th ABLOS Conference	H	Begin advertising Identify key note speaker Attract presentation abstracts	2017 2017 2017	2019 2019 2019	O C O	All members of ABLOS through Clive Schofield*	N/A	
B1	Prepare draft 6 th Edition of C-51 (TALOS Manual) for adoption by Member States	M		2013	2016	P	Chris Carleton*	IHO Publication C-51	
		H	Generate draft new structure for chapter 3	2014	2016 2017 2018	O			
		H	Review contents of chapters and identify areas requiring revision	2014	2016 2017 2018	O			
		M	Review initial French translation and propose amendments	2018	2019	P	Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette*/Sunil Bisnath		
		M	Review French translations of animations	2018	2019	P	Clive Schofield*/ Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette		

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
C1	Deliver standard training programmes for the CBSC	H		2011	Continuous	O	John Brown*		Workshops planned in 2018 in the CBSC Work Plan.
D1	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea	H		Continuous		O	All members of ABLOS through the Chair		

12.2 ABLOS Meetings (Tasks A & E)

Date	Location	Activity
1 - 6 October 2012	IHB, Monaco	ABLOS 19 and 7 th ABLOS Conference
28 - 29 October 2013	Muscat, Oman	ABLOS 20
21 - 22 October 2014	Copenhagen, Denmark	ABLOS 21
19 - 23 October 2015	IHB, Monaco	ABLOS 22 and 8 th ABLOS Conference
26 - 28 October 2016	Seoul, Korea	ABLOS 23
9 - 12 October 2017	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 24 and 9 th ABLOS Conference
22 – 25 October 2018	Qatar	ABLOS 25
7 - 10 October 2019	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 26 and 10 th ABLOS Conference

Chair: Niels Andersen

Vice-Chair: Izabel King Jeck

Secretary: David Wyatt

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Joint IAG-IHO Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea



25th ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING
Doha, Qatar, 22nd to 25th October 2018

Draft Agenda

1. Welcome address by ??,
2. Domestic and administrative arrangements (*Secretary*)
3. Opening remarks by the Chairman, including welcome to new participants
4. Appointment of Rapporteur
5. Introduction of participants and apologies
6. Adoption of the Agenda
7. Approval of the minutes of the 24th Business Meeting and outcomes of HSSC9 and HSSC10.
8. Review of Actions from BM24
9. ABLOS the way forward:
 - a) Terms of Reference
 - b) Membership, including review of terms
 - c) Capacity Building Training Course
 - d) Future of ABLOS
10. 10th ABLOS Conference 2019 (thoughts and planning):
 - a) Dates and venue
 - b) Organizing Committee
 - c) Conference fund status report
 - d) Title and session themes
 - e) Publicity
 - f) Key Note Speaker
11. TALOS Manual (C-51) – Report of the Editorial Board
12. Reports on members' attendance at LOS related conferences
13. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:
14. Report to IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC), including review of Work Programme and representation/attendance
15. Any Other Business

16. Confirm details of the 26th Business Meeting and 10th ABLOS Conference – venue and dates for 27th Business Meeting
17. Review of List of Actions for BM25 and draft agenda for 26th Business Meeting.
18. Closure of the Meeting

ABLOS Members LOS Related ActivitiesNiels Andersen

- i. Nordic Geodetic Presidium meetings:
 - 13th – 14th December 2016, Helsinki, Finland
 - 3rd – 5th May 2017, Torshavn, Faroe Island
 - 26th June 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark
 - 4th – 6th September 2017, Reykjavik, Island
- ii. Arctic Council, TFTIA, 6th – 8th December 2016, Helsinki, Finland
- iii. Baffin Bay Observing System (BBOS), 27th February – 3rd March 2017, Ottawa, Canada
- iv. Arctic Council Senior Arctic Official (SAO), 6th – 11th March 2017, Juneau, Alaska, USA
- v. 2nd Top of the World Arctic Broadband Summit (keynote speaker), 14th – 15th June 2017, Oulu, Finland
- vi. An Integrated European Union Policy for THE ARCTIC, 15th – 16th June 2017, Oulu, Finland

John Brown

- i. Attended inaugural S-121 Project Team meeting at UN in New York December 2016 and participated in work of PT at teleconferencing meetings;
- ii. Presented technical Law of the Sea Workshop at University of Malta held in March 2017;
- iii. Tutor at a workshop on Maritime Boundary delimitation held by the International Boundary Research Unit of Durham University held in London June 2017;
- iv. Attended London International Boundary Conference June 2017; and
- v. Co-presented a workshop on maritime boundary delimitation at IFLOS Summer Academy in Hamburg August 2017.

Hyunsoo Kim

- i. The 5th IEODO International Seminar, "Legal and Practical Aspects on Maritime Peace in South China Sea", IEODO Research Institute, Jeju, Korea, November 18, 2016;
- ii. Joint Seminar between Inha University Law School and China University of Political Science and Law, "Legal and Practical Aspects on the South China Sea Dispute", Taipei, Taiwan, January 16, 2017; and
- iii. The 3rd Annual International Symposium on Boundary and Ocean Studies, "Legal and Practical Similarities and Differences between the East China Sea and the South China Sea", Beijing, China, September 23, 2107.

Sunil Bisnath

- i. Approximately quarterly meetings of the Advisory Committee on Undersea Feature Names (ACUFN) in Canada as a member; and

- ii. April 2017. Ocean Frontiers Workshop, York University, Toronto.

Clive Schofield

Conferences/Meetings:

- i. 2017 South China Sea Workshop: SCS Arbitration and Incidental Maritime Issues/Maritime Law Enforcement: Asia-Pacific State Practice Conference, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam/Korea Institute for Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST), Da Nang, Vietnam, 16-17 June 2017;
- ii. 7th South China Sea Conference and closed-door workshop, Center for Security and International Studies (CSIS), Washington DC, 18-19 July 2017;
- iii. Oceans and Climate Change Governance, Law of the Sea Institute (LOSI) conference, World Maritime University, Malmö, 14-15 August 2017; and
- iv. Inter-sessional meeting of the International Law Association (ILA), Lopud, Croatia, 15-17 September 2017.

Capacity-building Workshops:

- v. Yeosu Academy on the Law of the Sea, 7-11 November 2016;
- vi. UN-Nippon Foundation Fellows Alumni Conference, Bali, 28-30 November 2016; and
- vii. CIL-ANCORS Maritime Delimitation Workshop, Singapore, 6-8 June 2017.

Izabel King Jeck

- viii. My activities involving ABLOS are just related to meeting with CLCS - 3 meetings in NOV / FEB and AUG; and
- ix. Meeting with Chilean group to discuss UNCLOS issues in the application of Art 76.

Shin Tani

- i. All events took place in Japan except for the SCUFN meeting of October in Genova, Italy.
- ii. Delivered a lecture on EEZ and ECS at “Ice Sea Technology Workshop” in February 2017;
- iii. Participated in a seminar on “Research on Northern Sea Route” in March;
- iv. Participated in a symposium on “Arctic Study and Japan” in March;
- v. Participated in a research group meeting on “Arctic Future” in May;
- vi. Participated in a Workshop on “Arctic Future” in May;
- vii. Participated in a Workshop on “Arctic Future” in June;
- viii. Participated in a Seminar on Arctic in July;
- ix. Participated in a Workshop on “Arctic Future” in September; and
- x. Participated in the annual meeting of GEBCO/SCUFN in October.