

IHO File No. S1/6100/2020

ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N° 27
25 June 2020

2nd SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY (A-2)
Monaco, 16-18 November 2020

approval of the second tranche of proposals originally for consideration by the 2nd session of the assembly

References:

- A. IHO ACL 17/2020 dated 20 March 2020 – *Proposed Scenario on the Postponement of A-2.*
- B. IHO ACL 19/2020 dated 21 April 2020 – *Approval of the scenario on the postponement of the 2nd Session of the IHO Assembly and associated activities resulting from exceptional circumstances due to COVID-19*
- C. IHO ACL 22/2020 dated 4 May 2020 – *Call for approval of the second tranche of proposal originally for consideration by the 2nd session of the Assembly*
- D. IHO ACL 25/2020 dated 5 June 2020 - *Result of the election for the position of IHO director*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Reference B informed you about the approval of the Member States on the proposed scenario on the postponement of the 2nd Session of the IHO Assembly and associated activities resulting from exceptional circumstances due to COVID-19 (Reference A refers).
2. As a consequence, Reference C invited Member States to vote on the second tranche of proposals originally for consideration by the 2nd session of the Assembly.
3. The IHO Secretariat thanks the following 54 Member States who responded to all, or some of, the proposals submitted through Reference B: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America and Uruguay.

4. This second tranche consists of seven (7) separate final proposals (annexed to Reference C). The results of the votes are summarized in the following table:

Proposal	Title of the Proposal	Number of MS who voted yes	Number of MS who voted no
PRO 1.6	Revision of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council and consequence on Rules 8 and 11 - Timing of Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	52	1
PRO 1.10	Establishing an IHO strategy and resolution for gender-inclusive language		
	Part one: IHO Resolution	53	0
	Part two: IHO Decisions	50 ¹	2 ¹
PRO 2.4	Establishing a joint IHO-Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory	54	0
PRO 3.1	Revision of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 - Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC)	51	0
PRO 3.2	Revision of the IHO Resolution 1/2005 - IHO Response to Disasters	52	0
Pro b) of Council Chair report	Convene Council meetings regularly at the IHO Secretariat	53	0
Pro c) of Council Chair report	Adopt as the main theme until Assembly 3 (A-3) "the effective implementation of the Revised Strategic Plan" keeping in mind to apply the principles of ISO 9001.	53	0

5. Ten Member States (Chile, Colombia, Croatia, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Netherlands, Spain and United Kingdom) offered comments in addition to their vote. These comments and the outcome of their review by the Secretariat are provided in Annex A to this Circular Letter.

6. When Reference A was issued, there were 93 Member States of the IHO with four States suspended. In accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the IHO, as amended, the conditions for approval of the proposal as stipulated in paragraph 28 of Reference A have been met.

7. As a consequence, and in application of the principles stated in Reference A (paragraphs 14 and 28), *ex-post facto* approval of the final Proposals 1.6, 1.10, 2.4, 3.1 and 3.2 plus the proposals b) and c) made by the Council Chair is deemed as to have been given by the Assembly.

¹ Plus one abstention.

Decision No.6 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved Revision of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council and consequence on Rules 8 and 11 - Timing of Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Decision No.7 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the establishment of an IHO strategy and resolution for gender-inclusive language.

The Assembly tasked the Secretary-General to:

- to conduct a comprehensive review of the IHO Basic Documents and Resolutions, adopting the UN Guidelines on Gender-inclusive Language, and to provide draft revisions of IHO Publications M-1 and M-3 for the consideration of the Assembly at the next ordinary session (A-3).
- to monitor the IHO's progress towards the implementation of the UN Guidelines on Gender-inclusive Language to all IHO documentation and communications and report to the Assembly at the next ordinary session (A-3).

Decision No.8 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the establishment a joint IHO-Singapore innovation and technology laboratory in Singapore to coordinate and testbed initiatives under the proposed composition, governance structure and terms of reference for the governing board and the management team.

The Assembly tasked

- the Secretariat as well as the Chairs of HSSC and IRCC to represent the IHO on the governing board and report regularly to the Council;
- the Council to advise the governing board of the laboratory on other themes and projects regarded as supportive to the IHO Work Programme.

Decision No.9 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the Revision of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 – Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC) (Assembly Document A2_2020_PRO3-1_EN_Res_21997_cc_v1).

Decision No.10 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved Revision of the IHO Resolution 1/2005 - IHO Response to Disasters (Assembly Document A2_2020_PRO3-2_EN_Res_12005_cc_v1)

Decision No.11 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, confirmed the option to convene Council meetings regularly at the IHO Secretariat until the Council decides otherwise.

Decision No.12 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, confirmed the adoption of the effective implementation of the Revised

Strategic Plan keeping in mind to apply the principles of ISO 9001 as the main theme of supervision and control of the Council until Assembly 3 (A-3).

8. The detailed text of the decisions been made for Pro 1.6, Pro 1.10 and Pro 2.4 are provided in Annexes B, C and D to this Assembly Circular Letter for ease of convenience and are to be implemented in the IHO Basic Documents in due course (M-1 and M-3). The cumulative list of all ex-post facto decisions, made by the Assembly so far, are provided in Annex E.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mathias Jonas', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

- Annex A: Member State's responses to IHO ACL 22/2020 and comments from the Secretariat
- Annex B: Red Line version of the approved text of Proposals 1.6
- Annex C: Clean version of the approved text of Proposals 1.6
- Annex D: Text of the new IHO Resolution addressing gender-inclusive language to be used in IHO documents and communications
- Annex E: Cumulative List of Assembly Decisions as of 25 June 2020

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO IHO ACL 22/2020 AND COMMENTS
FROM THE IHO SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**APPROVAL OF THE SECOND TRANCHE OF PROPOSALS ORIGINALLY FOR
CONSIDERATION BY THE 2ND SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY**

PRO 1.6 **Revision of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the
IHO Council and consequence on Rules 8 and 11 -
Timing of Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair**

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Las actualizaciones son correctas y oportunas.

Updates are correct and timely.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

CROATIA (Vote = YES)

Croatia supports this proposal because it believes that this revised procedure will have a positive effect on the effectiveness of the IHO Council.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

GHANA (Vote = YES)

Delete [postal].

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat took due note of the wide acceptance and the effective application of digital voting in the course of the election process of the new IHO Director (Reference D refers). The Secretariat invites Member States to submit proposals how future voting processes can be facilitated by digital means under normal and exceptional circumstances.

NETHERLANDS (Vote = NO)

COVID-19 lead to a new insight on voting. Digital voting is now also an option besides postal voting. This insight should be reflected in rule 12 (b), (d) and (e). Either delete "postal" in front of "ballot" or insert "or digital" after "postal".

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat took due note of the wide acceptance and the effective application of digital voting in the course of the election process of the new IHO Director (Reference D refers). The

Secretariat invites Member States to submit proposals how future voting processes can be facilitated by digital means under normal and exceptional circumstances.

PRO 1.10 Establishing an IHO strategy and resolution for gender-inclusive language

Part one: IHO Resolution

CHILE (Vote = YES)

No hay comentario.

No comment.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Es preciso el lenguaje inclusivo.

Inclusive language is needed.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

INDONESIA (Vote = YES)

No objection from Indonesia related gender-Inclusive-language since it's in line with UN resolution

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

Part two: IHO Decisions

CHILE (Vote = NO)

Chile does not support this second part "Decisions of the IHO", as this new activity generates an extra workload for the Secretary-General, an activity which is not associated with the mission nor the objectives of the IHO. Having a Resolution as the one supported in the First Part of this proposal should be sufficient to demonstrate the IHO willingness to comply with UN "gender inclusive language" guidelines.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Es necesario iniciar ya el cambio. Ojalá, cada CHR inicie lo propio en sus estatutos.

It is necessary to start the change now. Hopefully, each RHC initiates the same in its statutes.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

SPAIN (Vote = NO)

This IHM acknowledges the importance of adopting United Nations Guidelines on Gender-inclusive Language, but we consider that a comprehensive review and draft revisions of IHO Publications M-1 & M-3 would increase significantly the workload of the Secretary-General at the expense of other tasks. It is our view that the aforementioned publications could be revised at the earliest possible opportunity in conjunction with other content editing or revision, much like other documents.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

**PRO 2.4 Establishing a joint IHO-Singapore Innovation and
Technology Laboratory**

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Será un gran apoyo para el crecimiento de capacidades

It will be a great support for capacity building.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

CROATIA (Vote = YES)

Croatia supports this proposal. Considering the ever-increasing pace and cycle of technological change as well as demands for proper decisions making at the policy level regarding the adoption and implementation of new technologies, it would be useful to have an Innovation and Technology Lab also tasked with education and advising the IHO and global hydrographic community in the very specific field such as hydrography.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

INDONESIA (Vote = YES)

If possible, this innovation could make collaboration with University of technology or Maritime University in Regional Countries for example University from Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat recommends to explain this suggestion at the forthcoming HSSC meeting under the relevant agenda item.

PRO 3.1**Revision of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 - Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC)****CHILE** (Vote = YES)

El parrafo "LIDERSHIP" hace referencia a un documento, el "IRCC document titled Roles and Responsibilities of Regional Hydrographic Commission Chairs", que no existe. Cuando Chile hizo esta observacion, la que quede consignada en el Libro Rojo, genere el siguiente comentario del SG:

*SECRETARY-GENERAL's RESPONSE TO MEMBER STATES COMMENTS:
In response to Chile's request for an IRCC document titled "ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CHAIRS" the Secretary-General wishes to clarify that this document is to be drafted in result of the approval of Proposal 3.1.*

Sin embargo no hay ninguna referencia en la Propuesta 3.1 que precise que en caso de ser esta aprobada, el documento titulado "ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CHAIRS" debera ser preparado. Menos hay indicacion sobre quien lo preparara, en que plazo y quien lo aprobara.

The paragraph "LEADERSHIP" refers to a document, the "IRCC document entitled Roles and Responsibilities of Regional Hydrographic Commission Chairs", which does not exist. When Chile made this observation, which was recorded in the Red Book, it generated the following comment from the SG:

*SECRETARY-GENERAL's RESPONSE TO MEMBER STATES COMMENTS:
In response to Chile's request for an IRCC document titled "ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CHAIRS" the Secretary-General wishes to clarify that this document is to be drafted as a result of the approval of Proposal 3.1. However, there is no reference in Proposal 3.1*

To specify that if approved, the document entitled "ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CHAIRS" should be prepared. Except for an indication of who will prepare it, when it will be prepared and who will approve it.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat recommends adoption of a work item to the IRCC Work Programme to draft a document entitled "ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CHAIRS" as a consequence of the approval of this proposal.

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Las actualizaciones son claras y los reportes nacionales abarcan todos los escenarios de un servicio hidrográfico.

The updates are clear and the national reports cover all scenarios of a hydrographic service.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

INDIA (Vote = YES)

Minimum common statutes be drafted for all RHCs to align with the revised resolution 2/1997 especially pertaining to mission and memberships.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat recommends to submit this proposal for discussion at the forthcoming IRCC meeting.

INDONESIA (Vote = YES)

For similarity of each RHC, if possible the length of the chair or vice chair position also is regulated. To regulate the countries whose membership status is suspended whether they are permitted to attend the annual RHC meeting or not, if permitted what rights are given and rights not given.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat recommends to submit this proposal for discussion at the forthcoming IRCC meeting.

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Las actividades descritas para el servicio hidrográfico son correctas. Estas deben ser conocidas por las agencias de Gobierno para que la labor inmediata del servicio hidrográfico sean inmediatamente tenida en cuenta.

The activities described for the hydrographic service are correct. They should be known by the government agencies so that the immediate work of the hydrographic service is immediately taken into account.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat recommends to distribute the named resolution and associated IHO instruments nationally.

FRANCE (Vote = YES)

La France soutien cette proposition et remercie le Japon pour son investissement sur le sujet. A l'occasion d'une future révision de la résolution 1/2005, il pourrait être pertinent d'étendre le périmètre des catastrophes couvertes aux événements découlant de l'action de l'homme. La résolution 1/2005 de l'OHI traite de la réponse de l'OHI en cas de catastrophe d'origine naturelle : « tremblements de terre, tsunamis, ouragans et autres catastrophes naturelles » comme cela est mentionné en introduction de la résolution.

Il serait intéressant de recueillir l'avis des Etats membres sur l'opportunité d'étendre le cadre de la résolution aux catastrophes dues à l'homme pour lesquelles une réponse de l'OHI pourrait s'avérer nécessaire, comme par exemple en réponse à des accidents de transport aériens ou maritimes.

A ce titre, l'Organisation internationale de protection civile (OIPC) propose une catégorisation des différentes catastrophes qui pourrait utilement être citée dans la résolution (<http://icdo.org/fr/catastropes.html>).

France supports this proposal and thanks Japan for its investment on the subject.

On the occasion of a future revision of resolution 1/2005, it might be relevant to extend the scope of the disasters covered to events resulting from human action.

IHO resolution 1/2005 deals with IHO's response to natural disasters: "earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes and other natural disasters" as mentioned in the introduction to the resolution.

It would be interesting to obtain the views of Member States on the advisability of extending the framework of the resolution to man-made disasters for which an IHO response might be necessary, such as for example in response to air or maritime transport accidents.

In this respect, the International Civil Defence Organisation (ICDO) proposes a categorisation of the various disasters which could usefully be cited in the resolution (<http://icdo.org/fr/catastropes.html>).

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

INDONESIA (Vote = YES)

If possible to be included in the P-5 (year book), contact number of the institution whose handling for disasters, because every country has different institutions.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat recommends to submit this proposal for discussion at the forthcoming IRCC meeting.

Pro b) of Council Chair report: **Convene Council meetings regularly at the IHO Secretariat**

CHILE (Vote = YES)

La enmienda introducida a lo propuesto por el Presidente del Consejo desvirtua la idea central. Lo que se debe o no aprobar es lo que propone el Presidente del Consejo, que dice relación con la decisión de convocar las reuniones del Consejo regularmente en la Secretaría de la OHi.

The amendment introduced to what was proposed by the Chair of the Council distorts the central idea. What should or should not be approved is what the Chair of the Council proposes, which is related to the decision to convene the meetings of the Council regularly at the IHO Secretariat.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedures of Council (M-1 refers) direct that:

The Council shall meet at least once a year at the seat of the Organization unless convened elsewhere, in accordance with a decision of the Council, at a date fixed at the close of the previous meeting. The duration of the meeting, which shall not normally exceed three working days, shall be fixed at the close of the previous meeting.

The Proposal of the Council Chair was understood that this rule remains in place but the option to meet elsewhere is suspended because of the arguments given in Reference C, Annex F.

INDONESIA (Vote = YES)

Indonesia agrees with decision to convene Council meetings regularly at the IHO Secretariat Proposed by Secretary General.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

UNITED KINGDOM (Vote = YES)

The UK suggests that the IHO make provision for Council members to be able to partake in Council meetings remotely.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

United Kingdom`s suggestion is interpreted as such that the Secretariat is encouraged to make provisions for hybrid meetings composing physical presence and remote participation of Council members.

The Secretariat is constantly monitoring the effects of the Covid-19 crisis on the operations of the IHO organs such as the Council. The Secretariat is of the view that the *new normal after the crisis* will result in new forms of consultations. This new type of collective deliberations will compose meetings, video conferences, digital voting and correspondences in hybrid arrangements consisting of more than one of those elements.

A specific challenge to be met will be decision making through voting in direct timely coincidence to subject matter discussions. The Secretariat is currently investigating all sorts of combinations of the noted elements, searches for best practice examples and invests in technology for their proper conduct. The fact that IHO membership stretches over 20 time zones and the working languages are not the mother tongue for the majority of the Member States adds to the challenge.

**Pro c)
of Council
Chair report**

Adopt as the main theme until Assembly 3 (A-3) “the effective implementation of the Revised Strategic Plan” keeping in mind to apply the principles of ISO 9001.

CHILE (Vote = YES)

El cambio hecho al texto propuesto confunde, pues resulta en una mezcla de componentes que ignoran que lo medular es la implementación del Plan Estratégico. Chile solicita que se emplee el texto original propuesto por el Presidente del Consejo o en su defecto el siguiente:

The change made to the proposed text is confusing, as it results in a mixture of components that ignore that the implementation of the Strategic Plan is at the core. Chile requests that the original text proposed by the Chair of the Council be used or, in its absence, the following text:

"Confirm the adoption of "the effective implementation of the Revised Strategic Plan" as the main theme until the 3rd Assembly (A-3), keeping in mind the application of the principles of ISO 9001"

Comments by the Secretary-General:

The Secretariat has got the confirmation that the proposed wording reflects the intentions of the Council Chair's proposal appropriately.

COLOMBIA (Vote = YES)

Es necesario que el Consejo OHI apoye la aplicación del plan estratégico.

The IHO Council needs to support the implementation of the strategic plan.

Comments by the Secretary-General:

Noted.

Red Line version of the approved text of Proposals 1.6

PRO 1.6: Revision of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council and consequence on Rules 8 and 11 - Timing of Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair (*Final proposal compiled by the Secretary-General*)

Red-line version of the approved revision

Revised Rules 8, 11 and 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council

[Proposed changes in the initial proposal are shown in red / ~~red~~.

[Changes proposed by the Secretary-General compared to the red line version of the initial proposal made to A-2 are shown underlined]

RULE 8

The provisional agenda of meetings of the Council shall include:

(a) adoption of the Agenda;

(b) election of the Chair and Vice-Chair, when necessary in accordance with Rule 12 (f) of these Rules of Procedure;

~~(bc)~~ any item the inclusion of which has been requested by the Assembly;

....

RULE 11

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by the Members for a period of three years, ~~or until the end of the next ordinary session of the Assembly.~~

RULE 12

(a) Members shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair ~~during their first meeting~~ by ~~correspondence as soon as is practicable~~ after each ordinary session of the Assembly.

~~(b) The Secretary-General shall chair the opening of that first meeting until election of the Chair. The Secretary-General shall be responsible for conducting the election and act as interim Chair of the Council during the election process. The election shall be held by secret postal ballot. Under normal circumstances, the following timetable shall apply:~~

(A = last day of the ordinary session of the Assembly)

A + five weeks Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council closed

A + ten weeks Voting closed

(c) The candidates receiving the largest number of votes for each position shall be elected with the minimum number of votes cast being at least two-third of the Members.

(d) At meetings where the Chair and Vice-Chair are to be elected those elections shall respectively be the second and third items on the agenda. In the event of a tie for the position of Chair, a second round run-off will take place by postal ballot between those nominees with the highest equal number of votes. The following timetable shall apply:

(A = last day of the ordinary session of the Assembly)

A + fifteen weeks Voting closed

(e) In the event of a tie for the position of Vice-Chair, a second round run-off will take place by postal ballot between those nominees with the highest equal number of votes. The following timetable shall apply:

(A = last day of the ordinary session of the Assembly)

A + fifteen weeks Voting closed

(f) ~~or in~~ In the case of a vacancy arising in the position of Chair and Vice-Chair during the inter-sessional period, an election shall take place during the next meeting of the Council. The nominations for the position shall be closed ten weeks before the opening day of the meeting of the Council and the Secretary-General shall submit the list of nominees to the Members together with the supporting documents for the meeting at least two months prior to the opening day of the meeting.

Clean version of the approved text of Proposals 1.6

PRO 1.6: Revision of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council and consequence on Rules 8 and 11 - Timing of Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair (*Final proposal compiled by the Secretary-General*)

Clean version of the approved revision

Revised Rules 8, 11 and 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council

RULE 8

The provisional agenda of meetings of the Council shall include:

- (a) adoption of the Agenda;
- (b) election of the Chair and Vice-Chair, when necessary in accordance with Rule 12 (f) of these Rules of Procedure;
- (c) any item the inclusion of which has been requested by the Assembly;

....

RULE 11

The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by the Members for a period of three years, or until the end of the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

RULE 12

- (d) Members shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair by correspondence as soon as is practicable after each ordinary session of the Assembly.
- (e) The Secretary-General shall be responsible for conducting the election and act as interim Chair of the Council during the election process. The election shall be held by secret postal ballot. Under normal circumstances, the following timetable shall apply:

(A = last day of the ordinary session of the Assembly)

A + five weeks Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council closed

A + ten weeks Voting closed

- (f) The candidates receiving the largest number of votes for each position shall be elected with the minimum number of votes cast being at least two-third of the Members.
- (d) At meetings where the Chair and Vice-Chair are to be elected those elections shall respectively be the second and third items on the agenda. In the event of a tie for the position of Chair, a second round run-off will take place by postal ballot between those nominees with the highest equal number of votes. The following timetable shall apply:

(A = last day of the ordinary session of the Assembly)

A + fifteen weeks Voting closed

- (f) In the event of a tie for the position of Vice-Chair, a second round run-off will take place by postal ballot between those nominees with the highest equal number of votes. The following timetable shall apply:

(A = last day of the ordinary session of the Assembly)

A + fifteen weeks Voting closed

- (f) In the case of a vacancy arising in the position of Chair and Vice-Chair during the inter-sessional period, an election shall take place during the next meeting of the Council. The nominations for the position shall be closed ten weeks before the opening day of the meeting of the Council and the Secretary-General shall submit the list of nominees to the Members together with the supporting documents for the meeting at least two months prior to the opening day of the meeting.

Pro 1.10: Proposal to establish an IHO Strategy and resolution for gender-inclusive language *(Final proposal compiled by the Secretary-General)*

Part one: IHO Resolution

TITLE	Reference	Last amendment (CL or IHC/A)	1 st Edition Reference
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GENDER-INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE TO BE USED IN IHO DOCUMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS	x/2020	IHO A-2	
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1 Given that language plays an important role in shaping cultural and social attitudes, it is resolved that the Secretariat and all IHO organs must ensure that the language used in IHO documents and communications issued or amended will be gender inclusive as per the UN Guidelines on Gender-inclusive Language in both official languages English and French. For the case that Spanish translations are provided by the Secretariat the above guidelines will apply too.

2 Documents produced prior to the approval of this resolution will be updated at the earliest possible opportunity and, preferably, in conjunction with other content editing or revision.

Cumulative List of Assembly Decisions as of 25 June 2020

Decision No.1 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly, following a special voting procedure depicted in ACL 20/2020 and reported in ACL 25/2020, elected Rear Admiral Luigi SINAPI (Italy) to a post of Director for a term of office of six years starting on 1 September 2020.
Decision No.2 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the interpretation that the Council has the authority to request and consider proposals submitted by Member States or the Secretary-General and confirmed that the Council is entitled to propose amendments to the General Regulations of the IHO for Member States' approval.
Decision No.3 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the final proposal compiled by the Secretary-General on the revision of Articles 14, 15, 20 and 25 of the General Regulations of the IHO (ACL 26/2020 refers).
Decision No.4 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the final proposal compiled by the Secretary-General on the revision of Clause (c) of Article 16 of the General Regulations of the IHO – Hydrographic Interest (ACL 26/2020 refers).
Decision No.5 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved Table of Tonnages, Shares, Contribution and Votes (2021-2023) (Assembly Document – A2_2020_G_03_EN - Table of Tonnages, Shares, Contribution and Votes (2021-2023))
Decision No.6 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved Revision of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council and consequence on Rules 8 and 11 - Timing of Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Decision No.7 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the establishment of an IHO strategy and resolution for gender-inclusive language.

The Assembly tasked the Secretary-General to:

- to conduct a comprehensive review of the IHO Basic Documents and Resolutions, adopting the UN Guidelines on Gender-inclusive Language, and to provide draft revisions of IHO Publications M-1 and M-3 for the consideration of the Assembly at the next ordinary session (A-3).
- to monitor the IHO's progress towards the implementation of the UN Guidelines on Gender-inclusive Language to all IHO documentation and communications and report to the Assembly at the next ordinary session (A-3).

Decision No.8 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the establishment in Singapore to coordinate and testbed initiatives under the proposed composition, governance structure and terms of reference for the governing board and the management team.

The Assembly tasked

- the Secretariat as well as the Chairs of HSSC and IRCC to represent the IHO on the governing board and report regularly to the Council;
- the Council to advise the governing board of the laboratory on other themes and projects regarded as supportive to the IHO Work Programme.

Decision No.9 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved the Revision of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 – Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC) (Assembly Document A2_2020_PRO3-1_EN_Res_21997_cc_v1).

Decision No.10 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, approved Revision of the IHO Resolution 1/2005 - IHO Response to Disasters (Assembly Document A2_2020_PRO3-2_EN_Res_12005_cc_v1)

Decision No.11 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, confirmed the option to convene Council meetings regularly at the IHO Secretariat until the Council decides otherwise.

Decision No.12 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly, following the approved voting procedure by correspondence as reported in ACL 19/2020, confirmed the adoption of the effective implementation of the Revised Strategic Plan keeping in mind to apply the principles of ISO 9001 as the main theme of supervision and control of the Council until Assembly 3 (A-3).