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ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N° 28
27 July 2020

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

FORMATION OF THE IHO COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD 2020 – 2023
AND
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITIONS OF
CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE IHO COUNCIL

References:

- A. Publication M1, Edition 2.1.0, June 2017 - Basic Documents of the International Hydrographic Organization
- B. IHO CL 52/2019 Rev1 23 October 2019 – Notice of the distribution of regionally-based seats on the IHO Council
- C. IHO ACL 27/2020 – Approval of the second tranche of proposals originally for consideration by the 2nd session of the Assembly and Decision n° 6 of A-2, 2020.
- D. 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

Dear Hydrographer,

1. According to the Rules of Procedures of the Council (Reference A), based on the individual responses of the RHC chairs to Reference B the Secretariat is now in the position to provide the complete list of members of the IHO Council for the period 2020 – 2023.
2. The regionally-based seats are allocated as follows:

Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC)	Member States (MS) eligible to occupy one of the 20 Council seat(s) allocated to the RHCs (MS that are Members of more than one RHC shown in bold) (MS whose rights are suspended shown in strike through)	Number of MS to be counted in the calculation of the number of seats on a proportional basis	Number of Council seats allocated to the RHC	MS selected by the RHC to occupy the Council seat(s) allocated to the RHC
MBSHC	Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France , Georgia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia , Slovenia, Spain , Syria , Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine.	17	3	Italy, France, Spain
MACHC	Brazil , Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands , Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela.	11	2	Brazil, Netherlands
EAHC	Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia , Japan, Korea (Rep of), Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand	10	2	Indonesia, Thailand
RSAHC	Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan , Qatar, Saudi Arabia , United Arab Emirates	8	2	Iran, Oman
SWPHC	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Is., Tonga, USA , Vanuatu	8	1	Australia
NIOHC	Bangladesh, Egypt , India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka	5	1	India
SAIHC	Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, United Kingdom	5	1	South Africa
EAthC	Cameroon, Ghana, Morocco , Nigeria, Portugal	5	1	Portugal
NSHC	Belgium, Germany , Iceland , Ireland	4	1	Germany
BSHC	Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Sweden	4	1	Sweden
SEPRHC	Chile, Colombia , Ecuador, Peru	4	1	Peru
ARHC	Denmark , Norway , Russian Federation ,	3	1	Russian Federation
SWAthC	Argentina, Uruguay	2	1	Argentina
NHC	Finland	1	1	Finland
USCHC	Canada	1	1	Canada
Total		88	20	

3. The Member States ranked as the first ten on the tonnage list used for the allocation of seats (See paragraph 7 in Reference B) confirmed their acceptance of a seat in the IHO Council for the period 2020 – 2023, namely:

1	China
2	Singapore
3	Malta
4	United Kingdom
5	Republic of Korea
6	Greece
7	United States of America
8	Cyprus
9	Japan
10	Norway

4. As a consequence *ex-post facto* approval is assumed for the following decision:

Decision No 13 of A-2, 2020 is
The Assembly reviewed and endorsed the selection process for the Council as proposed in IHO CL 52/2019 Rev1 and approved the composition of the Council set out in Annex A of IHO ACL 28/2020 for the period 2020-2023 (until the 3 rd session of the Assembly).

5. The first formal activity of the new Council under normal circumstances is the election of the Council Chair and Vice-Chair by the Council members. The election shall be held by secret postal ballot within ten weeks after the Assembly (see Annex C of Reference C: revised Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council).

6. However, since IHO Member States approved to hold the annual session of the IHO Council from 18 to 19 November 2020 in direct continuation of the preceding IHO Assembly (Reference D) the Secretariat suggests to hold the election of the Council Chair and Vice-Chair in advance of the Assembly by digital voting in application of the Council RoPs as given by the revised Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council (see Annex C of Reference C).

7. In order to facilitate the process of this forthcoming election, members of the IHO Council are invited to nominate suitable candidates for the position of Chair and Vice-Chair at their earliest convenience via e-mail to the Secretariat at info@iho.int. Nominations will be accepted **until 31 August 2020**.

8. Before closing I would like to extend my appreciation for the constructive work of the outgoing Council having been the first one of this kind in the IHO's history. Finally I wish to express my personal gratitude for the excellent leadership of the Council Chair, Shepard Smith, USA and Vice-Chair, Luiz Fernando Palmer, Brazil.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Annex A: Council Membership list

Annex B: Cumulative list of Assembly Decisions as of 27 July 2020

**Council Membership List – Liste des Membres du Conseil
2020 - 2023**

No	Member State – <i>Etat membre</i>	Selected by – <i>sélectionné par</i>
1	Australia - <i>Australie</i>	SWPHC-CHPSO
2	Argentina - <i>Argentine</i>	SWAtHC-CHAISO
3	Brazil - <i>Brésil</i>	MACHC-CHMAC
4	Canada	USCHC-CHUSC
5	Finland - <i>Finlande</i>	NHC-CHN
6	France	MBSHC-CHMMN
7	Germany - <i>Allemagne</i>	NSHC-CHMN
8	India - <i>Inde</i>	NIOHC-CHOIS
9	Indonesia - <i>Indonésie</i>	EAHC-CHAO
10	Iran (Islamic Rep. Of) – <i>Iran (Rép. Islamique d')</i>	RSAHC-CHZMR
11	Italy - <i>Italie</i>	MBSHC-CHMMN
12	Netherlands – <i>Pays-Bas</i>	MACHC-CHMAC
13	Oman	RSAHC-CHZMR
14	Peru - <i>Pérou</i>	SEPRHC-CHRPSE
15	Portugal	EAtHC-CHAIO
16	Russian Federation – <i>Fédération de Russie</i>	ARHC-CHRA
17	South Africa – <i>Afrique du Sud</i>	SAIHC-CHAIA
18	Spain - <i>Espagne</i>	MBSHC-CHMMN
19	Sweden - <i>Suède</i>	BSHC-CHMB
20	Thailand - <i>Thaïlande</i>	EAHC-CHAO
21	China - <i>Chine</i>	Hydrographic Interest
22	Singapore - <i>Singapour</i>	Hydrographic Interest
23	Malta - <i>Malte</i>	Hydrographic Interest
24	United Kingdom – <i>Royaume- Uni</i>	Hydrographic Interest
25	Republic of Korea – <i>République de Corée</i>	Hydrographic Interest
26	Greece - <i>Grèce</i>	Hydrographic Interest
27	United States of America – <i>Etats-Unis d'Amérique</i>	Hydrographic Interest
28	Cyprus - <i>Chypre</i>	Hydrographic Interest
29	Japan - <i>Japon</i>	Hydrographic Interest
30	Norway - <i>Norvège</i>	Hydrographic Interest

Cumulative List of Assembly Decisions as of 27 July 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).

Decision No 13 of A-2, 2020 is

The Assembly reviewed and endorsed the selection process for the Council as proposed in IHO CL 52/2019 Rev1 and approved the composition of the Council set out in Annex A of IHO ACL 28/2020 for the period 2020-2023 (until the 3rd session of the Assembly).