

IHO File No. S1/6100/2023

**ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N°2 Rev1/  
Bis2  
29 November 2022**

**3<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY (A-3)**

**Monaco, NEW DATE: 2-5 May 2023**

**NOMINATION OF ABRAHAM KAMPFER BY THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
FOR THE POST OF SECRETARY-GENERAL AND DIRECTOR OF THE IHO**

References:

- A. Assembly Circular Letter No.2 dated 06 May 2022 – *Call for nomination of candidates for the position of IHO Secretary-General and IHO Director.*
- B. General Regulations of the IHO, Article 21
- C. General Regulations of the IHO, Article 26 (a)

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Reference A invited IHO Member States to nominate candidates for the position of IHO Secretary-General and IHO Director and indicated that the names of candidates and their nomination forms will be published as soon as they are received.
2. The Republic of South Africa has nominated **Abraham KAMPFER** to stand for re-election (Reference C) at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IHO Assembly for the post of Secretary-General and Director of the IHO. The nomination form is enclosed.
3. As required by Reference B, the Secretary-General will collate all the nominations received and present a consolidated inventory as part of the documentation for the consideration of the Assembly.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General

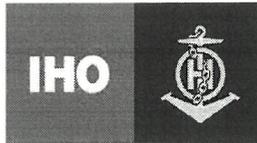
Annex: Nomination Form from South Africa

**Candidature for a post of<sup>1</sup>**

**SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**DIRECTOR**

(Article 20 of the General Regulations)



**Candidature à un poste de<sup>1</sup>**

**SECRETARE GENERAL**

**DIRECTEUR**

(Article 20 du Règlement général)

**GENERAL - GENERALITES**

1. Nominating Member State - *Etat membre qui présente le candidat*: **South Africa**
2. Name – *Nom*: Abraham KAMPFER
3. Nationality – *Nationalité*: South African
4. Date of birth – *Date de naissance*: 15 August 1959
5. Title and décorations – *Titres et décorations*:

Director, IHO

Captain, SA Navy (retired)

Military Merit Medal (MMM)

**EDUCATION AND LANGUAGES - ETUDES ET LANGUES**

6. Education (periods, including specialized or special qualifications) – *Etudes (durée, y compris les qualifications de spécialisation ou les qualifications spéciales)*:

Qualified as Professional Hydrographic Surveyor with SA Council for  
Professional and Technical Surveyors (PLATO) 2008

RNHMS DRAKE, UK - Advanced Hydrographic Survey Course (FIG/IHO Cat A)  
University of Plymouth – Postgraduate Diploma in Hydrographic Surveying 2002

South African Naval Hydrographic School – Basic Hydrographic Survey Course 2001

South African Naval Staff College – Senior Command & Staff Course 1996

<sup>1</sup> Tick one box or both

South African Naval Warfare School – Combat Officer Qualifying (PWO)	1988
South African Naval Staff College – Junior Staff & Warfare Course	1987
South African Naval Warfare School – Mine Warfare Specialization	1982
South African Naval College	1980

7. Languages (speaking and reading knowledge) – *Langues (parole et lecture)*:

Afrikaans (mother tongue)

English (fluent speaking & reading)

French (basic speaking & reading)

Dutch & Flemish (basic speaking & reading)

P.T.O.

T.S.V.P.

## SERVICE AND EXPERIENCE<sup>2</sup> - SERVICES ET EXPERIENCE<sup>2</sup>

### 8. Hydrographic service – Services dans l'hydrographie :

#### (a) Sea service (periods and posts) – Services à la mer (durée et postes):

Officer Commanding      Hydrographic Survey Vessel SAS PROTEA      2001 - 2004

#### (b) Shore service (periods and posts) – Services à terre (durée et postes) :

Acting Hydrographer, SA Navy      June 2003 - February 2004

Hydrographer, SA Navy      February 2004 – August 2017

#### (c) IHO related activities - Activités relatives à l'OHI

Director of the International Hydrographic Organization since September 2017

Chair of the IHO/Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory since

Vice Chair of IHO Inter Regional Coordinating Committee (IRCC) (2009-2012)

Member IHO Strategic Plan Working Group (ISPWG)

Member IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) (2006-2016)

Member IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) (2009-2016)

Chair IHO Worldwide Electronic Navigational Chart Data Base Committee (WEND) (2006 – 2008)

Member IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA) (2004-2016)

Member of the IHO Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) (2003 – 2007)

Chair Southern Africa & Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC) (2003 – 2007)

Vice Chairman Southern Africa & Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC) (2008 – 2009)

Chair Southern Africa & Islands Hydrographic Commission (2009 – 2016)

RSA Head of Delegation to 3rd EIHC      2005

RSA Head of Delegation to XVIIth IHC      2007

RSA Head of Delegation to 4th EIHC      2009

RSA Head of Delegation to XVIIIth IHC      2012

RSA Head of Delegation to 5th EIHC      2014

RSA Head of Delegation to 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly      2017

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<sup>2</sup> All service and experience relevant to the nomination and which provide an indication of the extent to which the candidate is qualified to serve as Secretary-General or Director.

*Tout service et toute expérience en rapport avec la candidature donnant une indication de la mesure dans laquelle le candidat est qualifié pour occuper le poste de Secrétaire général ou de Directeur.*

Conduct IHO Technical Visits to Uganda, Namibia, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya & Mozambique-2006

Conduct IHO Technical Visit to Malawi – 2008

Conduct IHO Technical Visits to Namibia & Malawi – 2011

Conduct IHO Technical visits to Seychelles, Mauritius, Tanzania & Kenya - 2012

Conduct IMO Mission – Technical Visit to Kenya - 2016

9. Non-Hydrographic service – *Services autres qu’hydrographiques* :

(a) Sea service (periods and posts) – *Services à la mer (durée et postes)*:

i. Navigating/ Watchkeeping Officer	SAS MOSSELBAY	1980 - 1990
	SAS UMZIMKULU	
	SAS FLEUR	
	SAS UMHLOTI	
	SAS DRAKENSBERG	
	SAS WINDHOEK	
	SAS JOHANNESBURG	

ii. Commanding Officer	SAS FLEUR	1986
	SAS FLEUR	1991 – 1992
	SAS WALVISBAY	1993 – 1994
	SAS UMKOMAAS	1995

(b) Shore service (periods and posts) – *Services à terre (durée et postes)* :

Senior Officer Staff Duties	Flag Officer Fleet Headquarters	2000
Senior Lecturer Operations	SA Naval Staff College	1999
MCM Squadron Commander	Naval Base Simon’s Town	1997 - 1998

**SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES – ACTIVITES SCIENTIFIQUES**

10. Research work and awards – *Travaux de recherche et récompenses obtenues* :

Recipient of the UKHO 2009 Alexander Dalrymple Award (The award is a symbol of recognition for outstanding dedication and contribution to hydrography)

11. Scientific Societies (member of, past and present) – *Sociétés savantes (dont il est ou a été membre)*:

South African Hydrographic Society

South African Data Centre for Oceanography (SADCO)

SANDF Geospatial Information Committee

South African Extended Continental Shelf Work Group

South African National Work Group on Marine Spatial Planning

South African Geomatics Council

**CANDIDATE'S POSITION - POSITION DU CANDIDAT**

As one of the current Directors of the IHO, I am fully committed to the stated Mission of the IHO to facilitate the provision of adequate and timely hydrographic information for world-wide marine navigation and other purposes through the co-ordination of the endeavors of national hydrographic organizations. Achieving this requires an ongoing re-evaluation of existing strategies to maintain pace with the constant changing environment and demands and to aspire to continuous improvement.

In this respect I believe;

The IHO Secretariat should be the conduit for member states to actively express ideas, share experiences and expertise for the benefit of the IHO. The strength of any organization lies in its numbers and maximum participation should be encouraged in the work of Committees and Working Groups to ensure a common view and understanding. There are still many coastal states that are not members of the IHO and a vibrant organization that is seen to function well, adapt quickly with the environment and changing times will attract membership. Newly joined Member States' hydrographic services should receive particular attention in a structured programme to become self-sufficient and capable of successfully discharging their national responsibilities.

Raising awareness on the fundamental importance of hydrography for sustainable development and adherence to the International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) continues to be a top priority to involve developing countries in the work of the IHO. Regional Capacity Building efforts conducted by IHO Member States through bi-lateral activities have proved to be most effective to take awareness to the next level of actual commitment to achieve a hydrographic capability. These activities should be encouraged and recognized as another important phase in capacity building.

The IHO commitment to the maritime community to provide adequate ENC coverage was achieved through the commitment of its Member States and these efforts are widely recognized. The recent inclusion of S-100 in the IMO regulatory framework should be seen as a major success for IHO, but it also means that IHO with its Member States clearly need to meet the published deadlines. A reliable S-100 Timeline for the prioritized IHO Product Specifications is critical for all stakeholders to develop their associated services. The next challenge for IHO Member States is the achievement of these timelines, as a first priority and then secondly produce adequate S-100 related products to make the S-100 ECDIS a viable option for mariners. This can only be achieved through a concerted effort of the various technical working groups of the IHO involved in these critical developments. All Member States should strive to make their staff available and support them to actively participate in the working groups.

IHO involvement in the implementation of e-navigation is vital to ensure that the best possible solution is found to satisfy the needs of mariners and improve safety whilst at the same time ensuring the authoritative position of the IHO. Whereas the main focus has been over the years to provide products to satisfy the needs for safety of navigation more emphasis will be placed on the provision of technical services and data services. Participation in the work of the IMO is therefore critical to ensure that the IHO keep track of the requirements of end users and develop standards that will satisfy future needs.

Capacity building remains an important strategic objective in ensuring that IHO member states function on equal terms. The IHO Capacity Building Strategy is focussed on engagement with Developing countries through enhancing capabilities to allow these states to become productive members of the IHO and provide hydrographic services and products to advance maritime safety and efficiency and which supports the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment. Capacity building efforts should now be extended to the next level to assist all IHO Member States to deal with the real challenges of the very near future, such as up-skilling staff to participate in the development of the S-100 Product Specifications that requires high technical skills, to learn new production methods and tools and creating capacity to produce more products to satisfy the needs of all users of maritime data.

<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – RENSEIGNEMENTS COMPLEMENTAIRES</b>
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(if any)
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(le cas échéant)
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My first term as IHO Director from 2017 to 2023 overseeing Programme 2 of the IHO WP (Technical part of the IHO Programme) provided me with the opportunity to actively participate in and guide the efforts of The Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and its Working Groups to focus on the implementation of component 1.4 of Strategic Direction (SD) 1: *“developing, improving, promulgating and promoting clear, uniform, global hydrographic standards to enhance safety of navigation at sea, protection of the marine environment, maritime security and economic development”*.

I am extremely proud of the efforts of all participants in the work of the Technical Programme during this very challenging period where technical developments were severely hampered by the inability to meet face to face due to the restrictions placed on all of us by the COVID pandemic. The S-100 Timeline for the prioritized IHO Product Specifications reflects on the perseverance and dedication of the Chairs and the members of the Committee, Working Groups and Product Teams. All the efforts to develop S-100 and its related Product Specifications were under the shadow of achieving adoption by IMO for the S-100 ECDIS and a lengthy delay could not be afforded and this guided me in my efforts to achieve IMO approval.

The final achievement was to obtain approval at the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC106) where I represented the IHO and had the opportunity to assure delegates that a reliable S-100 Timeline for the prioritized IHO Product Specifications is critical and the IHO is fully committed to the achievement of these timelines. The IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 106) adopted the new resolution MSC 530(106) on Performance Standards for Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) on 11 November 2022. The IHO was invited to keep IMO informed on the process development of the IHO S-100 framework standard.

I am very proud of this outcome and very grateful for the efforts of numerous IHO participants that allowed me to represent the IHO in full confidence. The journey is however not complete and the Technical Programme of the IHO should receive the highest priority over the next three years as the credibility of the IHO depends on the delivery of the standards and products to make the S-100 ECDIS a reality. I stand ready to continue to oversee the process, to serve the global hydrographic community with high performance and represent the IHO, if elected as Secretary-General or Director.

Date: 24 November 2022

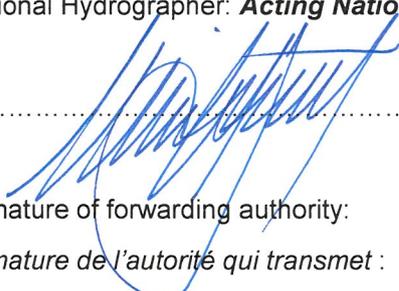


Signature of candidate:

*Signature du candidat:* Captain (ret) A. Kampfer, MMM

Forwarding Authority - *Autorité qui transmet* :

National Hydrographer: **Acting National Hydrographer, Republic of South Africa**



Signature of forwarding authority:

*Signature de l'autorité qui transmet :*