

IHO File No. S1/6100/2023

ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N° 12
12 January 2023

3rd SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY (A-3)

Monaco, 2-5 May 2023

APPROVAL OF THE LISTS OF INVITED OBSERVERS

References:

- A. General Regulations of the IHO, Article 4
- B. Assembly Circular Letter (ACL) No. 7 dated 29 August 2022 - *Invited Observers, Submission of final lists for approval* C.
- C. IHO Resolution 5/1957, as amended, IHO Relations with Other Organizations

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In accordance with the General Regulations of the IHO (Reference A), Assembly Circular Letter No. 7 (Reference B) requested Member States to consider approving the lists of Observers¹, to be invited to attend the 3rd Session of the IHO Assembly (A-3) and to provide further comments, if any, on the lists.
2. The Secretariat thanks all 65 Member States that have replied to ACL07. Only three Member States offered comments in addition to their vote. The comments and the outcome of their review by the Secretariat are provided in Annex A to this letter.
3. There are currently 98 Member States of the IHO with three Member States suspended at the time ACL07 was issued. Therefore, in accordance with Reference A applicable when Reference B was issued, the minimum number of votes required is 63. As a result, the lists of invited Observers are approved.
4. Consequently, invitations to attend A-3 will be issued, taking into account the comments received as indicated in Annex A.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Annex-A: Response to IHO ACL No. 7 and comments from the Secretariat

¹ a) States that are not Parties to the Convention
b) MS with voting rights suspended
c) IGOs
d) NGOs

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO ACL 7
AND COMMENTS FROM THE IHO SECRETARIAT**

Invited Observers to A-3

LEBANON

“With regards to our national policy, we would rather not invite countries that may cause us some disturbance or issues.”

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks Lebanon for their comment which is noted. However, the Secretariat is not in a position to relate to this comment in practical terms.

UKRAINE

Ukraine deems it inappropriate to invite the following Non-Member State due to their support in various ways of the Russian aggressive war in Ukraine, - Belarus

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks Ukraine for their comment which is noted.

UNITED KINGDOM

The UK would not support the invitation of Belarus to the IHO Assembly

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks the UK for their comment which is noted.