



8th MEETING OF THE IHO COUNCIL

Monaco, 15 – 17 October 2024

«RED BOOK»

COMPENDIUM OF COMMENTS SUBMITTED BY MEMBER STATES ON PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE IHO COUNCIL

Reference: IHO Resolution 8/1967 as amended – *Procedure for considering proposals submitted by Member States to the Assembly or to the Council.*

PROPOSALS

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE 8th MEETING OF THE IHO COUNCIL

**The Red Book lists only those proposals
against which Member States comments were received**

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | References |
|-------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 4.1 | Review of Proposals from HSSC | HSSC Chair | C8-04.1A Annex A – S100 Roadmap |
| 4.4 | Establishment and Efficient Operation of the IHO Infrastructure Centre | Republic of Korea | C8-04.1A C8-04.4A C8-04.4B |
| 4.5 | Update on the development of S-130 | IHO Secretary-General / Chair HSSC | C8-04.5A |
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 IHO Contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development | IHO Secretariat | C8-05.2.2A |
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 IHO Participation in the 3rd UN Oceans Conference | IHO Secretariat | C8-05.2.2B |
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 Proposal for inclusion of Depth as an Essential Ocean Variable | IHO Secretariat | C8-05.2.2C |
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 Update on activities to acquire new IHO Member States | IHO Secretary-General | C8-05.2.3A |

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | References |
|-------------|---|---|------------|
| 6.2 | Report and recommendations from the Correspondence Group for the preparatory process of IHO Strategic Plan 2027-2032, way forward and timelines | IHO Council Vice-Chair and Correspondence Group | C8-06.2A |
| 7.1 | Report on inclusive participation in IHO meetings and proposed Resolution | Ad hoc drafting group | C8-07.1A |
| 7.3 | Update on the development of the IHO Portal | IHO Secretariat | C8-07.3A |
| 7.4 | Definition of Hydrographic Interest | Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Türkiye and Ukraine | C8-07.4A |

LIST OF MEMBER STATES' COMMENTS

General comments for all the proposals

.../...

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------|---|
| 4.1 | Review of Proposals from HSSC | HSSC Chair | C8-04.1A Annex A S-100 Roadmap |

UNITED KINGDOM

Noting action required e) Approve the revised S-100 timeline the UK sees active and effective testing and validation as key to progress and this should be a key focus for 2025.

On action required g) Agree upon the ENDS Diagram to be included in the S-100 Roadmap, Annex 2 and consider concrete actions in 2025 for the reinforcement of interactions with major stakeholders (e.g. IMO, IEC, S-100 ECDIS end-users, OEM, industry, distributors) in accordance with Annex 1 although the UK consider the diagram useful, it is important to mitigate the risk of external stakeholders raising high expectations so propose that the diagram is used in conjunction with additional explanatory text. The UK would be happy to contribute to the development of this text.

Although the concept of the phase 1 specifications is understood the phase 2 specifications are distinct in that this new concept requires validation and demonstration to prove the concept.

Annex A of HSSC Report to C-8 – Annex 2 of the S-100 Roadmap

The UK considers that there is a need for discussion on Phase 2 timeframes as this is a new concept and requires additional validation and agreement given the impact on various stakeholders. While the HSSC is developing standards the development of corresponding services will require commitment to production of these products and this requires Council discussion.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US commends the work of the HSSC and its subordinate bodies for the progress made over the last year. We are optimistic that the S-100 framework and V2 product specifications will be delivered according to schedule. In the next SP cycle, US recommends a continued emphasis on the IHO/IMO relationship as it pertains to S-100 and the next decade of implementation. The current SPIs will be reviewed over the next year and we note that some will be outdated based on the progress of work completed.

US supports the recommendations of proposals of HSSC.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|--|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 4.4 | Establishment and Efficient Operation of the IHO Infrastructure Centre | Republic of Korea | C8-04.1A C8-04.4A C8-04.4B |

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US supports the generous offer from the Republic of Korea as outlined. The US expresses appreciation to the ROK for its ongoing support of hydrography and the IHO. We acknowledge the developing relationship and governance processes between the ICE and the IHO, and encourage continued discussions as the details of the relationship are finalized.

IHO SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretariat undertook a first analysis on the basic division of roles between IHO Headquarters and the proposed Centre, an estimate of what will need to be addressed in M1, M3, and M7, and the Secretariat's interpretation of the schedule for Centre implementation should the Council agrees. The full comment is registered as document C8-04.4B

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4.5 | Update on the development of S-130 | IHO Secretary-General / Chair HSSC | C8-04.5A |

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US endorses the work plan of the S-130 PT, and congratulates the team for the outstanding progress. We will continue to support this effort and have recently provided the Dynamic World Coastline, as a publicly available data set, for consideration as a tool to assist building the S-130 product.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|--|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 IHO Contribution to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development | IHO Secretariat | C8-05.2.2A |

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US supports the recommendations to increase mutual awareness of efforts and engagements in support of the Ocean Decade. Raising common awareness within the IHO may provide opportunities for collective mutual support of efforts among hydrographic offices and which promises to reflect well on the IHO.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|---|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 IHO Participation in the 3rd UN Oceans Conference | IHO Secretariat | C8-05.2.2B |

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US supports the effort to proactively envision and potentially develop engagements from the IHO that would support the UNOC25 being held in Nice, France in 2025.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|--|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 Proposal for inclusion of Depth as an Essential Ocean Variable | IHO Secretariat | C8-05.2.2C |

UNITED KINGDOM

The UK supports the recommendations made in this paper including the submission of Depth as a new Essential Ocean Variable.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US thanks the IHO Secretariat for developing a proposal to add Depth to the Global Ocean Observing System as an Essential Ocean Variable. We endorse this as an outstanding way to highlight depth data, describing the shape of the seafloor, as a key factor within many oceanic processes. We look forward to the implementation of this effort and expanding the availability of depth data within the IHO DCDB.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 5.2 | Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2025 Update on activities to acquire new IHO Member States | IHO Secretary-General | C8-05.2.3A |

UNITED KINGDOM

The UK considers that it may be useful for Council 8 to discuss the strategy in place for engaging with important flag states.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| 6.2 | Report and recommendations from the Correspondence Group for the preparatory process of IHO Strategic Plan 2027-2032, way forward and timelines | IHO Council Vice-Chair and Correspondence Group | C8-06.2A |

JAPAN

Japan thanks all the efforts and strongly supports the proposal submitted by the Council Vice-Chair and the Correspondence Group Members. We emphasise that the working schedule for the revision of the Strategic Plan is limited to about one year starting from this November, and that we need to prepare the draft Strategic Plan efficiently. Japan is confident that establishing the SPRWG is the most reasonable method for the efficient development of the next IHO Strategic Plan.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 7.1 | Report on inclusive participation in IHO meetings and proposed Resolution | Ad hoc drafting group | C8-07.1A |

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US supports efforts to increase participation within the subordinate bodies of the organization. Experience using technology and virtual meeting management tools have demonstrated that not all involvement must be face to face. We support the actions listed and the Draft Proposal (Resolution) in Annex A.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|---|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 7.3 | Update on the development of the IHO Portal | IHO Secretariat | C8-07.3A |

UNITED KINGDOM

Noting slide 5 bullet 3 the UK requests that consideration be given to communicating planned improvements for awareness. We are especially keen to explore the functionality that would allow RHC Secretaries to upload documents directly. This could potentially reduce the burden on the IHO Secretariat.

| Agenda Item | Object of the Proposal | Submitted by | Reference |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 7.4 | Definition of Hydrographic Interest | Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Türkiye and Ukraine | C8-07.4A |

PORTUGAL

Portugal recognizes the work/effort to develop this proposal. However, our preference is to keep the representation within the IHO Council as it is, based on the tonnage of the national flag. It is simple, not ambiguous and already implemented.

There is no ideal or perfect scoring table to measure the interest in hydrographic matters of a MS. The proposed scoring table may not reflect some relevant activities to measure the interest for hydrographic matters. As an example, it is not accounted the effort that a MS devotes to capacity building of others MS, or its contribution for technological development in hydrography.

The proposed scoring table also adds administrative work to MS and RHCs, as it is necessary to account and show evidences of the score achieved.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The US thanks the proposal authors for the well thought out approach to Hydrographic Interest (HI). As discussed at C-4, tonnage, as the sole indicator of HI, is incomplete. This proposal highlights participation of MS within the meetings and subordinate bodies of the IHO and emphasizes MS involvement in the work of the IHO. However, this approach has similar challenges to tonnage, it over-weights one aspect of hydrographic service.

The US supports the need to re-consider tonnage as the indicator of HI, and is willing to participate within a PT dedicated to this task.

IHO SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretariat thanks Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Türkiye and Ukraine for their new proposal to re-consider the definition of Hydrographic Interest.

The Secretary-General already takes note of the range of views expressed above.

The Secretary-General also reiterates IHO Secretariat's recommendations provided in the Red Book for the 2nd Session of the IHO Assembly on this matter (*italics*):

The Secretariat strongly recommends Member States to consider the appropriateness of reviving the discussion about the definition of Hydrographic Interest undertaken by Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) from 2005 to 2006 and recommends to study Chapter 6 /Annex K of the report of the Working Group” (available at the end of the [A-2 Red Book](#), pages 48 to 52), since this Working Group already faced similar challenging issues.

As put forward in previous Council meetings, and if deemed appropriate, the Secretary-General recommends the installation of an informal Working Group formed by the interested Member States for the draft of a joint proposal to be submitted for Council 9 in preparation of A-4. This draft proposal will need to include a comprehensive impact study on future Membership of the Council (simulations for the case that the definition will change), on the existing IHO Basic Documents, regulations to be adapted and timelines for implementation.

As indicated in the Red Book for A-2 as well, the Secretary-General wishes to highlight that the regular acquisition of information as required for revised calculation methods, such as those proposed by Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Türkiye and Ukraine, or other methods, may place a significant additional administrative burden on all Member States, the RHCs, and the Secretariat.