

Draft amended IHO Resolution 2/1997

1. Background

Assembly-1 Decision 5 o) tasked the IRCC to include a revision of IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended (Establishment Of Regional Hydrographic Commissions - RHC) in its Work Plan and report to the Council.

The Proposal for amendments to the IHO Resolution 2/1997 is provided in Annex-A. It has been included in the IRCC report to Council 2.

2. Analysis/Discussion

IRCC9 in 2017 tasked a drafting group composed of representatives from Brazil, Canada, USA and IHO Secretariat to review the IHO Resolution 2/1997. The results have been discussed and further developed at IRCC10. There were different views whether the task from A1 included more changes than just editorial ones. Thus two proposals have been endorsed:

- a) draft revised IHO Resolution 2/1997 by IRCC10 (original with small amendments) - to be submitted to C-2 (Annex A)
- b) first draft of a thoroughly revised IHO Resolution 2/1997 by IRCC10 (less prescriptive language) - working document to receive inputs and to be considered at IRCC11 (Annex B)

3. Conclusions

The first proposal brings the IHO Resolution 2/1997 to date and align it with Article 8 of the IHO General Regulations as directed by Decision A-1/5. It includes merely editorial changes. It will be submitted to C-2.

The second proposal is a first draft of an extensive review on the establishment of RHCs. IRCC agreed on the following actions:

- Action 3: RHC Chairs to submit draft IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended to the RHC Members for comments and report back to IRCC (deadline: October 2018).
- Action 4: Chair and IHO Secretariat to compile the inputs from RHC Chairs to the draft IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended and distribute to IRCC Members (deadline: November 2018).
- Action 5: IRCC Members to provide comments to the revised draft IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended (deadline: January 2019).
- Action 6: IHO Secretariat to submit the updated revised draft IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended to the next IRCC meeting (deadline: IRCC11).

4. Recommendations

BSHC is invited to provide comments and report back to IRCC by October 2018. A compilation of the inputs from RHC Chairs will be disseminated to IRCC Members by November 2018.

BSHC Chair shall forward this compilation to MS to provide further input by January 2019. Comments at a later stage can still be considered, i.e. at IRCC11.

5. Justification and Impacts

The document is essential for the cooperation of IHO and BSHC. This revised text aligns the framework to achieve the objectives of the IHO and the companion document Roles and Responsibilities of Regional Hydrographic Commission Chairs. Comments and review are necessary to improve this first draft.

6. Action Required of BSHC

The Commission is invited to

- a) take note of the report
- b) provide comments and input to the first draft (Annex B) by October 2018
- c) task the Chair to keep MS of BSHC involved throughout the drafting process
- d) take any other action considered appropriate

Annex A: IRCC10-06.2B Endorsed draft revised IHO Resolution 2/1997 by IRCC10 (original with small amendments) - to be submitted to C-2

Annex B: IRCC10-06.2C Endorsed first draft revised IHO Resolution 2/1997 by IRCC10 (less prescriptive language) - working document to receive inputs and to be considered at IRCC11
