



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION
CAPACITY BUILDING SUB COMMITTEE (CBSC)

Date: 17th December 2019

Members of the CBSC

CBSC letter 2019

Dear colleagues,

Just a few days left before another busy year is ending. As a tradition, now for the ninth time, I am sending you an annual letter to inform you about some major issues since our last meeting in Genova.

You will remember the considerations we had on the limited funds at the last CBSC meeting and the proposal we made to IRCC to extend the regular contributions from the IHO budget. This was succeeded by a lively discussion at IRCC with arguments about the way we spend the funds and what would be the minimum requirements for fulfil the needs according to the CB Strategy. IRCC finally forwarded a proposal to the Council describing the minimum needs and asking for additional funds. At C-3 the Council recognized the ongoing need for capacity building but declined to endorse the proposal for a guaranteed minimum level of IHO CB fund due to the need to reconsider all budget items together.

For 2020 funding for the Capacity Building Fund had been increased by €44,000 to match the accumulated Special Project Fund at a level of approximately €135,000 for each fund. The Council endorsed the proposed 3-year Budget estimate to be submitted for the approval of MS at A-2, but invited the Secretary-General to develop an alternative option for a 3-year Budget with a general increase of 1 % per year of MS' contribution share from 2021 until 2023, supported by arguments justifying this increase and also balanced by evidence of efficiency saving measures.

The Council invited the IRCC to instruct the CBSC to develop a system of performance indicators to measure, under the conduct of the CBSC and in accordance with the Revised Strategic Plan, the effectiveness and efficiency of CB activities. This system should be oriented by the expected effects of CB support, not on the achievement of the CB activities.

However, achievements are an important part to be recognized in order to allow us to promote and publicize the importance of Capacity Building. In this regard, I would like to invite you to report any significant achievement in your regions for our public relations dissemination.

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Another issue at C-3 was the growing importance of S-100 and the related needs for CB. We will have to look at our CB Strategy and to match it with the new IHO Strategic Plan. But I see no real mismatch at this stage.

In 2019 we had a change in the position of CBSC Vice-Chair. Lamberto Lamberti had to leave the CBSC due to another appointment and I am happy that we already elected his successor. Evert Flier has been involved in CB for quite some years now and is an active contributor in our Sub-Committee.

We can welcome the new member Massimiliano Nannini (Italy) to our group and sincerely thank the former members. The updated list of members of our Subcommittee can be found following the link:

https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CBC/CBC_Misc/CBSC_members.pdf

The Council commended the CB Coordinators for their work and I can only underline the importance of your contribution. The success of the CBSC relies on the regional approach and the work done there.

The time limit for submissions of 1 April is as important as the processing according to the procedures well in advance of the meeting. As usual I would like to ask you to assure the timely and complete submissions within your Regional Hydrographic Commissions.

I would like to thank you for your most valuable participation in the IHO capacity building initiative and I am looking forward to seeing you all in good health at the next CBSC meeting in Gdansk, Poland from 3 to 5 June 2020.

Let me finally send you warm seasonal greetings and the best wishes for a happy new year 2020 for you and your families.

Best personal regards,

Thomas Dehling

Chairman IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee

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