

IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA)

HCA-17 Presentation Proposed Amendments to the HCA Statutes



Proposed Amendments to the HCA Statutes

HCA16/04		USA agreed to draft proposed amendments to the HCA Statutes when the revised Resolution 2/1997 on the RHCs is endorsed by C-3 and approved at A-2	HCA-17	
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Reasons for Revisions

- A need to adapt Statutes to address the recommendations of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended by A-2
- Revisions highlight the HCA connection to the Antarctic Treaty System (ATS) to establish and recognize HCA MS are bound by agreement of the Treaty as per HCA16/07b

HCA16/07b		HCA Members , binded by the Antarctic Treaty, are encouraged to ensure that bathymetric information contained in their surveys is transmitted to the IHO DCDB (new ATCM Resolution 6 (2019), as approved at ATCM XLII).		Decision
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Reasons for Revisions (continued)

- Noting that HCA has agreed to engage at ATS meetings as appropriate
- To incorporate the new Resolution on hydrography as approved at ATCM XLII and as per HCA16/13

HCA16/13		USA to note the need to incorporate the new Resolution on hydrography as approved at ATCM XLII, in the proposed amendments to the HCA Statutes.		Action HCA16/04 refers
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- To align HCA Statutes with new IHO strategic plan
- Overall, bring together prior HCA decisions into the Statutes

Decision Making

- Decisions are not aligned in sections
 - Article 4.5 - 1/3 of Members shall constitute a quorum
 - Article 8.2 –
 - Decisions in plenary – by simple majority of members present
 - Decisions by correspondence - simple majority of the Members who have responded by the due date, provided that the number of votes received is at least equal to the quorum

Potential condition – a quorum of 8 present or responding to CL, decision by simple majority of 5 Members. Should this be adjusted to align better with the IHO Convention rules?

- Minimum vote count does not exist

IHO Convention and General Regulations regarding decisions

- IHO Convention
 - Article V (d) - A majority of the Member States shall constitute a quorum
 - Article IX (c) - decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of Member States present and voting
 - Article IX (d) - Decisions taken on matters related to the policy or finances of the Organization, including amendments to the General and Financial Regulations, shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of Member States present and voting
 - Article IX (e) - Member States present and voting” means Member States present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Member States that abstain from voting shall be considered as not voting.
 - Article IX (f) - In the case of a submission to Member States in accordance with Article VI (g) (vii), the decision shall be taken by a majority of the Member States who cast a vote, with the minimum number of affirmative votes being at least one-third of all Member States.

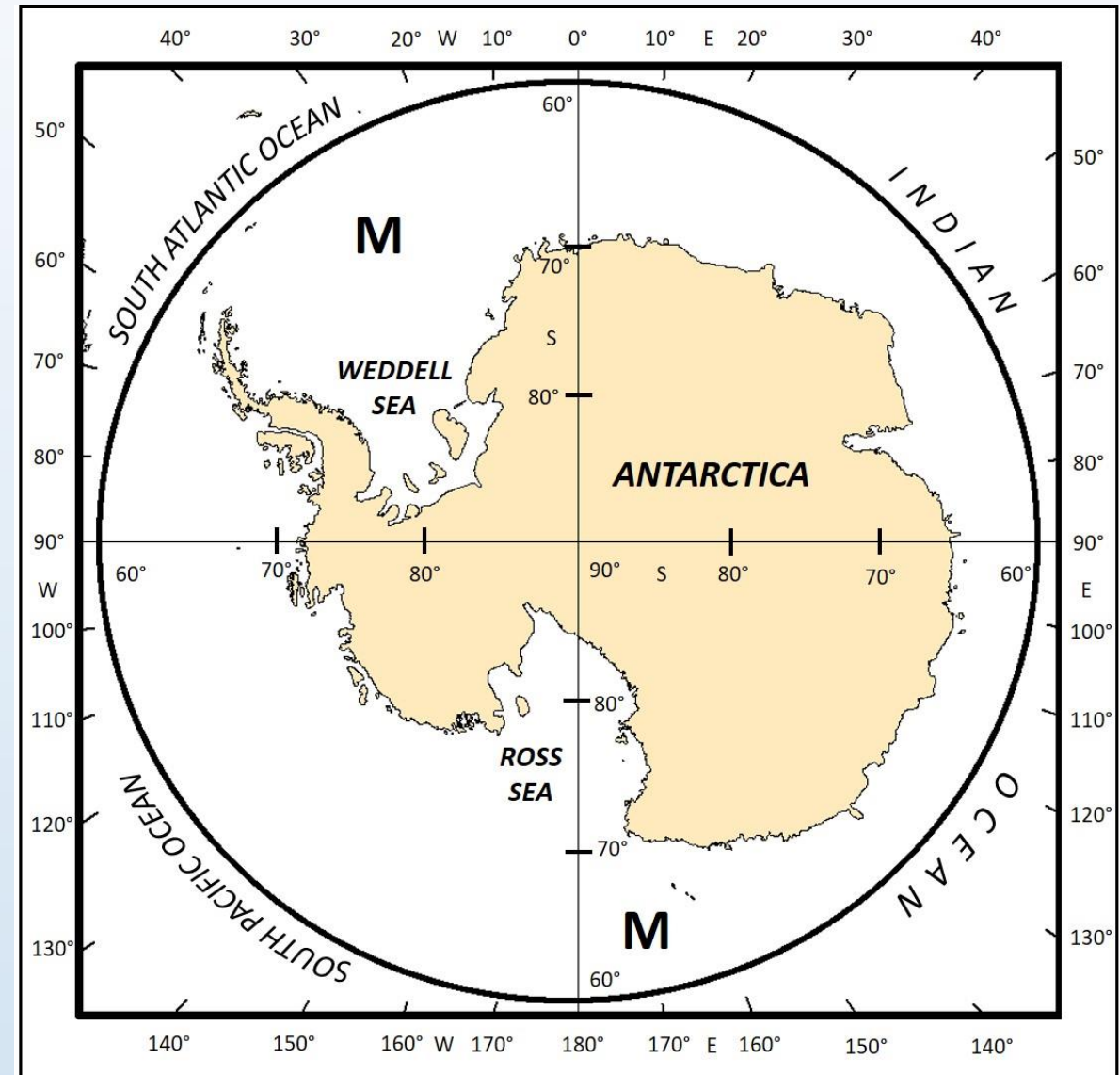
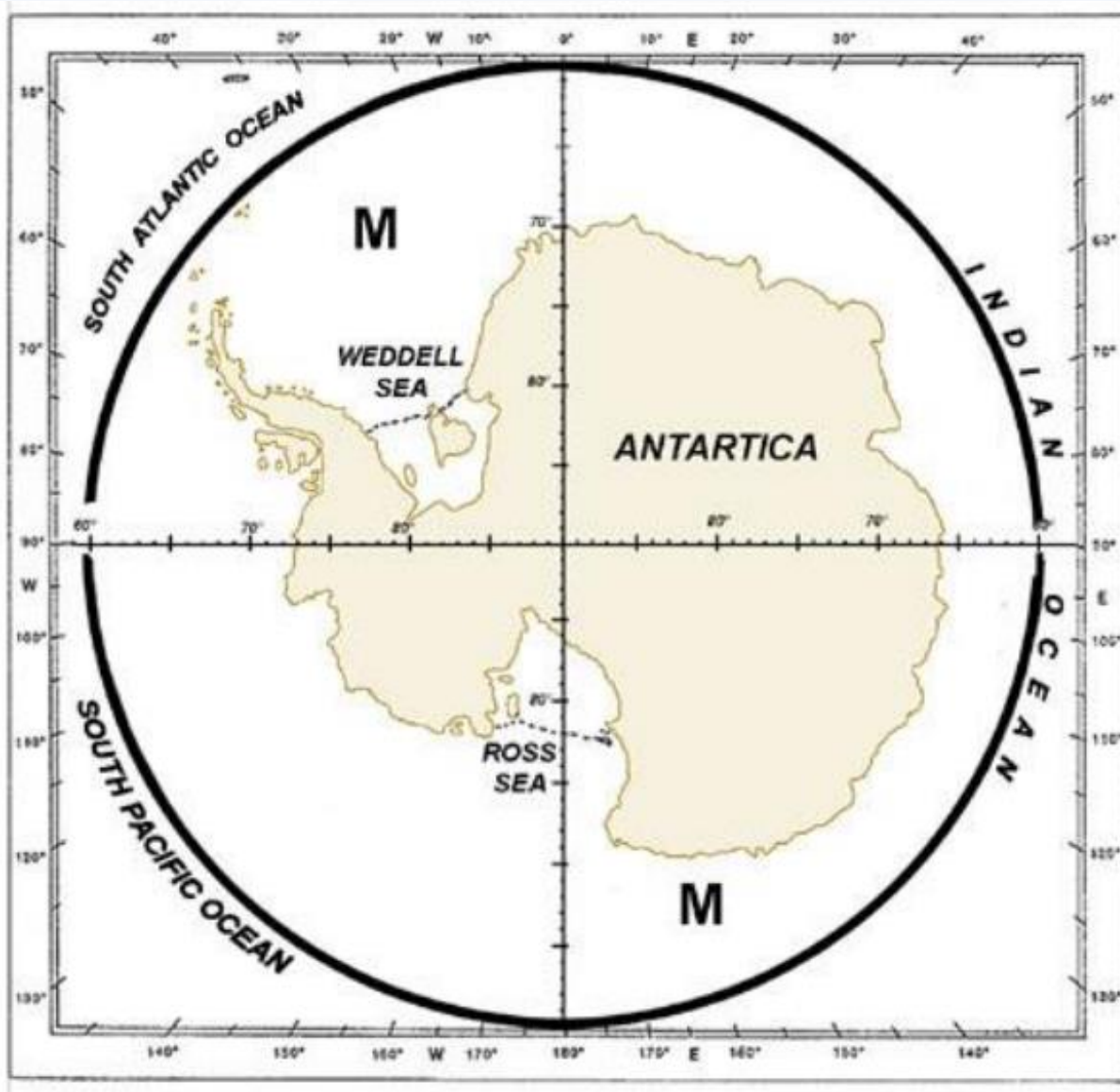
Leadership status

- Current Chair is proposed to continue with a representative of the IHO Secretariat.
- Term of Vice-Chair is proposed to change to 3 year term.

Old

Revised Appendix B graphic

New



For Consideration

- Many are simple administrative changes
- Agree on the need to better link the HCA with ATS
- Confirm ATS obligations apply to HCA MS
- Resolve decision making process
 - Agree on Quorum
 - Decision majority
 - Minimum vote count
- Agree on timeline of meetings and use of Video Teleconference
- Discuss leadership status: IHO Secretary General to continue as Chair and Vice-Chairman to 3 year term
- Appendix B Graphic – remove or remain in the document