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PRINCIPAUTE DE MONACO

IHB Files Nos. S3/0128, S3/4230/M

2 September 2005

HCA Letter No. 3/2005

To: Members and Observers of the IHO Hydrographic Committee on Antarctica (HCA) ¹

Subjects: a) S-55 "Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting World-Wide"
b) Request from the IHB (IHB File No S3/0123 dated 31st August 2005)
c) Updated Draft Agenda, Annotated Agenda and Timetable

References: 1) HCA Letter No. 1/2005 dated 24 March 2005
2) HCA Letter No. 2/2005 dated 16 June 2005

Dear Members,

This HCA Letter refers to three different subjects that, for practical reasons, I have decided to consider in just one letter, avoiding sending three separate ones. I apologize for this.

A.- S-55 "STATUS OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING AND NAUTICAL CHARTING WORLD-WIDE".

1. Captain Barritt, the co-ordinator of the revision of S-55, and Lieutenant Silva of the Chilean Hydrographic Service have been examining the best means of providing an over-view of the status of surveys, charting and MSI in Antarctica. At our last meeting it was agreed that the information in S-55 should be in 2 parts: Antarctica, excluding Antarctic Peninsula, and Antarctic Peninsula.

2. Some of you have provided information on your activity in the region. It has become clear, however, that your data cannot be combined meaningfully without asking each of you to go back to S-59 and to classify each survey and chart using the S-55 criteria. Only then will it be possible to derive a percentage analysis. Some of this work has been done already in the Tables attached to HCA Survey Programme Working Group Letter No. 1/2005. It is requested that, if possible, the necessary data be made available for the forthcoming HCA meeting in New Zealand on 2-4 November 2005. It is also requested that you inform the HCA of any provision which your country makes for MSI/GMDSS in Antarctica.

3. At the 2005 meeting there will be a demonstration of the electronic database, which effectively replaces S-59, and becomes the IHO regional data-layer for the Antarctic. [In due course it will be possible to update entries electronically, but, for the time being, new information should continue to be forwarded to the IHB.]

B.- Request from the IHB (IHB File No S3/0123 dated 31st August 2005).

1. The IHB has brought to the attention of all RHCs including the HCA, through the attached letter (Annex A), that attention should be given to the following two issues:
a) Meetings of the RHCs must continue to have SPWG development as a standing Agenda Item.
b) RHCs should develop their own procedures for the selection of their Members to the Council.

¹ This letter is sent by e-mail only. However, paper copies will be mailed on request to the IHB (info@ihb.mc)

2. Acknowledging that the HCA is a special IHO Hydrographic Commission, established in conformity with Administrative Resolution T1.3 of the IHO "Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC)" responsible for hydrographic surveying and nautical charting matters in International Region M, this Chairman considers it appropriate to include SPWG development into the HCA Agenda, and therefore we have amended the Draft Agenda that was circulated with HCA 1/2005.

3. As regard to the request for developing a procedure for the selection of a representative to the Council, we have included this subject in the Draft Agenda, under Any Other Business, for consideration.

C.- Updated Draft Agenda, Annotated Agenda and Timetable.

We are please to provide you with an updated version of the Draft Agenda, as well as copy of the Annotated Agenda and a Draft Timetable.

D.- Registration and Hotel Reservation

According to the IHB files, only a few HCA members / observers have registered so far to HCA/5. A draft list of participants is being prepared at the IHB and will appear on the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr > Reg Hydr Commissions > HCA). If not already done, those who intend to participate are urged to send their registration form (also available on the IHO web), including hotel details, to Ms. Teresa Kinzett (tkinzett@linz.govt.nz), copy to the HCA Secretary (mhuet@ihb.mc).

Please note that an "ice breaking" reception has been planned on the evening of Tuesday 1st November. It is therefore suggested that participants take this into consideration when making their travel plans .

E.- Reports by Members and Observers

HCA Members and Observers are reminded to provide their reports to the Secretary (mhuet@ihb.mc) at their earliest convenience and no later than 20 October. As soon as they will be received at the IHB, these reports will be posted on the IHO website.

F.- Chart INT 9125

HCA Letter 2/2005 conveyed Peru's proposal to amend the limits of a plan on Chart INT 9125. The IHB is pleased to report that no objection has been expressed to this proposal, which is therefore approved. The Chapter of M-11 on INT Region 'M' will be amended accordingly.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely



Captain Hugo M. GORZIGLIA
IHB Director and Chairman of HCA

Annex A	IHB Letter No. S3/0123 dated 31 st August 2005
Annex B	Updated Draft Agenda
Annex C	Annotated Agenda
Annex D	Draft Timetable

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
BUREAU



BUREAU HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONAL

4, Quai Antoine 1er
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PRINCIPAUTE DE MONACO

To the Chairmen of Regional Hydrographic Commissions

IHB File No. S3/0123

Monaco, 31st August 2005

Dear Hydrographer,

The 3rd Extraordinary Conference in April 2005 approved amendments to the IHO Convention for the new structure of the Organization as proposed by the SPWG.

The Government of Monaco has circulated the appropriate Documents to Member States for approval in accordance with Article XXI of the current Convention.

The Extraordinary Conference also approved the new Article 16 of the General Regulations, providing the details for the selection of the Members of the Council, under the new structure. It also mandated the SPWG to continue its work and present for approval, at the next Ordinary Hydrographic Conference in 2007, the amended Documents of the General and Financial Regulations and Rules of Procedure and an implementation plan for the new structure.

The SPWG during its 6th meeting in Wollongong Australia, 13-15 July, tasked the IHB to bring to your attention the following two issues:

- a. Meetings of the RHCs must continue to have SPWG developments as a standing Agenda item in order that Members of the Commissions are kept informed on the progress of various issues pertaining to its work;
- b. The RHCs should develop their own procedures for the selection of their Members to the Council. New Article 16 of the General Regulations and Appendix VIII (Council Membership) contained in the document "A Study into the Organization Structure and Procedures of the IHO", as approved by the Extraordinary Conference, are the reference material that contain the details regarding membership to the Council.

The IHB is able to provide further support or explanation that may be needed on these issues.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President

RHC	CHAIRMAN	COUNTRY
Nordic Hydrographic Commission (NHC)	Mr.F. KLEPSVIK	NOR
North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC)	Dr. Wyn WILLIAMS	UK
East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC)	Mr.Chong-Rok PARK	Rep of KOR
US/Canada Hydrographic Commission (USCHC)	Capt. R. PARSONS/NARAYANAN	USA/CA
Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC)	IGA Y. DESNOËS	FRA
Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC)	Mr. Janis KRASTINŠ	LAT
Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (EAthC)	VAdm. C. Viegas FILIPE	POR
South-East Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SEPHC)	Radm Oleg KRILJENKO	PER
South-West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)	Mr. Felix MAHARAJ	FIJ
MESO American Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC)	Radm. R.A.Cely NUÑEZ	COL
Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)	Capt. A. KAMPFER	RSA
ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC)	Mr M.R GHADERI	IRAN
IHO Hydrographic Committee on Antarctica (HCA)	Capt. H. GORZIGLIA	IHB
North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission (NIOHC)	Dr. Wyn WILLIAMS	UK

UPDATED DRAFT AGENDA

**5th IHO-HCA Meeting
Christchurch, New Zealand, 2-4 November 2005**

- 1.- Opening.
- 2.- HCA Membership Status.
- 3.- Approval of the Agenda.
- 4.- Election of Vice-Chairman.
- 5.- Status of List of Actions resulting from the 4rd HCA Meeting.
- 6.- Relevant International Organizations' Report.
 - 6.1 ATCM
 - 6.2 COMNAP
 - 6.3 IMO
 - 6.4 IAATO
 - 6.5 SCAR
 - 6.6 IOC (is being mainly considered under 6.3)
- 7.- HCA Activities in the light of the IHO Work Program:
 - 7.1 INT chart scheme: progress made since last meeting; actual Charting status (S-55); ENC production status; new requirements and modifications proposed to the scheme (M-11).
 - 7.2 Bilateral and Regional cooperation agreements, projects and capacity building initiatives in progress.
 - 7.3 Interaction with IOC:
 - The IOC/IHO GEBCO Project
 - The IBCSO Project, an IOC/IHO/SCAR Project.
 - 7.4 Hydrographic surveying, nautical charting, nautical publications and information status.
 - Presentation of National Reports. Experiences with new techniques and equipment. Project proposals to speed-up compilation and production.
 - Hydrographic Survey status (S-55)
 - 7.5 Nautical Publications and Information. IHO/HCA web page.
8. HCA Survey Programme Working Group– Progress Report
- 9.- Any other business.
 - 9.1 SPWG latest development.
 - 9.2 Development of procedure for selecting representative to the Council
- 10.- Time and Place of next Meeting
- 11.- Closure

**IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)
5th IHO-HCA Meeting
Christchurch, New Zealand, 2-4 November 2005
ANNOTATED AGENDA**

1.- Opening.

The HCA Chairman will open the meeting at 09:00 on the 2nd of November 2005, at the Antarctic Centre, in Christchurch, welcoming HCA members and Observers. A representative of the New Zealand government will welcome participants. The local organizer will provide information on local arrangements. The Chairman will provide a verbal report on the main activities executed by the Committee since the last Meeting and will invite the Committee to make a detailed analysis of the progress made and to define a realistic work program.

2.- HCA Membership Status.

The Chairman will report on the existing situation as regard to the Committee Statutes' signature. Following Article 2, only representatives of those IHO Member States, whose governments have acceded to the Antarctic Treaty, and have signed the Statutes are formally recognized as HCA Members. Representatives willing to formalize their situation will be invited to sign the Statutes at this time and the number of HCA Members at the meeting will be established.

3.- Approval of the Agenda.

The Chairman will introduce the Final Draft Agenda, as circulated and commented in advance. The Committee might wish to amend it as necessary. The Committee will be requested to approve the final text of the Agenda and to agree with the Time Table proposed.

4.- Election of Vice-Chairman.

According to Art 5.2 of the Statutes, the Vice-Chairman shall be elected at the beginning of each Conference by a simple majority of those Members present. The Chairman will ask for name(s) and will ask the Committee to decide upon.

5.- Status of List of Actions resulting from the 4th HCA Meeting.

The Chairman will provide an update on the status of the Actions arising from the 4th meeting. HCA Members that have been identified as responsible to act with regard to them should be ready to provide additional information on actions taken. The Committee should decide on the course of action to be taken with those planned actions that have not been completed, if any.

6.- Relevant International Organizations' Report.

The following Organizations have been invited to attend the 5th HCA and to provide a report on their activities and experiences. These reports could be of reference to the Committee to identify actions aiming to fulfil its objective. The Committee will be invited to comment on the reports submitted and to identify actions that should be taken.

- 6.1 ATCM
- 6.2 COMNAP
- 6.3 IMO
- 6.4 IAATO
- 6.5 SCAR
- 6.6 IOC (Detail report might be provided under 7.3)

7.- HCA Activities in the light of the IHO Work Program:

7.1 INT chart scheme: progress made since last meeting; actual Charting status (S-55); ENC production status; new requirements and modifications proposed to the scheme (M-11).

The Secretary of the HCA will report on the status of the INT chart scheme and ENC production, and Capt. Mike Barritt, head of the project to update S-55 and S-59 will report on the status of this initiative regarding Charts. The Committee will be invited to comment on the reports and to provide guidance to the Chairman on actions to be fostered by the HCA.

7.2 Bilateral and Regional cooperation agreements, projects and capacity building initiatives in progress. Participants will be invited to report on the experiences gathered while making cooperation agreements for conducting hydrographic surveys, training and exchange of hydrographic information. The Committee will be invited to identify tasks that the Committee should consider in its work, if any.

- 7.3 Interaction with IOC:
- The IOC/IHO GEBCO Project
The GEBCO representative will be invited to report on the main activities of SCUFN and SCDB Sub-Committees, as regards Antarctic issues. The Committee will be invited to comment on the report and to identify tasks that need to be considered by the Committee in its work program.
- The IBCSO Project, an IOC/IHO/SCAR Project.
The IBCSO representative will report on the progress made by the new regional International Bathymetric Chart project. The Committee will be invited to comment on the report and provide guidance to the Chairman as to what actions should be taken by the Committee to improve cooperation with IBCSO.
- 7.4 Hydrographic surveying, nautical charting, nautical publications and information status.
- Presentation of National Reports. Experiences with new techniques and equipment. Project proposals to speed-up compilation and production. HCA Members will be invited to report on their national activities and experiences, as well as to submit proposals to improve the rate of production of INT charts and ENCs. These reports could be of reference to the Committee to identify actions aiming to improve cooperation and collaboration among HCA Members in fulfilling the Committees' objective
- Hydrographic Survey Status (S -55)
Capt. Mike Barritt, head of the project to update S-55 and S-59 will report on the situation of this initiative. The Committee will be invited to comment on the report and to provide guidance to the Chairman on the way the HCA could best benefit from this effort and keep information updated on a permanent basis.
- 7.5 Nautical Publications and Information. IHO/HCA web page.
The Secretary of HCA will report on the content of the nautical publications and Information posted in the IHO web page. The Committee might identify ways to take advantage of this tool and to improve its content, having in mind the users' interest.

8.- HCA Survey Programme Working Group– Progress Report

The Chairman of the WG will report on the progress made regarding the identification of the content of an Antarctic Hydrographic Surveying Plan that could best fit the region "M" INT chart project. The Committee will be invited to examine in detail the proposal and to agree on the priorities of those needs. It would be possible to prepare a document highlighting needs and priorities to be sent to the IPY Coordination Board as a contribution from IHO/HCA, to orient the hydrographic effort that States might be willing to stress during the IPY period (2007/2008).

9.- Any other business.

9.1 The Chairman will brief the Committee on the latest developments of the SPWG.

9.2 Under this agenda item, the Chairman will introduce the request made by the IHB regarding the development of the HCA procedure for the selection of its representative to the Council. This initiative is to be ready whenever the new structure of the IHO is implemented.

Also under this agenda item, participants may consider including other items not considered in the agenda approved earlier.

10.- Time and Place of next Meeting

The Chairman will invite the Committee to identify the venue and dates for the 6th HCA Meeting.

Note: before the Closure there will be time available for the preparation of documentation and approval of the Action List agreed.

11.- Closure

The Chairman will close the Meeting at 16:00 of the 4th of November 2005.

**IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)
5th IHO-HCA Meeting
Christchurch, New Zealand, 2-4 November 2005
DRAFT TIMETABLE**

01NOV05

From 1800 **Welcoming Cocktail Party**

02NOV05

0900 – 1030 **1.- Opening.**
 2.- HCA Membership Status.
 3.- Approval of the Agenda.
 4.- Election of Vice -Chairman.
1030 – 1100 Coffee Break
1100 – 1230 **5.- Status of List of Actions resulting from the 4th HCA
 Meeting.**
1230 - 1430 **6.- Relevant International Organizations' Report.**
1430 End of the day

03NOV05

0900 – 1030 **7.- HCA Activities in the light of the IHO Work Program**
1030 – 1100 Coffee Break
1100 – 1430 **8.- HCA Survey Programme Working Group – Progress
 Report**
1430 End of the day

04NOV05

0900 – 1030 **9.- Any other business.**
1030 – 1100 Coffee Break
1100 – 1115 **10.- Time and Place of next Meeting**
1115 – 1330 **Preparation of documentation**
1330 – 1400 **Approval of Action List**
1400 **11.- Closure**