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14 June 2007

HCA Letter No. 2/2007

To: Members and Observers of the IHO Hydrographic Committee on Antarctica (HCA) (*see list in Annex A*)¹

Subject: 7th HCA Meeting, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 3-5 October 2007

References: a) Minutes of the 6th HCA Meeting.
b) IHO Circular Letter 15/2006 dated 2 February 2007

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. Next Meeting

We have received confirmation from Rear Admiral Andres Roque DI VINCENZO, Hydrographer of Argentina, that the 7th Meeting of the Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA) will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 3-5 October 2007, organized by the Servicio de Hidrografia Naval (SHN).

The Agenda:

A provisional agenda for the meeting is proposed at **Annex B**. You are kindly requested to review this draft and to provide your comments / suggestions for changes / improvements before **1 September 2007**. A revised agenda will then be prepared, as well as an annotated agenda giving a brief explanation for each item.

The Venue:

The meeting will take place in the Centro Naval, located in Florida Street 801 in the center of Buenos Aires, the Federal Capital of Argentina. Buenos Aires is a city of about 12 millions inhabitants. At that time of the year, the average temperature should be 20° C degrees during the day and about 13° C degrees at night.

Hotel Information and Registration:

SHN has blocked 20 rooms at the Hotel Centro Naval located in Cordoba Avenue 622 and also has informed on the availability of rooms at the Howard Johnson Plaza Florida Street Hotel, located in Florida Street 944. These two Hotels are located at walking distance of the meeting place. Details of the Hotels are indicated in **Annex C**. You are encouraged to make your own reservations at your earliest convenience. We kindly invite you to complete the attached Registration Form provided in **Annex D**, and send it back to the following e-mail addresses before **1 September 2007**: dhidro@hidro.gov.ar ; jefdephi@hidro.gov.ar, copy to mhuet@ihb.mc; info@ihb.mc to keep our hosts in Argentina and the IHB well informed of the planned participants.

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

Visa Requirements:

We have been informed by the Host Country that some HCA Members or pending Members, such as Australia, China, India, Russian Federation, South Africa, Ukraine and possible others, might require a VISA depending on the type of passport hold (Diplomatic/Official or Normal/Tourist). You are kindly invited to check about your personal case. If you need any support please contact the Host Country well in advance for guidance and the provision of an invitation letter if so required.

2. Actions from HCA/6:

As indicated in IHO Circular Letter 15/2007, the final minutes of the 6th HCA meeting are available from the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr > Reg Hyd Commissions > HCA). An updated status of the Actions List from HCA/5 is at **Annex E**. As you will see, most of the actions for the IHB have been completed or are in progress. The IHB will act on the pending issues so that they can be completed as soon as possible. Your attention is drawn on the following pending actions for HCA members:

- Action 6/12: INT Chart Scheme and Production. In the CL in reference, MS were requested to review the status of INT charts in progress or not published in Region M, as shown in **Annex G to the Minutes** of HCA/6, and confirm that their activities are described accurately in this document, or provide updates. MS were also invited to volunteer as producer nations to accelerate coverage in the area, in particular for those charts for which there is no producer nation identified, e.g. INT charts 909, 9062 and 9105. Only Netherlands has responded (no updates to Annex G). HCA Members are therefore urged to give consideration to this important matter and provide their comments on Annex G **before 1 September 2007**.
- Action 6/19: Prioritized Hydrographic Survey Plan. In the CL in reference, MS with planned activities in Antarctica which were not reflected in the survey plan, as described in **Annex H to the Minutes** of HCA/6, were requested to provide information to the HCA Chairman accordingly. Again, only Netherlands has responded (no scheduled surveys in Antarctica). MS are therefore urged to review Annex H and provide their comments **before 1 September 2007**.

3. Signature of HCA Statutes

The 18 IHO Member States which have signed the HCA Statutes to date, are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom and USA. They all appear in section I "Members" of the list at **Annex A**. Those MS which have not yet signed the HCA Statutes are listed in section II "Pending Confirmation Membership"². Once again, they are invited to consider signing the Statutes at their earliest convenience, by sending to the IHB a copy of the HCA Statutes (available from the HCA page of the IHO website), duly signed. It is reminded that only the signatory HCA members attending the 7th HCA meeting will be entitled to vote, should the need to do so arises during the meeting.

Thank you for your attention.



Hugo M. GORZIGLIA
Captain – Chilean Navy
IHB Director and Chairman of HCA

Enclosures: Annex A – HCA Membership and Observer List
 Annex B – Draft Agenda for HCA/7
 Annex C – List of Hotels
 Annex D – Registration Form
 Annex E - Status of Actions from HCA/6 (June 2007)

² Japan, Rep. of Korea, Peru, Poland, Ukraine, and Uruguay

HCA MEMBERSHIP AND OBSERVERS LIST
(June 2007)

I. Members	Name	E-mail
Argentina	RAdm Andres Roque DI VINCENZO	dhidro@hidro.gov.ar
Australia	Capt Rod NAIRN (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	Rod.Nairn@defence.gov.au
Brazil	VAdm Edison LAWRENCE Mariath Dantas	wwcavalheiro@yahoo.com.br dhnsecom@dhn.mar.mil.br
Chile	Capt Jorge IBARRA Rodriguez	shoa@shoa.cl
China	Capt LIU Gongchen	hydro@msa.gov.cn
Ecuador	Cdr Mario PROAÑO	sec-hidrografia@inocar.mil.ec
France	Ing Gén Gilles BESSERO	Gilles.Bessero@shom.fr
Germany	Dr Peter EHLERS	peter.ehlers@bsh.de
Greece	Comdre H.N. Anastásios SKLAVÍDIS	director@hnhs.gr
India	RAdm B.R. RAO	nho@sancharnet.in
Italy	RAdm Pierpaolo CAGNETTI	iim.sre@marina.difesa.it
New Zealand	Mr John SPITTAL	jspittal@linz.govt.nz
Norway	Mr Frode KLEPSVIK	Frode.Klepsvik@statkart.no
Russian Federation	RAdm Sergey KOZLOV	gunio@homepage.ru
South Africa	Capt Abri KAMPFER	hydrosan@iafrica.com
Spain	Capt Fernando QUIROS Cebriá	ihmesp@fn.mde.es
United Kingdom	RAdm Ian MONCRIEFF	Ian.Moncrieff@ukho.gov.uk
USA (NOAA)	Capt Steve BARNUM	Steven.Barnum@noaa.gov
USA (NGA)	RAdm Christian ANDREASEN	Christian.Andreasen@nga.mil
II. Pending Confirmation Membership	Name	E-mail
Japan	Dr Shigeru KATO	ico@jodc.go.jp
Korea (Rep. of)	Mr Yeong Jin YEON	info@nori.go.kr
Peru	RAdm Augusto ZEGARRA Oviedo	dihidronav@dhn.mil.pe
Poland	Capt Piotr PERNACZYŃSKI	pernaczy@mw.mil.pl
Ukraine	Mr Sergey SYMONENKO	dudg@i.kiev.ua
Uruguay	Capt Orestes PEREYRA	Sohma_jefe@armada.gub.uy
III. IHB	Name	E-mail
	Capt Hugo M. GORZIGLIA (<i>Chairman</i>)	hgorziglia@ihb.mc
	Ing en Chef Michel HUET (<i>Secretary</i>)	mhuet@ihb.mc

IV. Observers	Name	E-mail
ATCM	Mr Jan HUBER (Executive Secretary)	secret@ats.org.ar
COMNAP/SCALOP	Mr Antoine GUICHARD	sec@comnap.aq
IAATO	Ms Denise LANDAU	iaato@iaato.org
SCAR	Mr Glenn JOHNSTONE Dr Henk BROLSMA	glenn.johnstone@netspeed.com.au Henk.Brolsma@aad.gov.au
GEBCO/ IBCSO	Dr Hans-Werner SCHENKE	hschenke@awi-bremerhaven.de
IOC	Dr Dmitri TRAVIN	d.travin@unesco.org
IMO	Capt Gurpreet SINGHOTA	gsinghota@imo.org

DRAFT AGENDA

[Please provide any comments to "Michel Huet" <mhuet@ihb.mc> before 1 September 2007]

**7th IHO-HCA Meeting
Buenos Aires, Argentina, 3-5 October 2007**

- 1.- Opening.
Docs: HCA7-1A List of Documents
HCA7-1B List of Participants
HCA7-INF1 Outcomes of the XVII IHC
- 2.- HCA Membership Status.
Docs: HCA7-2A HCA Membership and Observers List
HCA7-INF2 Current HCA Statutes
- 3.- Approval of the Agenda.
Docs: HCA7-3A Agenda
HCA7-3B Annotated Agenda
HCA7-3C Time Table
- 4.- Election of Vice-Chairman
- 5.- Status of List of Actions resulting from the 6th HCA Meeting.
Docs: HCA7-5A Status of Actions List from the 6th HCA Meeting
HCA7-5B Proposed amendments to the HCA Statutes.
HCA7-INF3 Minutes of the 6th HCA Meeting, Punta Arenas, Chile, 2006
HCA7-INF4 IHO Report submitted to ATCM-30
- 6.- Relevant International Organizations' Report.
 - 6.1 ATCM
Docs: HCA7-6.1A ATCM Report (including outcomes from ATCM 30)
 - 6.2 COMNAP
Docs: HCA7-6.2A COMNAP Report
HCA7-INF5 International Coordination of Hydrography in Antarctica: Significance to Safety of Antarctic Ship Operations – Paper submitted by COMNAP to ATCM-30.
 - 6.3 IMO
Docs: HCA7-6.3A IMO Report
 - 6.4 IAATO
Docs: HCA7-6.4A IAATO Report
 - 6.5 SCAR
Docs: HCA7-6.5A SCAR Report
 - 6.6 IOC
Docs: HCA7-6.6A IOC Report
- 7.- HCA Activities in the light of the IHO Work Program:
 - 7.1 INT chart scheme: progress made since last meeting and actual charting status; new requirements and modifications proposed to the scheme (M-11).
Docs: HCA7-7.1A INT Chart Scheme and Production Status for Region 'M'
HCA7-7.1B INT Charts in Progress or Not Produced

7.2 ENC scheme and production status

Doc: HCA7-7.2A ENC Production Status in Antarctica
HCA7-7.2B ENC Scheme for Small-Scales in Antarctica
HCA7-7.2C ENC Scheme for Medium-Scales in Antarctica

7.3 Bilateral and Regional cooperation agreements, projects and capacity building initiatives in progress.

7.4 Interaction with IOC:

- The IOC/IHO GEBCO Project
Docs: HCA7-7.4A GEBCO Report
HCA7-7.4B Undersea Feature Naming Status for Region 'M'
- The IBCSO Project, an IOC/IHO/SCAR Project.
Docs: HCA7-7.4C IBCSO Report

7.5 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)
Docs: HCA7-7.5A National Reports
HCA7-7.5B S-55 Status – Progress Report

7.6 Nautical Publications and Information. IHO/HCA web page.

7.7 Capacity Building Issues

8. HCA Survey Programme Working Group

Docs: HCA7-8A HCA Survey Programme WG – Progress Report
HCA7-8B Prioritized Hydrographic Survey Plan for Antarctica

9.- Any other business.

10.- Time and Place of next Meeting

11.- Approval of Action List.

12.- Closure

7th IHO-HCA Meeting
Buenos Aires, Argentina, 3-5 October 2007

LIST OF HOTELS

HOTEL	ADDRESS	PHONE/ FAX	WEB SITE / E-MAIL	PRICES
Hotel del Centro Naval Reservation should be made until 20 August and must indicate : "Codigo HCA"	Avenida Cordoba 622 Buenos Aires	Phones: 54 11 4322 5311 & 54 11 4393 5966 Fax: 54 11 4322 5791	www.centronaval.org.ar/centronaval/acti-frame.html hotel@centronaval.org.ar	Single : \$148 Double : \$ 184 Triple : \$ 217 Breakfast Inc
Hotel Howard Johnson Plaza Florida Street Reservations must indicate : " VII Reunion del Comité OHI sobre la Antartida (HCA) "	Avenida Florida 944 Buenos Aires	Phone: 54 11 4891 9200	http://www.hjflorida.com.ar/ hjplaza@hjflorida.com.ar	Single : USD\$140 Double : USD\$ 140 Breakfast Buffet Included.

NOTES:

a) Approximate Change 1 USD\$ = 3,13 \$ (ARG)
 1 Euro = 4,35 \$ (ARG)

b) Tourist Information www.turismo.gov.ar
 www.bue.gov.ar

**7th IHO-HCA Meeting
Buenos Aires, Argentina, 3-5 October 2007**

REGISTRATION FORM

*[Please send this via e-mail to dhidro@hidro.gov.ar & jefdephi@hidro.gov.ar
copy to mhuet@ihb.mc and info@ihb.mc before 1 September 2007]*

Member State / Organization represented:

Last Name:

First Name:

Address:

.....

.....

E-mail:

Fax:

Date/Time of Arrival in Buenos Aires:

Date/Time of Departure from Buenos Aires:

Accompanied person(s):.....

Selected hotel :

Comments:

.....

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Annex E to HCA Letter 2/2007

STATUS OF ACTIONS RESULTING FROM THE 6th HCA MEETING

Agenda Item	Action	Details	Responsibility & Deadline	Status (June 07)
2	6/1	Invite those MS that are signatories to the Antarctic Treaty, but are not yet HCA members, to consider HCA membership. (In the covering IHO CL distributing the Minutes of the 6 th HCA Meeting).	Chairman JAN07	Done. See CL 15/2007
5	6/2	Check with relevant authorities (IMO & ATCM) how SOLAS V Reg. 9, requiring contracting governments to arrange for the provision of hydrographic services, can be applied in the Antarctic Treaty area. In particular, to raise this issue at IMO when safety of navigation in “remote areas” is discussed.	Chairman JAN 07	In progress.
5	6/3	Draft and circulate for comments an ENC draft scheme for Region ‘M’, taking into consideration the approaches adopted by other RHCs. Initial focus should be on navigational purposes 1 (overview) and 2 (general). Then prepare Final version for decision at HCA7.	IHB Draft MAR07 Comments MAY07 Final AUG07	Done. See HCA Letter 1/2007. Proposed ENC Scheme is approved.
5	6/4	Invite RAdm Boris FRIDMAN (HDNO, Russia) to represent HCA matters within the IBCSO Editorial Board.	Chairman DEC06	Done 2FEB07 Capt. FOMIN has been appointed.
5	6/5	Approach the two co-chairs of the IPY Coordinating Committee, with a view to obtaining a response / feedback following the submission to them of the short list of surveys.	UK MAR07	In progress.
5	6/6	Re-draft Doc. HCA6-5B “Proposed amendments to the HCA Statutes”, in the light of discussions held at the 6 th HCA meeting and the outcomes of the 17 th IHC.	Australia AUG07	In progress. Will be on the agenda of HCA/7.
5	6/7	Develop and improve the draft HCA Performance Indicators Table (see relevant Annex to Minutes), to then be circulated to HCA Members for comments. Final document to be submitted to the 7 th HCA meeting.	Task Group, Australia, Italy, UK(leader) AUG07	In progress.
6.1	6/8	Brief national delegations to ATCM on HCA activities and the importance of hydrography in Antarctica, in order to assign higher priority to hydrography in their national programmes.	HCA Members MAR/APR07	Done ?
6.2	6/9	Ensure that information on IMO discussion regarding safe navigation in “remote areas” is made available to the 7 th HCA meeting (in the absence of IMO report).	IHB AUG07	In progress.
6.4	6/10	Obtain the questionnaire that COMNAP sent to all their national members and make it available to HCA Members, in connection with the use of ships of opportunity for hydrographic surveys.	IHB JAN07	Done 21JAN07

Agenda Item	Action	Details	Responsibility & Deadline	Status (June 07)
6.4	6/11	Support COMNAP in the preparation of an Information Paper on the importance of hydrography in Antarctica, to be submitted to the 30 th ATCM meeting by COMNAP.	Chairman, UK, IAATO 30JAN07 (1st draft); 28FEB07 (2 nd draft).	Done. See Info Paper 50 of ATCM-XXX.
7.1.1	6/12	Prepare a document showing Charts in Progress or not Produced, to be annexed to minutes of the 6 th HCA meeting. HCA Chair to invite all concerned MS, on a case by case basis, to provide information on their chart production plans. IHB to identify volunteering producer nations for those INT charts with no producer, and assign responsibilities accordingly.	IHB-Chairman JAN07	Done. See Annex G to HCA/6 minutes. HCA Members to review and provide updates.
7.2	6/13	Prepare a submission to the next CBC meeting for resources to assist the deployment of survey personnel from IHO MS in surveying ships, research vessels or ships of opportunity.	Chairman, UK APR07	Not Done, as no request for support has been received at the IHB by any MS.
7.2	6/14	Prepare a questionnaire / format on hydrographic survey metadata, to then be sent to HCA Members in view of populating the HCA Geographic Information System.	IHB UK JAN07	Done FEB07
7.2	6/15	Develop a list of layers / sub-layers to appear in the HCA GIS, to then be circulated to HCA Members for comments / approval.	IHB FEB07	In progress. See CL 17/2007.
7.2	6/16	Ensure that the best existing Antarctic coastline is used in the HCA GIS, e.g. GEBCO Digital Atlas, British Antarctic Survey (ADD), or US World Vector Shoreline, and advise HCA Members accordingly.	IHB DEC06	Done: BAS coastline is used.
7.3	6/17	Request GEBCO, IBCSO and SCAR (via Dr. HW SCHENKE) to ensure that bathymetric data collected by scientific institutions in Antarctic waters is made available to HCA Members for charting purpose, and that minimum associated metadata be also provided, based on a modified version of the existing form for "Collection and Rendering of Hydrographic Data".	Chairman NOV06	Done 21NOV06
7.5.2	6/18	Issue an IHO CL (with additional guidance on criteria) urging all IHO MS with activities in the HCA/INT Chart Region M to respond to HCA Letter 3/05 by 31 Mar 07 and to provide annual update thereafter.	Chairman DEC06	Done FEB07
8	6/19	Update the agreed and prioritized hydrographic survey plan from information contained in national reports to the 6 th HCA meeting and annex it to the meeting minutes. In the covering IHO CL distributing these minutes, HCA Chair to invite all concerned MS to provide information on their survey plans with emphasis on the IPY period (2007-2008).	IHB-Chairman JAN07	Done. See Annex H to HCA/6 minutes. HCA Members to review and provide updates.
8	6/20	Sustain the efforts to contribute work for the coordinated survey plan during the IPY 2007-08.	HCA Members (permanent)	In progress. HCA Members to report to HCA/7.

Agenda Item	Action	Details	Responsibility & Deadline	Status (June 07)
8	6/21	Produce a document highlighting the surveying plans and charting expectations of the HCA member states for 2007/08, to then be submitted to the IPY coordination board after approval by HCA.	HSPWG [Australia, Chile, Germany, Greece, South Africa, UK, COMNAP, IAATO] Submission to IPY MAR07	No Information received. Suggested to be discussed at HCA7 aiming a presentation at ATCM XXXI (2008)
8	6/22	Prepare an in-depth paper with supporting facts and statistics stressing the need for accurate charting and modern survey coverage to ensure reliable and confident navigation for existing and future vessel movements.	HSPWG [Australia, Chile, Germany, Greece, South Africa, UK, COMNAP, IAATO] MAR07	No Information received. Suggested to be discussed at HCA7 aiming a presentation at ATCM XXXI (2008)
10	6/23	Coordinate the dates and organization of the 7th HCA Meeting in Buenos Aires, 1 st or 2 nd week of October 2007, taking into consideration that the next MACHC meeting is planned to take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at this period of the year.	IHB, Argentina NOV06	Done 16NOV06. Meeting will be 3-5 October 2007, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Updated = June 2007