



IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

IRCC Circular Letter 2/2020

11 December 2020

Subject: IRCC Challenges for 2021

Dear IRCC Members,

Just a few days left before a year, that brought severe threats to the whole world and put enormous tasks to our hydrographic profession, is ending. I hope you, your families and your colleagues are well and you could manage to adapt to the new circumstances and demands. I am sending this letter to inform you about some topics for the IRCC, its subordinate bodies and the Regional Hydrographic Commissions that result from Assembly-2 and Council-4 meetings.

The Assembly approved the update report of the IRCC with all IRCC proposals.

The implementation of the Revised Strategic Plan will put some tasks to our Committee and Sub-committees. The Strategic Performance Indicators (SPI) will be monitored by the Council and we will have to develop useful means to measure and provide appropriate and applicable SPIs.

The CBSC is instructed to develop a system of performance indicators to measure, in accordance with the Revised Strategic Plan, the effectiveness and efficiency of CB activities, and a revised Capacity Building strategy in alignment with the Revised Strategic Plan adopted. The system should be oriented on the expected effects and outcomes of CB support, not on the achievement of the CB activities.

IRCC, subordinate bodies (Chairs/Vice-Chairs) and RHCs (Chairs/Vice-Chairs) shall experiment the implementation of the Strategic Plan and consider during this process, following gap analysis if appropriate, whether our organization and work programmes are fit for purpose, in particular for meeting Goals 2 and 3.

The S-100 Implementation Strategy is related to the IHO Work Programmes 1, 2 and 3. WP 3 is our part of this important development and it is related to several bodies of the IRCC.

IRCC was tasked to submit a new IHO Resolution on WEND100 Principles to the Council for endorsement, followed by a submission to Member States for approval and inclusion as a reference in Annex 3 of the S-100 Implementation RoadMap.

The establishment of an IHO e-Learning Center will be coordinated by the CBSC in close liaison with RoK and with contributions from several other Sub-Committees as agreed at IRCC-12.

I hope your SCs and RHCs can cope with the restrictions and regulations related to the pandemic and can work remotely as efficient as possible. I am at your disposal for liaison if needed.

The year 2021 will, to a large extent, still be dominated by COVID-19, but there is a silver lining and the prospect to steadily improve our situation and to overcome the pandemic. Let us use the experience gained for the further improvement of our cooperation.

I would like to thank you for your most valuable contribution to the inter-regional coordination of the IHO and I am looking forward to seeing you all in good health at the next IRCC meeting, that will hopefully be held in Monaco from 22 to 23 June 2021.

Let me finally send you warm seasonal greetings and the best wishes for a happy new year 2021 in good health for you and your families.

Best personal regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas Dehling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'T' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.

Thomas Dehling

Chairman, IHO Inter-Regional Coordination Committee