



MACHC-Letter 07/2020
Joint IOCARIBE/MACHC-Letter 02/2020

Dear IOCARIBE and MACHC Members:

Thank you to all who identified your Seabed 2030 points of contacts. We still have not heard from a few countries and organizations, as indicated in the designated [contact list](#), so please provide that information as soon as possible to the MACHC Seabed 2030 Coordinator: Ms. Cecilia Zuleima Cortina Guzman at [Cecilia.Cortina@gmail.com](mailto:Cecilia.Cortina@gmail.com). Participants are limited to the designated points of contact, but all interested parties are welcome as observers at these bilingual (English, Spanish) webinars.

There is much actively happening with Seabed 2030. As mentioned in Joint IOCARIBE/MACHC-Letter 1 (June 10), we are planning a webinar series that will work with the designated points of contact to assist them in making contributions to Seabed 2030. The tentative dates and topics for the webinars are as follows and the preliminary agendas are found here ([https://www.ihomachc.org/documents/seabed2030\\_doc.html](https://www.ihomachc.org/documents/seabed2030_doc.html)) on the MACHC Initiative website. Please save these proposed dates on your calendar!

The virtual room will open at 9:30 a.m. to allow participants to test technology, and the webinars will officially start at 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon EST.

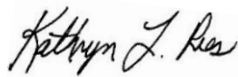
- Sept. 11 Where are we now? Introduction and Goals including review of current mapping status in the region**
- Sept. 25 How do we build the map? How can you contribute data?**
- Oct. 09 Increasing Data Coverage: Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB) and Data Coverage Polygons**
- Oct. 23 Moving Ahead Together: Summary, Next Steps and Wrap up.**

I also want to strongly encourage IHO Member States to respond to the [IHO CL 21/2020](#) regarding national CSB data provision policies. Recently, the IHO's Inter-Regional Coordination Committee requested the Regional Hydrographic Commission Chairs send a similar letter [IRCC CL 01/2020](#) to non-IHO member coastal States, inviting them to provide their positions. For the latter, please send those answers directly to Ms. Guzman. The webinar on October 9 will review and explain these letters in more detail in order to facilitate a response and answer any questions you may have.

Finally, the Seabed 2030 Project Director shared the first edition of their newsletter [here](#) and requested that MACHC Members complete their [Seabed 2030 survey](#). They are using the latter to gather evidence for a study on the value of seabed mapping, with a particular focus on the environmental, social and economic benefits.

We look forward to working together and becoming one of the first regions to be fully mapped to support a safe, clean ocean and sustainable blue economy for all our nations.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Ries  
MACHC Chair



Cesar Toro  
IOCARIBE of IOC UNESCO Secretary