



## Chair Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission



Office of the UK National Hydrographer  
UK Hydrographic Office  
Admiralty Way  
Taunton, Somerset, TA1 2DN. United Kingdom  
Telephone: +44 (0)1823 483920  
Chair E-Mail: angus.essenhigh@ukho.gov.uk  
Secretary E-Mail: natalie.clatworthy-cox@ukho.gov.uk

**Date:** 31 July 2023

**MACH Letter Number:** 08/2023

**To:** MACHC Member States

**Subject:** **INVITATION, REGISTRATION AND LOGISTIC INFORMATION FOR MACHC24 - SURINAME - DECEMBER 2023**

**Reference:** MACHC Statutes, Article 4

**Response Deadlines:** **Agenda Suggestions** - No later than Monday 14 August 2023  
**IHO/Hotel Registration** - No later than Saturday 30 September 2023

### *Dear Esteemed Colleagues,*

Further to MACHC Letter 07/2023 from my predecessor, it is my great pleasure to introduce myself as your new Chair. I have 31 years' experience in the Royal Navy much of which has been spent at sea; this included, most helpfully, a period in command of HMS PROTECTOR, a hydrographic survey vessel. I am hugely honoured to take on this important role at an exciting and dynamic time for hydrography and I look forward to working with you closely and getting to grips with the important work of the MACHC in the coming months.

It is now my great pleasure to officially invite you to the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission (MACHC24) from **Tuesday 12 December to Friday 15 December 2023 in Paramaribo**, Suriname. I am most grateful to the Maritime Administration of Suriname (MAS) for hosting this year's Conference.

The Pre-Plenary Working Group Seminars will begin on the morning of Tuesday 12 December, with the official opening of MACHC24 commencing on the morning of Wednesday 13 December 2023; the MACHC24 will then conclude by midday on Friday 15 December 2023.

The venue for MACHC24 is the **Torarica Resort** in Paramaribo, Suriname. Please refer to the Logistics Information at Enclosure 1 for details on how to book a hotel room, as well as important information on flights, vaccination requirements and more general advice. **Please note that the hotel room registration must be done by 1800 on Saturday 30 September to obtain the special rate** (equivalent to a 10% discount when set against those rates normally offered via the web). The Torarica Resort and MAS need to know numbers of people physically attending by this date from both the perspective of

bedroom reservation management as well as the breakout rooms required during the Conference.

**To confirm your in-person attendance at the Conference, please register for the MACHC24 via the IHO online registration website** (IHO Online Registration (iho-khoa.kr). **If you are attending the Conference in-person, you must register by Saturday 30 September.** The attached Enclosure 2 provides Registration Guidance should it be required. Whilst in-person attendance is very much encouraged to ensure that you can actively participate in all MACHC24 discussions, if this is not possible then you will be able to join virtually (likely in listen only mode). To attend virtually, please register by Tuesday 31 October at the same link.

If you intend, as we hope, to participate in person and require a personalised invitation for the Visa application process, and/or your internal national administrative purposes, please let Mrs Bernice Mahabier (bmahabier@mas.sr) and Mrs Daphne Le Couvreur (dlecouvreur@mas.sr) know immediately and they will action the request as necessary.

Finally, in line with the Statutes, we would also like to invite you to comment on the format adopted at MACHC23 and to share your opinions and suggestions for improvement (please click [here](#) for Minutes to MACHC23). If you do wish to comment, please email me at [machc.chair@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:machc.chair@ukho.gov.uk) with a copy to [natalie.clatworthy-cox@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.clatworthy-cox@ukho.gov.uk), no later than Monday 14 August 2023. We can then take your views into account as we plan the Provisional Agenda for MACHC24; the intent is to issue this Agenda not later than Friday 25 August 2023.

I look forward to seeing you in Suriname!

*Yours Sincerely,*



**Rear Admiral Angus Essenhigh OBE**

**Copy To:**

IHO Director Luigi Sinapi  
IHO Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas  
MACHC Vice Chair  
MACHC Observer States  
MACHC Contributing Organizations  
MACHC Industry Partners

**Enclosures:**

1. Logistics Information.
2. IHO Event Registration Guidance.