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MBSHC CIRCULAR LETTER Nº 03/2020

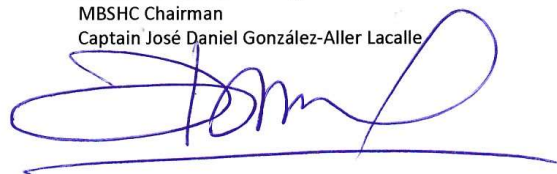
Subject: IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB) Data for Public Domain.
Ref.: IHO Circular Letter 21/2020 dated 03 June 2020.
IRCC Circular Letter 1/2020 dated 15 June 2020.
Annex: Questionnaire Form.

Dear colleagues,

1. IHO CL 28/2019 announced the approval and adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of IHO Publication B-12 – *IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry Guidance Document* – by the IHO Member States. At the same time a questionnaire was circulated seeking support for crowdsourced bathymetry (CSB) activities within their waters of national jurisdiction, the results of which were published in IHO CL 47/2019 with a summary table uploaded to the Crowdsourced Bathymetry Working Group (CSBWG) page of the IHO website. A follow-up status was reported in IHO CL 06/2020 with a revised summary table.
2. The Chair of the CSBWG, in line with the objectives of IHO resolution 1/2017 to improve the availability of bathymetric data worldwide, is seeking the support of the Chairs of RHCs to expand the provision of CSB data, collected by ships within waters subject to their national jurisdiction, into the public domain for the widest possible use, amongst all coastal states within their region. To assist these coastal States in their internal decision making processes, the IHO Secretariat has revised the original questionnaire to simplify and clarify the information requested. The Chairs of RHCs are requested to encourage associate members, observer States as well as any other coastal State within their region, to indicate their position on the provision of CSB data from ships within their waters of national jurisdiction as well as highlighting, via the questionnaire in the Enclosure, any caveats they wish to apply to any such provision.
3. Consequently, Associate Members and Observers to the MBSHC are encouraged to complete this questionnaire attached or preferably by using the IHO Online Form System available at the following link: https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/cl_21_2020 and indicate their support for the provision of CSB data into the public domain **by 4 September 2020**. The list published on the IHO website will be updated as new information is received from coastal states.

Best regards.

Director of Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina
MBSHC Chairman
Captain José Daniel González-Aller Lacalle



ANNEX 1

CROWDSOURCED BATHYMETRY DATA PROVISION – COASTAL STATE POSITION FOR WATERS SUBJECT TO THEIR NATIONAL JURISDICTION

TEMPLATE FORM

(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat no later than 4 September 2020

E-mail: cl-lc@iho.int - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

IHO clarification on Crowdsourced Bathymetry Activity

For the purpose of this Circular Letter, the following terms have the specified meanings: Bathymetry is the determination of ocean, coastal, and inland water depths. The general configuration of sea floor as determined by profile analysis of depth data. Crowdsourcing is a process by which people and/or groups voluntarily submit observations, data, or information to accomplish a task or goal.

Crowdsourced bathymetry is defined by the IHO as the collection of depth measurements from vessels, using standard navigation instruments, while engaged in routine maritime operations. Crowdsourced bathymetry data provision is the transmission to the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry for ingestion, aggregation, categorization, and public dissemination of depth measurements made by vessels, using standard navigation instruments, while engaged in routine maritime operations. IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) was established in 1990 to steward the worldwide repository of bathymetric data. The Centre archives and shares, freely and without restrictions, depth data contributed by mariners. The IHO DCDB is an IHO resource that is hosted by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on behalf of IHO Member States.

Internal Waters, Territorial Sea, and Exclusive Economic Zone have the same meanings as are given those terms under the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Questions:

- 1) Do you support or object to the crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for depth measurements from the internal waters of your country?

SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/>	OBJECT <input type="checkbox"/>
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CAVEAT:

- 2) Do you support or object to the crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for depth measurements from the territorial sea of your country?

SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/>	OBJECT <input type="checkbox"/>
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CAVEAT:

- 3) Do you support or object to the crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for depth measurements from the Exclusive Economic Zone of your country?

SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/>	OBJECT <input type="checkbox"/>
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CAVEAT:

- 4) If you support the crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for depth measurements from the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea, or Exclusive Economic Zone of your country, do you wish to be informed when such information is received by the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry?

- a. Internal waters (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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- b. Territorial Sea (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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- c. Exclusive Economic Zone (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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- 5) If you support the crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for depth measurements from the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea, or Exclusive Economic Zone of your country, do you wish to review such information before its ingestion into the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry?

- a. Internal Waters (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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b. Territorial Sea (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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c. Exclusive Economic Zone (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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6) If you support the crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for depth measurements from the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea, or Exclusive Economic Zone of your country, do you wish for the opportunity to put caveats on the further dissemination of such data? If yes, please provide your recommended caveats in the comment boxes.

a. Internal Waters (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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CAVEAT:

b. Territorial Sea (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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CAVEAT:

c. Exclusive Economic Zone (Yes/No)

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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CAVEAT:

7) Do you consent to the IHO Secretariat incorporating your responses to this survey into a summary listing to be made publicly available via the IHO website?

2.

YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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8) Please provide contact details of national focus for CSB and crowdsourced bathymetry data provision for use by the Chair CSBWG and Director DCDB.