

Confirmation of Vice-Chair and Arrangements for Secretariat of MBSHC23

Confirmation Vice Chair

- During the MBSHC22, the following decisions were taken regarding the position of Vice-Chair for the Commission:
 - Spain would continue as Chair of the MBSHC until the next meeting (MBSHC23), provided a Vice Chair was elected before the end of 2021
 - A selection process for the Vice-Chair would be opened by Circular Letter from September to December 2021.
 - Croatia, provided their current Director was confirmed in her post in mid-August, would be able to present their candidature as Vice-Chair.

Confirmation Vice Chair

- On September 1st, the Director of the Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia informed the IHO Secretariat and the MBSHC Chair that Croatia could take over the role of Vice-Chair of the Commission, if there is no other candidate.
- On September 6th, MBSHC CL 7/21 announced that the process to present candidatures for Vice Chairmanship was opened.
- On September 21st, MBSHC CL 8/21 it was reported that, having received no further nominations for the post of Vice Chair, Croatia was appointed to the post of Vice Chair.

Confirmation Vice Chair

- As expressed in the CL, the Chair thanks Croatia for its generosity in accepting this position, and would like to acknowledge it publicly in this plenary meeting.
- As we will see during the meeting, the **active participation** of all the members of this hydrographic commission is considered essential for its successful development..

Arrangements for Secretariat of MBSHC23

As stated in the current statutes of this MBSHC

- Article 6 :
 - “a) At the conclusion of the Conference, he (Vice Chair) shall become Chairman and remain in office until the end of the next Conference.”

- Article 8
 - “a) Decisions and actions taken during each meeting should be prepared in written form by the Chairman and supplied next day to the Members present.
 - b) ...
 - c) The new Chairman shall dispatch within one month of the close of the Conference a copy of the summary report containing the discussions, decisions, actions and recommendations of the Conference for approval to each Member and for comments to Associate Members and Observers....”

Arrangements for Secretariat of MBSHC23

- Croatia will become Chair at the end of this meeting.
- Spain will dispatch Action and Decisions of this meeting during the next days of this conference.
- Croatia will be in charge of mail within one month of the close of the Conference a copy of the minutes to the members for comments.
- It is recalled that before the end of this meeting we should be able to count on a member state **candidate to fill the position of Vice-Chair** that Croatia will leave vacant when it occupies the position of Chair. (Host to be considered)