

MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

March 08, 2022

REGION F ICCWG CIRCULAR LETTER No 01/2022

Subject: MBSHC23 Conference: Region F INT Scheme update

Ref.: a) Decision MBSHC 22/05
b) MBSHC Circular Letter No 06/21 dated 2 June, 2021
c) MBSHC Circular Letter No 09/21 dated 22 December, 2021
d) IHO Secretariat Letter S3/0113 dated 10 February, 2022
e) Terms of reference and rules of procedure for the Mediterranean and Black Seas (Region F) international Charting Coordination Working Group (Region F ICCWG) – Adopted on July 6th 2017

Dear colleagues,

As per Decision MBSHC 22/05, the position of Region F ICCWG Coordinator was declared vacant as there were no candidates for it.

MBSHC Circular Letter No. 06/2021 again called for candidates for the position of coordinator, but no applications were received. The aforementioned Circular Letter also stated that the Cartographic Section of IHM (Spain) agreed to handle the most urgent and relevant ICCWG matters for as long as they chaired the MBSHC.

On December 22, 2021, The Chair sent the MBSHC CL No 09/2021 about several items, one of them was about Issues related to ICCWG Region F.

On February 10, IHO Secretariat reports following the statement made by the IHO Secretariat at the last MBSHC22 Conference and reported in the MBSHC22 Minutes, Aegean Sea in S-11 Part B will become a “blank” area with reference to the INT charts produced and schemed, with effect from 15 February 2022.

The MBSHC23 Conference is scheduled to take place in Ljubljana, Slovenia from March 29 to April 1. Since the coordinator position became vacant, several proposals for modifications of INT charts or new proposals for cartographic schemes have been received.

According to current regulations, Region F ICCWG ToRs and RoPs (July2017), mainly:

- points 3.6, “Conduct of business will be primarily by correspondence...”,
- 3.7, “New INT chart and ENC proposals subject to ICCWG approval shall be submitted to ICCWG. Proposals shall be circulated for review and comment, etc.; Proposals shall be approved under silence procedure etc.”,
- and 3.8. “Full Consensus is required for approval of any decision, prior its implementation, etc., All decisions made at ICCWG meetings or through silence procedure will be reported to MBSHC Member States afterwards.”.

and the IHO publication S-11 Part A, we submit different proposal for your approval in Annex A.

“Accept/yes” or “Reject/not” answers will be proposed on a case-by-case basis, that is, INT chart by INT chart (3.7. All proposals submitted are independent from each other):

- If accept/yes, there are no comments, and in the event that there were, they can't vary or condition the affirmative answer. If there are no negative answers, it will be approved.
- If it is reject/not, the corresponding observations will be included, it will not be approved, and it will be presented in a report at the MBSHC23.

Please be reminded that the position of ICCWG Region F Coordinator remains vacant, so it is urgent to designate a new coordinator.

Again, please consider the relevance of this role for the Commission, and if any Member State is willing to take over this post please contact MBSHC Chair so that a proposal may be submitted to the next plenary session for consideration.

We invites the members of the Region F ICCWG to provide answer and any comments by March 20th 2022.

CDR José María BUSTAMANTE CALABUIG