

From: **Peter Sparkes**
Chief Executive UKHO
and SAIHC Chair

SAIHC19 Letter No. 06/2023



31 May 2023

To: Members, Associate Members, and Observers of the IHO Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)

Subject: Invitation to the 19th SAIHC Plenary

Dear SAIHC Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you, officially, to participate in the 19th Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC), which will be hosted by The Ministry of Housing & Land Use Planning (*Mauritius Hydrographic Service*), in Mauritius, from 29 – 31 August 2023.

An IHO Funded 1-day Hydrographic Awareness Seminar will precede the 19th SAIHC Conference on the 28 August 2023, details of application procedure and the draft programme was sent on the 27 April 2023 by Lucy.fieldhouse@ukho.gov.uk. Following the Seminar, there will be a meeting of the African Great Lakes & Rivers Working Group.

Registration

We very much look forward to seeing you in-person in Mauritius, however, we acknowledge readily that some colleagues will not be able to attend in person. We are therefore intending to provide a MS Teams dial in option, with the ability to use MS Teams chat to communicate with the Digital Secretary.

I kindly ask that you register via the Online Registration tool on the IHO website: <https://online.iho-khoa.kr/registration>. Please register **no later than 22 June 2023**.

Early registration is critical to enable our hosts, Mauritius, to finalise logistics.

If you experience difficulties accessing the online registration, please do forward your registration details to SAIHC Secretary at monique.willoughby@ukho.gov.uk

A MS Teams invitation will be sent out to those participants that are unable to attend in-person prior to the Plenary meeting.

Venue Information

The SAIHC19 is planned to convene at Le Méridien Ile Maurice, Village Hall Lane, Pointe aux Piments ([5 Star Hotel in Mauritius | Le Méridien Ile Maurice \(marriott.com\)](#)). Our hosts have negotiated a discounted rate at Le Meridien. Please note, the discounted rate is until the **15 June 2023**. Due to the tourist season, our Hosts have urged all delegates to book their

accommodation as soon as possible. More details with regards to hotel options can be found in the logistics document attached.

Please direct all queries to the SAIHC Secretary monique.willoughby@ukho.gov.uk.

Finally, I very much look forward to renewing acquaintances with and meeting as many of you as possible in Mauritius, energised to take forward the very important work of this hydrographic commission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Sparkes". Below the signature is a horizontal line that tapers at both ends, serving as a decorative underline.

Rear Admiral (Retired) Peter Sparkes

Chairman Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)