

## **27<sup>th</sup> BUSINESS MEETING OF IHO-IAG ADVISORY BOARD ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF LAW OF THE SEA (ABLOS BM27)**

Remote meeting, 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### **1. Opening Remarks by the Chair**

The Chair welcomed all the participants, in particular new members and observers. She thanked all for making the effort to engage with the remote format of the meeting.

### **2. Administrative Arrangements**

The Secretary provided some brief comments on the conduct of the GoToMeeting, the use of the chat facility was encouraged, noting that a copy would be saved as a word file and included as an annex to the final meeting report, it was requested that microphones were off at all times, except when speaking. All were requested to switch on their cameras to obtain a group image, thereafter it may be better to switch them on only when speaking.

### **3. Introduction of Participants and Apologies**

All participants introduced themselves and provided brief details of their background, see Annex A. Mikael Lilje (**ML**) provided a short presentation on the Fédération Internationale des Géomètres (FIG) [International Federation of Surveyors] covering its structure and activities, he highlighted the many synergies with the activities of the IHO and ABLOS through FIG Commission 4.

### **4. Agenda**

The agenda was adopted without addition, see Annex B, and list of documents, see Annex C.

### **5. Approval of the minutes from BM25 and outcomes from HSSC11 and IAG Executive Committee Meetings**

The minutes for ABLOS BM26 were approved with the noted minor editorials. The list of actions from BM26 was reviewed. Niels Andersen (**NA**) provided details on the development of the ABLOS website hosted at the Danish Technical University (DTU). He highlighted the draft version was available for viewing and comment/feedback. He suggested forming a small group to develop the content and overall look of the website; it was agreed that the URL would be provided to all participants and then further discussions would follow later in the meeting. **NA** highlighted the comments and input on the ABLOS website received after the Day 1 session, he noted a number of common threads. **NA** indicated he would email each individual for an appropriate photograph and for confirmation of its use on the website. **Action 1 - NA** The IHO recommended using names for those who did want a photograph. It was suggested that a library of past conference papers should be made available, it was also agreed that seminar programmes and papers should be made available. The IHO suggested that past BM final reports should be included along with the reports to HSSC, consideration needed to be given to presentations given at BMs. It was suggested that links to DOALOS and CLCS should be included. It was noted that Home page URLs to IHO and IAG websites should be included. **NA** requested volunteers to assist in the task of finalising the website to allow it to be published by beginning of December. IHO noted that, when live, the ABLOS website would be linked from the ABLOS home page on the IHO website.

### **6. ABLOS the way forward**

.1 Terms of Reference

It was agreed that no amendments or changes to the ToRs were required at present.

.2 Membership including review of terms

The Chair noted that three members were due to complete their terms on 2021 and that an IAG vacancy remained. The Secretary noted that, if host organizations and individuals were willing, it was possible that the IHO and IAG could re-appoint an individual into their own vacancy. The IAG appointed member from France, Dr. Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette (**MFL**), expressed her desire to seek a second 4-year term, which could be approved by the ABLOS members. The IHO appointed member from Brazil, Captain Izabel King Jeck, indicated her availability to be reappointed by the IHO, if agreed. The Vice-Chair noted the challenge in finding an individual suitable and willing to take on the position, he proposed that the individual should be European or North American based. **NA** indicated he was continuing his search and agreed that an individual from North America would be of benefit. The IHO appointed member from Australia, Mr Grant Boyes, had given notice previously to the Chair and the IHO Secretariat of his desire to step-down at the end of the meeting due to his retirement, although he had agreed to continue as Chair of the C-51 Editorial Board. IHO CL 32/2020 dated 11 September had been published informing IHO Member States of the forthcoming vacancy, with the deadline of 30 November for nominations.

.3 Capacity Building

Fiona Bloor (**FB**) provided brief details on the material developed for the courses delivered by the UKHO. She confirmed that the material would be provided to the IHO Secretariat. **Action 2 - FB** The Chair noted there was a need for the material to be changed into a draft generic course basis. **FB** volunteer to create an initial draft presentation on the IHO slide template. **Action 3 - FB/IHO** The Chair noted that once created the further development work could be undertaken by correspondence.

.4 The future of ABLOS

It was agreed that the Future of ABLOS discussions should be addressed at the next physical meeting.

## 7. 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference planning

.1 Dates and Venues

The IHO proposed that the ABLOS considered delaying the Conference until 2022 to give a higher chance of the event actually taking place. **NA** proposed that ABLOS hold an event in 2021 to maintain the momentum and lead into the Conference in 2022 as well as leverage IHO100 and the launching of the UN Decade for Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. The Vice-Chair noted that the feedback survey highlighted a number of ideas to be considered by the ABLOS. It was suggested that a one-day online seminar/webinar could be held with the ABLOS BM28, hosted in Monaco. **FB** suggested that academic papers could be included. It was agreed to postpone the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference until 2022.

**Decision 1: Postpone the 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference until 2022.**

It was proposed to hold two webinar sessions consecutively (pm then am) during the BM28 to cover the maximum time zones and therefore open up the participation. Vladimir Jares (**VJ**) recommended that the titles and contents maintained a focus on the core ABLOS competences of hydrography and geodesy, rather than trying to expand into current popular related topics. He noted

that these core topics would be of interest to legal personnel engaged in the wider UNCLOS processes.

The Chair proposed a potential format for the webinar on 7 October 2021 could be:

First session:

08-11 GMT (For Asia and Australia audience)

2 keynote speakers (45 min each) and 4 papers (15 min each)

Names and topics

Keynotes 1:

Mathias Jonas - IHO century and CSB

Larry Mayer - Seabed2030

Selected Papers:

CSB, new survey techniques, ocean mapping

Second session:

17-20 GMT (For American audience)

2 keynote speakers (45 min each) and 4 papers (15 min each)

Keynotes 2:

Ariel Troisi – UN Decade for Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and/or

Ms. Rena Lee - BBNJ

and/or

Chris Rizos - IAG

Selected Papers:

To be defined

The Chair noted the need advertise the Webinar in 2021 and highlight that the 11th Conference would be postponed to 2022. It was noted that it was important to have a title for the Webinar, although the Conference title and theme could be decided later. It was proposed that the Webinar could be titled 'Ocean Geosciences: from the Past Century to the Future Decade' and that the Conference title should be similar but with more focus on the UN Decade. It was agreed that the Webinar title should be confirmed by the end of October and the Keynote speakers should be confirmed by the end of December. It was noted that the UN Decade 2nd Implementation Plan would be presented by IOC to the UN Assembly on 15 October with the expectation of endorsement; IHO was requested to contact the IOC to invite a Keynote for the Webinar. **Action 4 - IHO** It was agreed that BM29 should be 3 and 6 October 2022 and Conference 4-5 October.

.2 ABLOS X Survey results

It was noted that the organizing committee to the conference had been formed.

.3 Conference fund status report

The IHO presented the current state of the Conference fund, noting that there were sufficient funds to continue supporting the development of the ABLOS Website as well and supporting the initial expenditure for the Conference in 2022.

.4 Title and session themes

The title of the 11<sup>th</sup> conference was agreed to highlight IHO100 and the UN Decade, however there was concern that this may not be so relevant in 2022. It was noted that the UN Decade and Seabed

2030 would be underway and therefore an opportunity to reflect on the initial impact of these initiatives. IHO highlighted that Data should be a significant element and thread.

## .5 Publicity

Although a key note speaker had been identified for the Conference, it was proposed that the individual could provide a presentation for the online webinar, supported by a number of related presentations, including some from research students. Clive Schofield (**CS**) proposed that the webinar should be more than a series of presentations. **ML** noted that thought needs to be put into what audience was the target and why they would want to participate, what was the intended output. The IHO suggested that thought could be given to having a more diverse list of presenters, both geographically and gender, in particular a perspective from developing coastal states and SIDS. Grant Boyes (**GB**) proposed to investigate whether a suitable individual from the Pacific Islands could be identified. **VJ** noted that Sea Level Rise had been selected for the IPCC topic.

It was proposed that ABLOS and Keynote speakers could jointly identify paper authors to complement the Keynote presentations. It was suggested the objective could be to have that different levels of experience and background for the supporting presenters. **NA** noted that the webinar should also be a lead-in to the 11th Conference in 2022. **VJ** noted that if the BBNJ topic was to be included, it should be approached from the perspectives of ABLOS and within its area of competence. **MFLL** suggested that Chris Rizos could provide a commentary related to the IHO100 and UN Decade. **CS** suggested that the webinar focused on the themes of the IHO100 and UN Decade, which could cover numerous associated initiatives, such as Seabed 2030.

**NA** suggested that a group should be formed to progress the task. The Chair proposed that the current Conference organizing committee should lead with the organization of the Webinar; the Committee consisted of BRA, CHL, FRA, DNK and WMU.

## .6 Keynote speaker

It was proposed that the Conference organizing committee commence work as soon as possible to approach the Keynotes and then identify the other presenters, **CS** agreed to lead the task. **Action 5 - CS** Professor Larry Mayer was invited to be the keynote speaker to the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference and accepted the invitation. However due to the conference postponed he could also be invited to deliver presentation in the online Webinar.

## 8. TALOS Manual (C-51) - Report of the editorial board

The Chair provided brief details of recent activities, which included that **GB** would continue as the Chair of the Editorial Board, some ideas had been received on a new format and content for the Manual, USA had provided comprehensive input and Portugal had been invited to join the editorial effort as a result of its comments during the approval process of the C-51 Edition 6.0.0.

### .1 Editorial Board chair report

Chair of the Editorial Board provided his thoughts and considerations for the reasons for changing the format and content based on his experience of working in the Pacific and with SIDS. He suggested that a decision needed to be made on the target audience before the review and revision task commenced. He also noted that the move towards S-121 and the general digitisation should be reflected by the Manual and format.

## .2 Review of Edition 6.0.0 and planning of Edition 7.0.0

The IHO proposed that the format should not be constrained by the current hardcopy pdf format and should make maximum use of the digital e-publication format to present the information in the most ergonomic and digestible format. It was suggested that multiple sections or parts could be created to service different user sectors. **GB** proposed the contents should be simplified to make it understandable. IHO suggested contact two individuals who had worked on different IHO publications (B-11 and B-12), IHO proposed to provide their contact details to seek some guidance. **Action 6 - IHO CS** highlighted that two publications targeted at different audiences and different levels could be considered and linked in the ABLOS Website. It was noted that digital versions had great accessibility and usability. Robert Sandev (**RS**) highlighted the need to approach the issue from the user perspective to ensure the proposed content and format meet their needs and uses. The Chair proposed that a draft version of a chapter executive summary could be generated for further discussion and development; he suggested to start in January would be realistic. Steven Keating (**SK**) proposed that the Editorial Board could progress the initial work in preparation for BM28, led by **GB**. **NA** suggested a 'roadmap' should be developed to guide the work. It was noted that the task of creating meaningful executive summaries which complement the main manual. The IHO noted that, with the recent publication of the Edition 6.0.0, it would be realistic to have completed the work on the format, outline content, executive summaries and identified the target audiences could be completed by BM28. **Action 7 - GB** IHO agreed to circulate, in association with the Chair and Vice-Chair, the known names of the Editorial Board and the associated chapters. **Action 8 - IHO**

The current listed Editorial group for C-51 was provided with some suggestion amendments:

- coordinating editor and chapter one - Grant Boyes
- chapter 2 - Niels Andersen with Juan Carlos Báez and Mikael Lilje to assist
- chapter 4 - Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette
- chapter 3 - Izabel King Jeck with Juan Carlos Báez and Peush Pawsey to assist
- chapters 5 and 6 - Clive Schofield and Hyunsoo Kim
- supporting figures and animations - Clive Schofield; graphics, diagrams and images to be initially selected by the chapter editors for subsequent manipulation into more dynamic digital format later.

It was agreed that the current animations did not need to be changed, however the digital format would enable more graphic visualisation of concepts. The assistance of any ABLOS Member or Observer not named above would be welcomed, individuals were requested to contact the chapter leads (underlined names) directly.

## .3 Review of French and Spanish versions of Edition 6.0.0

IHO confirmed receipt of the draft French version, which would be passed to the relevant staff members for checking on consistency and format. This would be the same process for the Spanish version, when received in approximately 2 weeks. **Action 9 - IHO** Qatar confirmed its desire to generate an Arabic version of Edition 6.0.0 and the associated animations, IHO agreed to provide the Word and PowerPoint versions and the password. **Action 10 - IHO VJ** proposed that it would be of benefit to translate C-51 Edition 6.0.0 into other UN languages (Chinese and Russian), he indicated that DOALOS could investigate whether resources could be found through contacts at the UN. **Action 11 - DOALOS** It was noted that Singapore could be an alternative for a Chinese translation. The Chair agreed to discuss with Korea (INHA through Professor Hyunsoo Kim) and the Nippon Foundation for Korean and Japanese versions respectively. **Action 12 - Chair** It was agreed that INHA could progress a Korean version and that the Japanese version could be developed. The IHO highlighted that a Chinese version of C-51 Edition 6.0.0 was being prepared

by the National Marine Data and Information Service, which should be available before the end of the year. It was noted by the IHO that it could be appropriate for the text to be checked for language consistence by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore; however it did include a statement indicating that the original version remained the authority in any case of difference:

"This translation of the IHO publication C-51 - *A manual on technical aspects of the United Nations convention on the law of the sea-1982 (TALOS)* - has been produced with the permission of the Secretariat of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), acting for the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) (**Permission N°06/2020**), which does not accept responsibility for the correctness of the material as translated: in case of doubt, the IHO's authentic original text shall prevail."

## **9. Reports on Members' attendance at LOS related conferences**

ABLOS members and observers provided by email details of the key events in which they had been involved. **Action 13 - All** Forthcoming events of relevance to ABLOS were requested for inclusion in the ABLOS website. **Action 14 - All**

## **10. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:**

The Chair noted that although there had not been any requests for delivery in 2020, it was considered that the requests were probably still needed. She noted that there was no ABLOS developed training course material, which needed to be generated to ensure a common approach was achieved. There remained no clarity on the IPR of the material used by the UKHO, even when delivered as an IHO CB training course. **FB** indicated that it would be possible to remove the UKHO practice from the material to achieve an IHO standard. **SK** suggested that the material could be better aligned to the TALOS Manual to ensure consistency and minimize the duplication of effort. It was noted that there was no course syllabus available in the IHO, **FB** noted that the LOS elements in the IHO Cat A and Cat B survey courses had been used as an initial guide.

## **11. Report to IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC), including review of Work Programme and representation/attendance**

The draft Work Plan 2021-2022 was presented and discussed, minor amendments were made to take into account discussions and decisions at the BM. The Chair noted that some minor adjustments would be made to the ABLOS report to HSSC12 as a result of the discussions during BM27.

## **12. Any Other Business**

- .1 **VJ** provided a brief updated on the activities of the CLCS in the current environment and restrictions. He highlighted a new publication outlining the way charted data and submissions are handled (SPLOS/30/12). He described the further development and use of the S-121 format and standard. Relevant links were provided:

<http://undocs.org/en/splos/30/11>

<http://undocs.org/en/splos/30/12>

[https://www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting\\_states\\_parties/thirtiethmeetingstatesparties.htm](https://www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/thirtiethmeetingstatesparties.htm)

<https://www.un.org/regularprocess/events/thirteenth-meeting>

<https://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos-norway.htm>

<https://undocs.org/en/A/75/70>

<https://undocs.org/en/splos/30/10/add.4>

- .2 **VJ** provided comments on the discussions undertaken during BM26 and the engagement of DOALOS with ABLOS. He explained the procedural processes of the support by DOALOS to the CLCS. He noted that it was the CLCS decision whether to approach and engage with scientific and technical organizations as noted in UNCLOS. **NA** noted that the cooperation between ABLOS and DOALOS was important and it needs to be enhanced, he indicated he was keen to include links and aspects of DOALOS to maintain the partnership.
- .3 **VJ** highlighted the CB activities being undertaken by DOALOS and he noted that ABLOS contained a significant pool of expertise which could be called upon to assist with these activities. He noted that there were opportunities for joint delivery of CB courses and he proposed that these should be investigated and identified.

### **13. Date of the 28<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting and 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference**

The dates and location of the ABLOS BM28 were confirmed as 4-6 October 2021 at the IHO, Monaco. **Action 15 - IHO** It was agreed to the ABLOS BM29 and 11th ABLOS Conference should be held at the IHO, Monaco, 3-6 October 2022. **Action 16 - IHO**

### **14. Review of List of Actions for BM26 and draft agenda for 27<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting.**

It was agreed that the list of actions and decisions should be circulated with the draft meeting report for comment and input.

### **15. Closure of the Meeting**

The Chair closed the meeting and thank all for their input and contributions to achieve such a productive and successful meeting. She expressed special thanks to Grant Boyes who is leaving the group as an IHO-appointed member but who had agreed to continue contributing as coordinating editor of the TALOS manual. She hoped conditions would allow a physical meeting in Monaco in 2021 and that all remained safe and healthy.

#### **Annexes:**

- A. List of Participants
- B. Agenda BM27
- C. List of Documents
- D. List of Actions
- E. Terms of Reference
- F. Work Plan 2021-2022 - draft
- G. Draft agenda BM28
- H. Members LOS Related Activities

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

Country	Name	E-mail
Australia	Grant Boyes	grant.boyes@ga.gov.au
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**Joint IAG-IHO Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea**



**27<sup>th</sup> ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Remote GoTOMeeting VTC, 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Draft Agenda**

1. Opening remarks by the Chairman, including welcome to new participants
2. Administrative arrangements (*Secretary*)
3. Introduction of participants and apologies
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Approval of the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting and Review of Actions from BM 26
6. ABLOS the way forward:
  - .1 Terms of Reference
  - .2 Membership, including review of terms
  - .3 Capacity Building Training Course
  - .4 Future of ABLOS
7. 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference 2021 (initial thoughts and planning):
  - .1 Dates and venue
  - .2 ABLOS X Survey results
  - .3 Conference fund status report
  - .4 Title and session themes
  - .5 Publicity
  - .6 Key Note Speaker
8. TALOS Manual (C-51)
  - .1 Editorial Board chair report
  - .2 Review of Edition 6.0.0 and planning for Edition 7.0.0
  - .3 Review of French and Spanish versions of Edition 6.0.0
9. Reports on members' attendance at LOS related conferences and forthcoming events at which ABLOS could be represented
10. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:
11. Review of Work Programme and representation/attendance at HSSC13
12. Any Other Business
13. Confirm details of the 28<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting and 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference – date and venue and dates for 29<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting
14. Review of List of Actions for BM27 and draft agenda for 28<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting.
15. Closure of the Meeting

ABLOS BM27 List of Documents

ABLOS27-1.3	<a href="#">Introduction to FIG presentation</a>
ABLOS27-4	<a href="#">Draft Agenda</a> v3.0
ABLOS27-5.1	<a href="#">ABLOS BM26 Minutes</a>
ABLOS27-5.2.1	<a href="#">ABLOS Report to HSSC12</a>
ABLOS 27-5.2.2	<a href="#">ABLOS Report to HSSC12 presentation</a>
ABLOS27-5.3	<a href="#">ABLOS BM26 List of Action</a> - Updated 5 October 2020
ABLOS27-6.1	<a href="#">ABLOS ToRs</a>
ABLOS27-6.2	<a href="#">Current ABLOS membership status</a>
ABLOS27-7.2.1	<a href="#">ABLOS10 Conference Survey Reports</a>
ABLOS27-7.2.2	<a href="#">ABLOS10 Conference Survey Reports analysis</a>
ABLOS27-7.3.1	<a href="#">ABLOS Conference Fund Guidelines</a>
ABLOS27-7.3.2	<a href="#">ABLOS Fund Status</a>
ABLOS26-10	<a href="#">Capacity Building</a>
ABLOS27-11	<a href="#">Work Plan 2021-2022</a> v4.0
ABLOS27-14	<a href="#">Draft Agenda BM28</a>
ABLOS27-List of Participants	<a href="#">List of Participants</a>

LIST OF ABLOS27 BM ACTION ITEMS  
(As of 4 November 2020)

Number	Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
	ABLOS23	Raising profile of ABLOS	<b>On going</b>	Investigate ways to raise profile of ABLOS amongst IAG community and recruit additional personnel as IAG Observers	All IAG members
	ABLOS24	Future of ABLOS	<b>On going</b>	Highlight to CB Regional Coordinators for them to raise at RHCs what ABLOS can provide in terms of CB training and regional based seminars, normally associated with an ABLOS BM	Chair/IHO
ABLOS BM26					
2	8	List of Actions ABLOS BM25	<b>On going</b>	Provide links to relevant events and organizations for inclusion in the ABLOS website	All
3	8	List of Actions ABLOS BM25	<b>ABLOS BM27</b>	Create history of ABLOS article for publication on ABLOS website	NA
6	10.2	ABLOS Membership	<b>ABLOS BM27</b>	Identify suitable candidate to fill IAG vacancy	NA
11	11	Conference wash-up	<b>ABLOS BM27</b>	Develop abstract and biographical note template	JCB
13	13.4	11 <sup>th</sup> Conference	<b>29 November</b>	Organizing Committee to develop conference theme and title for wider ABLOS discussion	IKJ
14	13.5	11 <sup>th</sup> Conference	<b>ABLOS BM27</b>	Investigate the creation of a generic ABLOS email address for use in conference preparations	IHO/JCB
23	15	ABLOS Activities	<b>ABLOS BM27</b>	Provide details of significant forthcoming events	All
25	15	ABLOS Activities	<b>29 November</b>	Collate details of future events and activities provided by ABLOS for representation consideration	CS/All
ABLOS BM27					
1	5	List of Actions ABLOS BM26	<b>30 October</b>	Obtain individual permission to upload photograph to ABLOS website	NA
2	6.3	CB Training Course	<b>30 October</b>	Provide CB course material to IHO	FB
3	6.3	CB Training Course	<b>27 November</b>	Develop initial course material on IHO template	FB/IHO

Number	Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
4	7.1	ABLOS Webinar	<b>30 October</b>	Contact IOC Secretariat to investigate availability for Keynote in Webinar	IHO
5	7.6	ABLOS Webinar	<b>27 November</b>	Approach the Keynotes and identify the other presenters for Webinar	CS
6	8.2	<del>Planning C-51 Edition 7.0.0</del>	<del>30 October Complete</del>	<del>Provide contact details of Prof Brian Calder and Dr Karen Marks</del>	<del>IHO</del>
7	8.2	Planning C-51 Edition 7.0.0	<b>BM28</b>	Provide proposed format, outline contents, draft executive summaries and anticipated target audience details	GB
8	8.2	<del>Planning C-51 Edition 7.0.0</del>	<del>30 October Complete</del>	<del>Provide names of Editorial Board members</del>	<del>IHO</del>
9	8.3	Translations of C-51 Edition 6.0.0	<b>30 April</b>	Complete language consistency and formatting prior to publication of French and Spanish versions	IHO
10	8.3	<del>Translations of C-51 Edition 6.0.0</del>	<del>30 October Complete</del>	<del>Provide Word version of Edition 6.0.0 and animations with password to Qatar for translation into Arabic</del>	<del>IHO</del>
11	8.3	Translations of C-51 Edition 6.0.0	<b>27 November</b>	Investigate via UN contacts whether resources could be found to progress a Russian translation	DOALOS
12	8.3	<del>Translations of C-51 Edition 6.0.0</del>	<del>30 October Complete</del>	<del>Approach Korean and Japanese contacts for consideration of producing respective language versions</del>	<del>Chair</del>
13	9	LOS related conferences	<b>23 October</b>	Provide details of key events in which involved	All
14	9	LOS related conferences	<b>On going</b>	Provide details of significant relevant forthcoming events	All
15	13	BM28 and Webinar	<b>2 April 2021</b>	Issue invitation letter for BM28	IHO
16	13	BM29 and Conference	<b>ABLOS BM28</b>	Confirm venue and dates details	IHO
17	14	<del>Meeting report</del>	<del>9 October Complete</del>	<del>Circulate to ABLOS members and observers</del>	<del>All</del>
18	14	<del>Meeting report</del>	<del>23 October Complete</del>	<del>Provide comments, inputs and amendments to IHO</del>	<del>All</del>
19	14	<del>Meeting report</del>	<del>6 November Complete</del>	<del>Publish final report</del>	<del>IHO</del>
20	11	HSSC Report	<b>12 March</b>	Draft report to Chair and vice-Chair	IHO



**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**For the Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS)**  
**of the**  
**International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and**  
**the International Association of Geodesy (IAG)**  
**(as amended 25 October 2018)**

Ref: 1<sup>st</sup> HSSC Meeting (Singapore 2009)  
11<sup>th</sup> HSSC Meeting (Cape Town 2019)

**OBJECTIVE:**

To provide information and advice on technical aspects of the Law of the Sea.

**1. Terms of Reference**

- 1.1. To provide information and advice with regard to the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to:
  - a) the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) or to other organizations; and
  - b) to their Member States.
- 1.2. To review State practice and jurisprudence on Law of the Sea matters which are relevant to the work of ABLOS so as to be in a position to provide expert advice when needed.
- 1.3. To study, promote and encourage the development of appropriate techniques in the application of the technical concepts contained within certain provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- 1.4. To review and update IHO Special Publication C-51 "A Manual on Technical Aspects of the United Nations' Convention on the Law of the Sea - 1982" (TALOS Manual).
- 1.5. To prepare, review and update other ABLOS publications as required by the parent organizations (IHO/IAG).

**2. Rules of Procedure**

- 2.1. ABLOS shall be composed of eight voting Members, preferably chosen with wide geographic representation. Each parent Organization (IHO/IAG) shall appoint four members. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS), and the IHO Secretariat shall have representatives in an ex-officio capacity without voting rights.
- 2.2. ABLOS should normally take decisions by consensus. Should a vote be necessary then a simple majority of those present and voting is required, subject to a minimum of 4 voting members being present. In the case of a tied vote the Chair shall have a casting vote.

- 2.3. The Member States of the IHO, the IAG and ABLOS through its Chair may appoint observers to ABLOS. Observers may participate in correspondence and attend meetings but may not vote.
- 2.4. Appointed Members and Observers shall serve for a term of four years, renewable by a recommendation of the Board for one additional four-year term and with the approval of the corresponding parent organization. Observers may be reappointed with the approval of the ABLOS for further terms. The Chair shall inform the relevant parent organization of any foreseeable vacancy in a timely manner. Members and Observers are expected to attend every meeting of ABLOS. Where a Member or Observer fails to attend two consecutive meetings the Chair should raise the matter with the parent Organization (IHO/IAG) with a view to rectifying the situation.
- 2.5. Whilst Members of ABLOS are appointed by their parent Organizations (IHO/IAG), to whom they are accountable, Members are expected to serve as individual experts in their own right. No statements or publications may be issued in the name of ABLOS without ABLOS's prior approval.
- 2.6. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by ABLOS and should normally come from different parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) on a rotational basis. They will serve for a two-year period, after which the Vice-Chair becomes Chair and a new Vice-Chair is elected. If the Chair is not present or available, the Vice-Chair shall act in this capacity until the next meeting. Should the Vice-Chair not be available to take office as Chair when required, a new Chair and Vice-Chair should be elected.
- 2.7. ABLOS may establish Working Groups to carry out specific tasks.
- 2.8. ABLOS will have its permanent Secretariat at the IHO Secretariat, Monaco. The Secretariat will publish the documents and publications produced by the Board as required.
- 2.9. Members and Observers of ABLOS are expected to be supported by their own host organizations or governments for travel expenses and work. Exceptionally, an ABLOS appointed Observer may be supported by ABLOS for a specific task.
- 2.10. ABLOS will normally meet once a year at a venue and time that minimizes cost and conducts business by correspondence between meetings.
- 2.11. ABLOS may organise conferences and seminars. A biennial technical conference will normally be held in Monaco in conjunction with an ABLOS meeting. ABLOS may operate a fund to cover the receipts and expenses of running such a conference. Guidelines for the operation of this fund are appended to these terms of reference.
- 2.12. The Chair or his/her nominated representative shall report on the activities of the Board to the annual meeting of the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and to each ordinary session of the Assembly through the Council. The Chair or his/her nominated representative shall also provide an annual report on ABLOS's activities to the IAG and a report covering the inter-sessional period to the General Assembly of the IAG.
- 2.13. These TOR should be reviewed by ABLOS as required and not less frequently than every 4 years. Amendments, recommended by ABLOS, are to be submitted to the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) for approval.

## **ABLOS CONFERENCE FUND GUIDELINES**

(As amended 27 October 2016)

**Reference:** IHO resolution 1/2014, as amended

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 The Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) is formed by four representatives from each of the following bodies: The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). Secretarial support for ABLOS is provided by the IHO Secretariat. The parent organizations (IHO/IAG) approve the Terms of Reference (TOR) for ABLOS. The Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (DOALOS) of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and the IHO Secretariat attend ABLOS meetings in an ex-Officio capacity.

### **2. Biennial Conference**

2.1 The TOR invite ABLOS to organise seminars and technical conferences and permit the operation of a fund to support such activities.

### **3. Income**

3.1 The primary source of income for the fund will be from the registration fees of delegates attending such seminars / conferences. ABLOS should set the level of registrations fees in order to provide a modest excess of income over expenditure given an estimated attendance.

### **4. Expenditure**

4.1 The primary expenditure for the fund will be to cover the costs of running the seminars / conferences. Expenditure may include but is not limited to: assistance to speakers / tutorial leaders, conference equipment, documentation, proceedings, staff overtime, reception and tea breaks.

4.2 ABLOS may use any funds in excess of 3000 Euros remaining after all expenses for a seminar / conference have been settled, to fund other activities conducted by ABLOS. Limited support for travel / subsistence in connection with production of a new edition of C-51 'A Manual on Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea' might be considered such an activity. Such expenditure must be approved by a simple majority of the ABLOS Membership.

4.3 Routine expenditure in support of a seminar / conference may be transacted by the IHO Secretariat and reported in the fund accounts.

### **5. Operation**

5.1 The fund will be operated by the IHO Secretariat on behalf of ABLOS. A copy of the fund accounts will be provided to the Annual Business Meeting of ABLOS and immediately after finalising the accounts following a seminar / conference.

### **6. Review**

6.1 This guidance should be reviewed, and amended as necessary, by ABLOS at intervals not exceeding 4 years.

## 12. ABLOS WORK PLAN 2021-22

### 12.1 ABLOS Tasks

A	Organise the 11 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference in 2022 (IHO Task 2.12.2)
B	Maintain IHO Publication C-51 "Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (TALOS) Manual" (IHO Task 2.12.3)
C	Deliver a standard training program on the hydrographic aspects of maritime delimitation (IHO Task 3.5.2)
D	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea to relevant organizations, bodies and Member States (IHO Task 2.12.3)
E	Organize and prepare ABLOS business meetings in 2021 and 2022 (IHO Task 2.12.1)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
A1	Organise 11 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference	H	Begin advertising Identify and invite key note speaker Confirm conference title Attract presentation abstracts	2019 2019 2019 2019	2022 2021 2021 2022	O O O PO	All members of ABLOS through Committee	N/A	
A2	Conference support and outreach	H	Develop and maintain ABLOS website	2019	On going	PO	Niels Andersen		



Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
B1	Prepare draft 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition of C-51 (TALOS Manual) for adoption by Member States	M		2013	20162019	P/C	Grant Boyes*	IHO Publication C-51	
		H	Review contents of chapters and identify areas requiring revision	2014	2016 2017 2018 2019	O/C			
		M	Review initial French translation and propose amendments	2018	2019 2020	P/C	Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette*		
		M	Review Spanish translations of animations	2018	2019	O/C	Juan Carlos Báez Soto*		
		M	Review initial Spanish translation and propose amendments	2018	20192020	O	Juan Carlos Báez Soto*		
B2	Commence 7 <sup>th</sup> Edition	H	Confirm Format and Content	2019	2020	O	Grant Boyes* Editorial Board	IHO Publication C-51	
		H	Review contents of chapters and identify areas requiring revision	2020	2021	P	Grant Boyes* Editorial Board		
		M	Develop draft revised chapters and seek ABLOS consensus	2021	2023	P	Grant Boyes* Editorial Board		
		M	Submit to HSSC for endorsement and circulation to IHO MS and AIG EC for approval and adoption	2023	2024	P	ABLOS Chair		
		M	Progress French and Spanish translations	2023	2024	P	Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette*/ Juan Carlos Báez Soto*	IHO Res. 2/2007, as amended	

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
C1	Deliver standard training programmes for the CBSC	H	Develop and maintain core training material	2011	Continuous	O	Hyunsoo Kim* Grant Boyes Isabel King Jeck Fiona Bloor Juan Carlos Báez Soto	IHO Publication C-51	No workshops planned in 2021 in the CBSC Work Plan.
D1	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea	H		Continuous		O	All members of ABLOS through the Chair		

## 12.2 ABLOS Meetings (Tasks A & E)

Date	Location	Activity
19 - 23 October 2015	IHB, Monaco	ABLOS 22 and 8 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference
26 - 28 October 2016	Seoul, Korea	ABLOS 23
9 - 12 October 2017	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 24 and 9 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference
22 - 25 October 2018	Qatar	ABLOS 25
7 - 10 October 2019	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 26 and 10 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference
6 - 8 October 2020	Remote VTC	ABLOS 27
4 - 6 October 2021	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 28 and Webinar
3 - 6 October 2022	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 29 and 11 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference

Chair: Izabel King Jeck      Email: [izabel@marinha.mil.br](mailto:izabel@marinha.mil.br)  
Vice-Chair: Dr Juan-Carlos Báez      Email: [jcbaez@csn.uchile.cl](mailto:jcbaez@csn.uchile.cl)  
Secretary: David Wyatt      Email: [adso@iho.int](mailto:adso@iho.int)



28<sup>th</sup> ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING  
Monaco, 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Draft Agenda

1. Welcome address by Chair and IHO Director Technical Programme
2. Domestic and administrative arrangements (*Secretary*)
3. Opening remarks by the Chairman, including welcome to new participants
4. Appointment of Rapporteur
5. Introduction of participants and apologies
6. Adoption of the Agenda
7. Approval of the minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting and outcomes of HSSC12 and HSSC 13.
8. Review of Actions from BM27
9. ABLOS the way forward:
  - .1 Terms of Reference
  - .2 Membership, including review of terms
  - .3 Capacity Building Training Course material
  - .4 Future of ABLOS
10. ABLOS Webinar – Final arrangements
11. 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference 2022 (thoughts and planning):
  - .1 Dates and venue
  - .2 Organizing Committee
  - .3 Conference fund status report
  - .4 Title and session themes
  - .5 Publicity
  - .6 Key Note Speaker
12. TALOS Manual (C-51)
  - .1 Report from Chair of Editorial Board
  - .2 Edition 7.0.0 status and progress of format and content
  - .3 Status of French and Spanish versions of Edition 6.0.0
13. Reports on members' attendance at LOS related conferences and details of significant forthcoming events
14. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars
15. S-121 Product Specification progress update
16. Review of Work Programme and representation/attendance at HSSC14

17. Any Other Business
18. Confirm details of the 29<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting and 11<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference – date and venue and dates for 30<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting
19. Review of List of Actions for BM28 and draft agenda for 29<sup>th</sup> Business Meeting.
20. Closure of the Meeting

**ABLOS Members LOS Related Activities**Niels Andersen

- i. Since last ABLOS BM26 my attendance has mainly been focused on issues in relation to my new position as treasurer and Bureau member of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), which is the mother organization for IAG. Especially the Corona pandemic has had a great impact on conferences with cancelling and postponements and uncertainty about the near future situation. IUGG Bureau is working hard on how to support future conferences and meetings probably becoming hybrids of face-to-face and virtual events which is also of interest for ABLOS. Being a senior adviser to Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs on delimitation I have been quite active in the last year participating in different delegations. Further inside my organization DTU Space we are quite active in the new emerging area of building the Space infrastructures in form of satellites and real time space data for navigation, situational awareness and autonomy and their integrity and resilience to provide reliable information in the future also being relevant for UNCLOS.

Fiona Bloor

- i. Engagement with S121 Project Team;
- ii. UKHO was sponsor of Phase 1 Open Geospatial Consortium S121 project;
- iii. Delivery of technical Law of the Sea training course to NGA (USA);
- iv. Attendance at NGA(USA) Polar Symposium; and
- v. UKHO S100 Conference engagement for S121.

Izabel King Jeck

- i. Interaction with CLCS regarding the Brazilian Continental Shelf Submission (Nov2019); and
- ii. Representing IHO in the 13th Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process (Set2020).

Grant Boyes

- i. Pacific Island Countries (PICs) – 19<sup>th</sup> Maritime Boundaries Working Session:

The event was held at the University of Sydney from 25 Nov to 07 Dec 2019. In the first week 6 PICs attended with the focus being on some remaining technical tasks they need to complete; in the second week all 14 participating PICs attended and the focus was on climate issues facing the region.

A range of resource people attended from Partner Organisations including Pacific Community (SPC); Geoscience Australia; the Attorney-General's Department (Aust); the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Aust); Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS); Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA); UNEP-GRID; and, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (NZ). Representatives from the Department of State (USA) also attend for a series side meetings with particular PICs.

Clive Schofield

- i. 11-12/11/19 - Capacity-building training on maritime boundary delimitation, International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Hamburg;
- ii. 8-11/12/19 - Intersessional meeting of the International Law Association (ILA) Committee on International Law and Sea Level Rise, Madrid;
- iii. 18-21/1/20 - Emerging technologies and the law of the sea conference, U.S. Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island;
- iv. 2-7/2/20 - Historic rights and law of the sea conference, University of Montreal & lecture on maritime baselines limits and boundaries, Harvard Law School, Montreal and Boston;
- v. 31/8/20-4/9/20 - Extended ASEAN Maritime Forum Maritime Delimitation course capacity-building workshop, Singapore;
- vi. 16-18/10/20 - Columbia Law School, East Asian Ocean Law and Policy workshop on Coastal State Jurisdiction and Law Enforcement: From Sovereign Rights to Disputed Zones; and
- vii. 6-8/10/20 - ABLOS BM27, Remote VTC