

IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Monaco, 7 April 2020

HSSC Letter 01/2020

HSSC Business Continuity and Preparation of HSSC-12

Reference: IHO Secretariat's email dated 2 April – *Postponement of HSSC-12*.

Dear HSSC Working Group and Project Team Chairs,

Following the postponement of the HSSC-12 to October 2020 (Reference) and the changes in the IHO calendar of activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as HSSC Chair, I feel the need to liaise directly with you to provide my direction and guidance in order to coordinate the Committee's work.

In this regard, providing you with indications for the continuation of activities I also proudly want to thank you for the excellent work done during this year. The results of each WG/PT work are a manifest to all the IHO community. The deferment of HSSC-12 must not represent a stop of the big efforts expressed so far, but an occasion to push forward with each activity in line with the Work Programme. In fact, the cross-Team resilience that we will be able to express in this difficult period will reinforce even more the precious value of our work. Furthermore, taking into account the short period between HSSC-12 and HSSC-13 it is fundamental that WGs and PTs make the most of time available before HSSC-12.

As I am aware that there are many activities that would have been ready to be presented at HSSC-12 I kindly invite you to continue, in accordance with the procedures in force, with each activity that is possible to pursue. In particular, I specifically refer to those activities whose endorsement is essential for the end-users or other WG/PTs (S-67, S-44, Final Report of FNPC, Proposal by DQWG on S-101 temporal variation, for instance) and important for the continuity of WG/PTs business activity (NCWG ToRs, HSPT ToRs, S-100 PTs ToRs, timeline for new Edition of S-100, etc.).

For this purpose, WGs/PTs Chairs are requested to inform me (Copy: HSSC Secretariat) **no later than 24 April 2020** with a list of their proposals that they consider essential for the sake of business continuity or for meeting other WGs, end-users and stakeholders requirements that should be endorsed by correspondence prior to HSSC-12. The IHO Secretariat and I, will be ready to manage any initiative you may indicate through Circular Letters or HSSC Letters. Depending on the progress made from now until HSSC-12 in October and noting that A-2 and C-4 are planned in mid-November, WGs/PTs Chairs will be also invited to update their reports/WP as appropriate when a new IHO CL announcing the meeting is issued.

I also take this occasion to remind you of the importance of keeping the Work-Programme 2 (2021-2023) up to date, in view of aligning it once the IHO Revised Strategic Plan is approved at A-2 planned in November 2020.

Finally, I would like to inform you that the updated version (30th March 2020) of the “List of Actions and Decisions from HSSC-11” is available at the following link: https://iho.int/uploads/user/Services%20and%20Standards/HSSC/HSSC12/LIST%20OF%20ACTIONS%20FROM%20HSSC11_30Mar2020.pdf)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luigi Sinapi', written in a cursive style.

Rear Admiral Luigi SINAPI

Chair, HSSC