

Invitation to membership of the ICA Commission on Marine Cartography and the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers - IBSC

Submitted by:	ICA/Commission on Marine Cartography (Chair and Vice Chair)
Executive Summary:	Formation of a cohort of interested nautical cartographers for membership to the CMC and future nomination for membership to the IBSC
Related Documents:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Memorandum of Understanding between IHO and ICAb. NCWG5-12.3 INFc. NCWG5-12.4 INF
Related Projects:	

Introduction / Background

The mission of the ICA is to promote the disciplines and professions of Cartography and GIScience in an international context, ensuring that both sciences are employed to maximum effect and full potential for the benefit of society. A significant and relevant field is defined as Marine Cartography and ICA supports the field representing the expert voice of cartography through the Commission on Marine Cartography - CMC. ICA has been active within the field of marine cartography through the activities of the ICA Commission on Marine Cartography and the FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC. The ICA activities of both the CMC and IBSC were presented in detail during the NCWG5 (see NCWG5-12.3 INF and NCWG5-12.4 INF).

Analysis / Discussion

The main goal of CMC is to disseminate information on Marine Cartography as the ICA Expert Marine Cartography Focus Group to ICA members and to other affiliated organizations, covering research on cartography relating to the visualisation and management of ocean data.

The FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC maintains the internationally recognised standards of competence for hydrographic surveyors and nautical cartographers as well as assesses submissions of educational programs for recognition as meeting the standards. The second and current edition (known as S-8 and available for download with Guidelines from http://www.iho.int/iho_pubs/IHO_Download.htm) was introduced in 2017. The ICA representatives on the IBSC were instrumental in drafting the Standards approved unanimously by the IHO member States. The IBSC meets annually in plenary as well as frequently in various member sub-sets as working groups. It has ten members: four representing the IHO; four, FIG and two, ICA. Due to increasing activities in the field of Nautical Cartography the IBSC decided to increase the number of ICA representatives on the Board to four.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the IHO and the ICA provides the framework for a continuing liaison between the two organizations. This will be achieved by maintaining opportunities for scientific, technical and professional activities as well as academic and educational exchange between their members. Furthermore it will lead to the mutual sharing of knowledge and expertise to the advantage of both organizations.

Conclusions

After what will become over 20 years of continuous service on ICA CMC and on the FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC and in the letter and the spirit of the IHO-ICA MoU, the time approaches to find appropriately qualified and experienced members for the ICA CMC and the IBSC.

This is a priority task for the Commission on Marine Cartography and a request to the participants of the NCWG6 and their colleagues at their home agencies.

Recommendation

Invitation to membership of the ICA Commission on Marine Cartography as well as to seek contributions to the ICA CMC agenda. An ultimate objective is to locate and encourage future ICA Nautical Cartography representatives who would nominate for membership of the FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC.

Justification and Impacts

The members of the IHO NCWG and their affiliates at their home agencies have the appropriate background and expertise to become members of the ICA Commission on Marine Cartography and the FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC. Therefore, they are invited to express their interest to become members of the above bodies and contact the Chair and the Vice Chair of the CMC to expedite the formal process.

This will lead to the mutual sharing of knowledge and expertise to the advantage of both organizations and the marine cartography community at large.

Action required of NCWG

The NCWG is invited to:

- a. note this paper;
- b. comment and provide feedback on the above recommendation.