



IHO File N° S3/4505-S1/3022

CIRCULAR LETTER 08/2022
14 February 2022

**Call for Applications to the IHO - Nippon Foundation
Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project, UKHO, Taunton UK,
1 August to 16 December 2022**

References:

- A. IHO CL 10/2014 dated 24 January - *Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Hydrographic Organization and the Nippon Foundation.*
- B. IHO CL 31/2021 dated 05 August - *IHO - NIPPON FOUNDATION GEOMAC (Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography) PROJECT*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The first course of the “Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography” (GEOMAC) Project has been significantly affected by the pandemic, but after some postponements, the course started in Taunton in February 2022. Based on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IHO and the Nippon Foundation (NF) (Reference A), the course consists of eight modules including the programme recognized by the FIG-IHO-ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) with Category "B".
2. This three-year programme, ranging from 2020 to 2022 and kindly funded by the Nippon Foundation of Japan, has been warmly welcomed by the IHO Member States and there has been a consistent demand for the course as the previous CHART project, despite the global pandemic limitations. With health measures in place and kindly supported by the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO), the selected trainees of the first GEOMAC project are currently attending the training course in Taunton.
3. A coordination meeting, comprising representatives from the Japan Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department (JHOD), the UKHO and the IHO Secretariat, was held by VTC on 4 February 2022 to review the current situation of this first course and to discuss the details of the second and third courses to follow.
4. On the prerequisite that the pandemic situation will be managed continuously, both **the second and third GEOMAC course** are planned to take place at the UKHO, Taunton UK, from beginning of August to mid December 2022.
5. Seven trainees will be selected for each course, thanks to the financial support from the Nippon Foundation. The support will cover course fees, travel to and from the respective countries, accommodation and a reasonable living allowance. Accommodation that will be provided for students will be at the sole discretion of the GEOMAC Project and cannot be changed for any reason.
6. Member States are invited to consider nominating **up to two suitable candidates** for the training course. In accordance with the IHO CB Strategy, these courses are only open to candidates from IHO Member States. The GEOMAC courses are aimed at individuals at the start or early in their cartographic careers. Applicants should therefore make specific reference to how their learning will be embedded into their career plan to allow for consideration. The

national authority nominating candidates should ensure that appropriate opportunities will be in place for the individual to apply the knowledge on their return for the maximum benefit.

7. It is essential that candidates are employed by a hydrographic office, a port authority or a related national agency of the nominating country. The nominations must include a statement specifying that the candidates are, or will be, involved in the production and maintenance of nautical charts and, even after the training, will continue to work in this field. A template for this statement is attached as Annex B and must be signed by the authority and a digital copy is to be submitted via the IHO Online Form System, as detailed in paragraph 10.

8. Nominated candidates **MUST** meet the following criteria:

- A very good standard of English, both written and spoken, with reasonable technical English. (*Candidates' level of English will be checked and confirmed by a telephone or teleconference interview before final selection*).
- A high standard in mathematics and geography.
- A background in cartography, hydrographic surveying, geospatial sciences or related areas.
- Individual commitment for international cooperative activities such as Seabed 2030.

9. A Selection Panel, comprising of representatives from the IHO Secretariat and the Nippon Foundation, in consultation with the UKHO and JHOD, will select the candidates for the next courses. The successful candidates and their parent organizations will be informed of their selection **by mid May 2022**. Once selected, candidates cannot be changed and the selected candidates will receive detailed logistic information from the UKHO.

10. The application should be submitted via the IHO Online Form System, including the signed Application Signature Form (Annex C) and the signed nomination statement (see paragraph 7), **no later than 15 April 2022**. All information and documents which are submitted to IHO must be written in English. If Member States have technical difficulty to use the IHO Online Form System, please contact the IHO Secretariat individually. The IHO Online Form System can be accessed in the following address:

https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_08_2022

On behalf of the Secretary-General

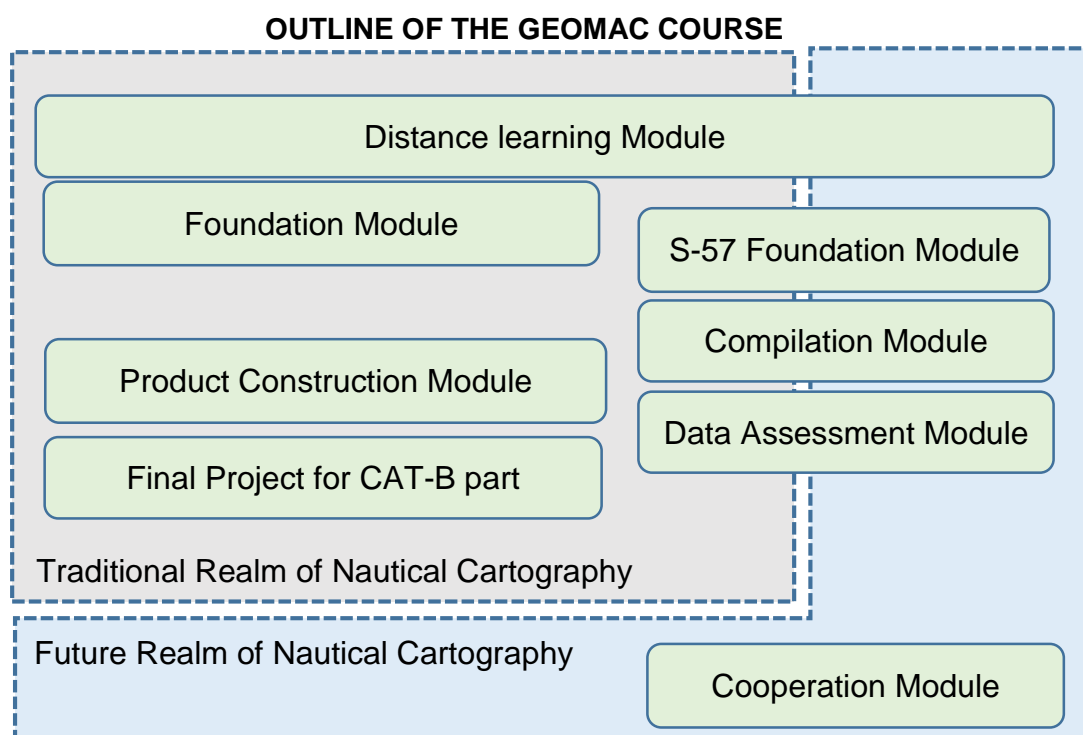
Yours sincerely,



Luigi SINAPI
Director

Annexes (in English only):

- A. Summary of Course Programme
- B. Statement by the National Authority
- C. Application Signature Form



- **Distance learning Module**
 - 1 week for UKHO course. A textbook (paper/ digital) is sent to students 6 weeks prior to cover the basic elements. Exercise Book is also used for marking ahead of the course.
 - 1 year license for further E-learning material on Udemy (to be verified by IHO in the selection process.)
- **Foundation Module**
 - Cartographic basics covering the underlying details of nautical cartography.
- **S-57 Foundation Module**
 - Understanding the IHO S-57 Transfer Standard as well as practical aspects of S-57 Composer software and appropriate data management regarding geospatial database.
- **Compilation Module**
 - Practical module regarding compilation into a geospatial database (bathymetry element, coastline, scheduling, field exercise, meta-data) in compliance with IHO S-57, S-58 using CARIS software.
- **Product Construction Module**
 - Production of an ENC / Paper Chart (from data capturing to quality assurance and publication process)
 - Introduction of the future standard such as S-100.
- **Data Assessment Module**
 - Decision making and processing of new information using software and traditional checking processes to fulfill the responsibility of Hydrographic Offices. (Notice to Mariners, New Edition, maintenance)
- **Final Project (for CAT-B part)**
 - Overall exercise by students including course review, evaluations and lessons learned sessions.

- **Cooperation Module**
 - Integrated data management for Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) for the better ocean governance in Taunton, UK.
 - Topographic data management in wider perspective with the insight of the Artificial Intelligence (AI).

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Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project (including a FIG-IHO-ICA
Category "B" Programme), UKHO, Taunton, UK, 1 August to 16 December 2022**

STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

- 1. What makes the candidate suitable for the course?
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- 2. What are the expected employment position and responsibilities of the candidate immediately upon completion of the course?
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- 3. How many years the candidate is expected to serve as Cartographer?
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In addition, it is my commitment to make the candidate actively participate in certain international cooperative projects such as Seabed2030 after finishing of the course as much as possible.

The Hydrographer (or appropriate authority) of endorses this application and accepts the conditions that apply.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Note: A signed copy of this document is to be submitted via IHO Online Form system in response to IHO CL 08/2022.

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Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project (including a FIG-IHO-ICA
Category "B" Programme), UKHO, Taunton, UK, 1 August to 16 December 2022**

To reach the IHO Secretariat no later than 15 April 2022

via the IHO Online Form System
https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_08_2022

APPLICATION SIGNATURE FORM

To answer the following questions, please use the IHO Online form mentioned above. This page is intended to be scanned and to be uploaded into the Online form with the handwritten signature of the candidate. (It is not necessary to put your answer below, it should be input in the Online form.)

I hereby declare that the following information which I have given in the IHO Online Form System is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. In case any information given in this application proves to be false, incorrect, or concealing other important information, I shall be responsible for the consequences.

In addition, it is my commitment to actively participate in certain international cooperative projects such as Seabed2030 as much as possible in my circumstance with utilizing skill and knowledge beyond the Hydrographic Office.

1. Personal Information
2. Contact Information (Office address, telephone and mobile phone numbers are mandatory)
3. Written and spoken ability in English language
4. Candidate's current position
5. Description of duties of candidate's current position
6. Description of candidate's past experience
7. Current issues
8. How, in practice, the candidate could apply.
9. The e-learning material
10. Candidate's short-term (within 5 years) career plan
11. Candidate's long-term vision
12. How will the candidate contribute and benefit as part of the alumni network

Date:

Candidate's Name:

Candidate's signature:

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