



**THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE**

**IHO File No S3/8151/S-100**

**CIRCULAR LETTER 21/2022  
15 June 2022**

**CALL FOR APPROVAL OF EDITION 2.1.0 OF IHO PUBLICATION S-102 –  
BATHYMETRIC SURFACE PRODUCT SPECIFICATION**

References:

- A. IHO CL 57/2019 dated 22 November - *Adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of the IHO Publication S-102 "Bathymetric Surface Product Specification";*
- B. IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended – *Principles and procedures for making changes to IHO technical standards and specifications;*
- C. Documents HSSC14-05.1A – *Report and Recommendations of S-100WG and HSSC14-05.1D – S-102, Proposed Edition 2.1.0 Impact Study;*
- D. Decisions and Actions of HSSC14 (May 2022).

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Following the publication of Edition 2.0.0 of the IHO Publication S-102 – *Bathymetric Surface Product Specification* (see Reference A), the S-100 Working Group (S-100WG) has continued to maintain and extend this standard as directed by its programme of work and in response to requests from IHO Member States and other stakeholders. As a result, a draft Edition 2.1.0 of this Publication has been prepared by the S-100WG.
2. In accordance with the procedures outlined in Reference B, the draft Edition 2.1.0 has been evaluated by the Member States and relevant stakeholders through the S-100WG and proposed changes underwent a development and testing phase. Particular attention was paid during this development and evaluation phase to the scope of S-102. As a result, the S-100WG agreed to focus on a *navigation implementation* of the Product Specification. Notwithstanding this change of scope, compared to the existing Edition 2.0.0, the S-100WG confirmed that this increased focus on navigational usage does not preclude the use of bathymetric data for non-navigational usage<sup>1</sup>.
3. At its 14<sup>th</sup> meeting in May 2022, the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) endorsed Edition 2.1.0 of S-102 as proposed by the S-100WG (see Reference C), including the proposed focus towards a *navigation implementation* of the Specification (see Reference D, decisions HSSC14/21 and HSSC14/23). In addition, acknowledging the historic reasons that led to the adoption of Edition 2.0.0 of S-102, the HSSC endorsed the request from the S-100WG to suspend the requirements for S-102 to strictly comply with IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended until Edition 3.0.0, which will be in fact the operational Edition of this standard (Reference D, decision HSSC14/22). This will speed up and allow for iterative

<sup>1</sup> As the Bathymetric Attributed Grid (BAG) format is already used to store and exchange bathymetric data for different use cases.

development of revised Editions of S-102 (Ed. 2.m.n) and their implementation and testing to align with S-98 (Interoperability Specification), S-101 (ENC) and S-104 (Water Level Information for Surface Navigation), with no requirement to seek formal approval of IHO Member States.

4. The draft Edition 2.1.0 of S-102 (*English version only*) is now available to IHO Member States, for their consideration and approval on the IHO website at: <https://iho.int/en/draft-publications>.

5. This document is supplemented by a “redline” version highlighting the extensions and clarifications included in the proposed new edition.

6. Member States are requested to take into account the endorsement of the HSSC and to consider the adoption of Edition 2.1.0 of S-102 by providing their reply at their earliest convenience and **no later than 20 September 2022** by email ([cl-lc@iho.int](mailto:cl-lc@iho.int)) or fax (+377 93 10 81 40) using the Voting Form provided in Annex A or, but preferably, using the IHO Online Form System available at the following link:

[https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web\\_form\\_cl\\_21\\_2022](https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_21_2022)

7. Member States are also requested to approve the suspension of the requirements for S-102 to comply with IHO Resolution 2/2007 (as amended) until Edition 3.0.0 for the reasons given in paragraph 3.

On behalf of the Secretary-General  
Yours sincerely,

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

Abri KAMPFER  
Director

Annex A: Voting Form

**S-102 – BATHYMETRIC SURFACE PRODUCT SPECIFICATION**  
**Approval of Edition 2.1.0**

**Voting Form**

*(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat by 20 September 2022)*

*E-mail: [cl-lc@iho.int](mailto:cl-lc@iho.int) - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)*

The proposed draft Edition is available at: <https://iho.int/en/draft-publications>.

Note: The boxes will expand as you type your answers.

**Member State:**

**Contact:**

**E-mail:**


1. Do you approve the adoption of Edition 2.1.0 (dated May 2022) of S-102 (tick the appropriate box)?

YES

NO

If you answer 'NO', please explain your reasons in the comment section below.

**Comments:**

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2. Do you approve the suspension of the requirement for S-102 to comply with IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended until Edition 3.0.0 so as to allow for iterative development and testing (tick the appropriate box)?

YES

NO

If you answer 'NO', please explain your reasons in the comment section below.

**Comments:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**