



IHO File No. S1/6200

CIRCULAR LETTER 43/2022 Rev1
07 November 2022

NOTICE OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONALLY-BASED SEATS ON THE IHO COUNCIL

References:

- A. IHO CL No. 27/2022 dated 29 June - *Call for Member States to declare in which Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) they wish to be counted for the purpose of determining the number of seats allocated to each RHC in the IHO Council*
- B. General Regulations of the IHO - Article 16 – *Selection of Members of the Council*
- C. 1st Session of the Assembly – Decision 26 – *Endorsement of the Selection Process for the Council*
- D. 2nd Session of the Assembly – Decision 13 – *Endorsement of the Selection Process for the Council*
- E. Finance Regulations of the IHO - Article 6 (a)
- F. IHO ACL No. 08/2022 dated 23 September 2022 - *Preparation of the Table of Tonnages*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Reference A invited those Member States that are members of more than one Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) to declare their preference for which RHC they wished to be counted for the purpose of enabling the Secretary-General to allocate the number of seats on the Council assigned to each RHC and to determine the States that are eligible to occupy those seats in each RHC, in accordance with the processes and guidance described in References B, C and D.

2. The IHO Secretariat thanks the following Member States that are members of more than one RHC for responding to Reference A: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.

3. Where a Member State, who is a member of more than one RHC has expressed a preference, this has been taken into account. However, for those Member States¹ who have not expressed a preference, the Secretary-General has followed the process in accordance with Reference A, paragraph 5 and Reference C, and has assigned them to the first RHC in which they became a Member State.

Distribution of and eligibility to occupy the regionally-based seats on the IHO Council

4. The table provided in Annex A shows the resultant distribution of the 20 seats on the Council allocated to the RHCs and those States that are eligible to be selected to occupy those seats.

¹ Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan, Russian Federation and Thailand.

5. Some RHCs have already selected the States that will occupy the seat(s) allocated to them. Where this is known by the Secretariat, it is shown in the table.

6. In accordance with sub-paragraph (b)(vi) of Reference B, the table in Annex A may be amended up to 3 months before the beginning of the 3rd Session of the Assembly if a new IHO Member State become a member of a Regional Hydrographic Commission before that date, that is before 2 February 2023. However, it is unlikely that new accessions, if any, will require revising the number of seats allocated to each RHC.

Eligibility to occupy the remaining 10 Seats on the IHO Council that are based on hydrographic interest (tonnage)

7. In accordance with Reference E, the Secretariat will use the table of tonnages provided at Annex A to Reference F, subject to the addition of any new Member States, to determine the remaining 10 seats to be occupied on the Council. The Secretary-General will approach each State on the list which has not already been selected to occupy a seat by the RHCs, in turn and in order of highest tonnage, inviting the State to declare if it wishes to take up one of the 10 seats available based on hydrographic interest (tonnage). This process will continue until all 10 seats have been filled.

8. Noting that sub-paragraph (b)(vii) of Reference B sets the closing date as *before the last day of the Assembly* for RHCs to declare the identity of the States that they have selected to occupy the first 20 seats on the Council that are allocated on a regional basis, the allocation of the remaining 10 seats is dependent upon when the Secretary-General has a complete list of the States that will occupy the regionally based seats. For this reason, Chairs of RHCs are requested to provide the identity of the State(s) that will occupy the seat(s) allocated to their RHCs as soon as it is known. This will enable the allocation of the last 10 seats on the Council to be made earlier than on the penultimate day of the session of the Assembly, subject to the accession up to that date of any new Member State qualifying for one of the 10 seats according to its tonnage.

9. In accordance with Reference F, the table of tonnages that will be used to define the 10 remaining seats is annexed for your convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Annex

A. Table showing the number of seats on the IHO Council distributed on a regional basis and the Member States eligible to occupy those seats.

B. Table of tonnages in force since January 2021 to 31 December 2023

Table showing the number of seats on the IHO Council distributed on a regional basis and the Member States eligible to occupy those seats

Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC)	Member States (MS) eligible to occupy one of the 20 Council seat(s) allocated to the RHCs (MS that are Members of more than one RHC shown in bold) (MS whose rights are suspended shown in strike through)	Number of MS to be counted in the calculation of the number of seats on a proportional basis	Number of Council seats allocated to the RHC	MS selected by the RHC to occupy the Council seat(s) allocated to the RHC
MBSHC	Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France , Georgia, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia , Slovenia, Spain , Syria , Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine.	19	3	
EAHC	Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia , Japan, Korea (Rep of), Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand	10	2	
MACHC	Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands , Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela.	10	2	
RSAHC	Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan ² Qatar, Saudi Arabia , United Arab Emirates	8	1	
SWPHC	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, USA , Vanuatu ³	9	2	
NIOHC	Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka	4	1	
SAIHC	Angola, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, United Kingdom	7	1	
EATHC	Cameroon, Democratic Rep of Congo, Ghana, Morocco , Nigeria, Portugal	6	1	
NSHC	Belgium, Germany , Iceland , Ireland	4	1	
BSHC	Estonia, Finland , Latvia, Poland, Sweden , Russian Federation	6	1	
SEPRHC	Chile, Colombia , Ecuador, Peru	4	1	
ARHC	Denmark	1	1	Denmark
SWATHC	Argentina, Brazil , Uruguay	3	1	
NHC	Norway	1	1	Norway
USCHC	Canada	1	1	Canada
Total		93	20	

² Pakistan is moved from NIOHC (date of entry 2013) to RSAHC (date of entry 2003)

³ The Republic of Vanuatu is re-instated as a full Member State

	Table of tonnages (based on table in force since 1 January 2021)	Tonnages
1	CHINA - <i>CHINE</i>	97 570 000
2	SINGAPORE - <i>SINGAPOUR</i>	91 047 748
3	MALTA - <i>MALTE</i>	77 231 000
4	INDONESIA - <i>INDONESIE</i>	45 194 835
5	UNITED KINGDOM - <i>ROYAUME UNI</i>	44 876 668
6	REPUBLIC OF KOREA - <i>REPUBLIQUE DE COREE</i>	42 189 086
7	GREECE - <i>GRECE</i>	39 949 462
8	JAPAN - <i>JAPON</i>	28 302 915
9	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - <i>ETATS UNIS D'AMERIQUE</i>	24 885 595
10	CYPRUS - <i>CHYPRE</i>	24 391 273
11	DENMARK - <i>DANEMARK</i>⁴	20 952 071
12	NORWAY - <i>NORVEGE</i>²	20 160 334
13	PORTUGAL	15 512 864
14	ITALY - <i>ITALIE</i>	14 812 739
15	INDIA - <i>INDE</i>	13 078 616

⁴ Selected by the RHC