IHO File N° S3/4505-S1/3022

CIRCULAR LETTER 03/2024
16 January 2024

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR TRAINING UNDER THE THE IHO - NIPPON FOUNDATION GEOSPATIAL MARINE ANALYSIS AND CARTOGRAPHY (GEOMAC) PROJECT, UKHO, TAUNTON, UK

Reference:
A: IHO CL 10/2014 dated 24 January - Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Hydrographic Organization and the Nippon Foundation.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The first course of the current three-year cycle of the "Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography" (GEOMAC) Project funded by the Nippon Foundation (NF) was successfully completed in December 2023, based on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the IHO and the NF (Reference A).

2. The next course will take place at the UKHO, Taunton, UK, from 15 July to 13 December 2024. The summary of the course programme is provided in Annex A. Financial support from the NF is expected for up to seven trainees.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.

3. Member States are invited to consider nominating **one suitable candidate** for the training. In accordance with the IHO CB Strategy, this course is only open to candidates from IHO Member States. The GEOMAC course is designed for 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. 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 of the hydrographic community.

4. It is essential that candidates are employed by a hydrographic office, a port authority or a related national agency of the nominating country. The nomination must include a statement specifying that the candidate is, 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 available in Annex B. Annex B must be signed by the national authority and submitted via the IHO Online Form System, as detailed in paragraph 7.

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

- A very good knowledge of English, both written and spoken, with reasonable technical English. (*Level B1 CEFR or above or equivalent is recommended. Candidates' level of English will be checked and confirmed by a telephone or teleconference interview bef*

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- *ore final selection*).
- Strong background 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.

6. A Selection Panel, comprising of representatives from the IHO Secretariat and the NF, in consultation with the UKHO and the JHOD, will select the candidates for the next course. The successful candidates and their parent organizations will be notified **by mid March 2024.** Once selected, candidates cannot be changed. Selected candidates will receive detailed logistic information from the UKHO.

7. 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 5), **no later than 4 March 2024**. All information and documents which are submitted to the IHO Secretariat must be written in English. If Member States experience technical difficulties with the IHO Online Form System, please contact the IHO Secretariat individually. The IHO Online Form System can be accessed at the following address:

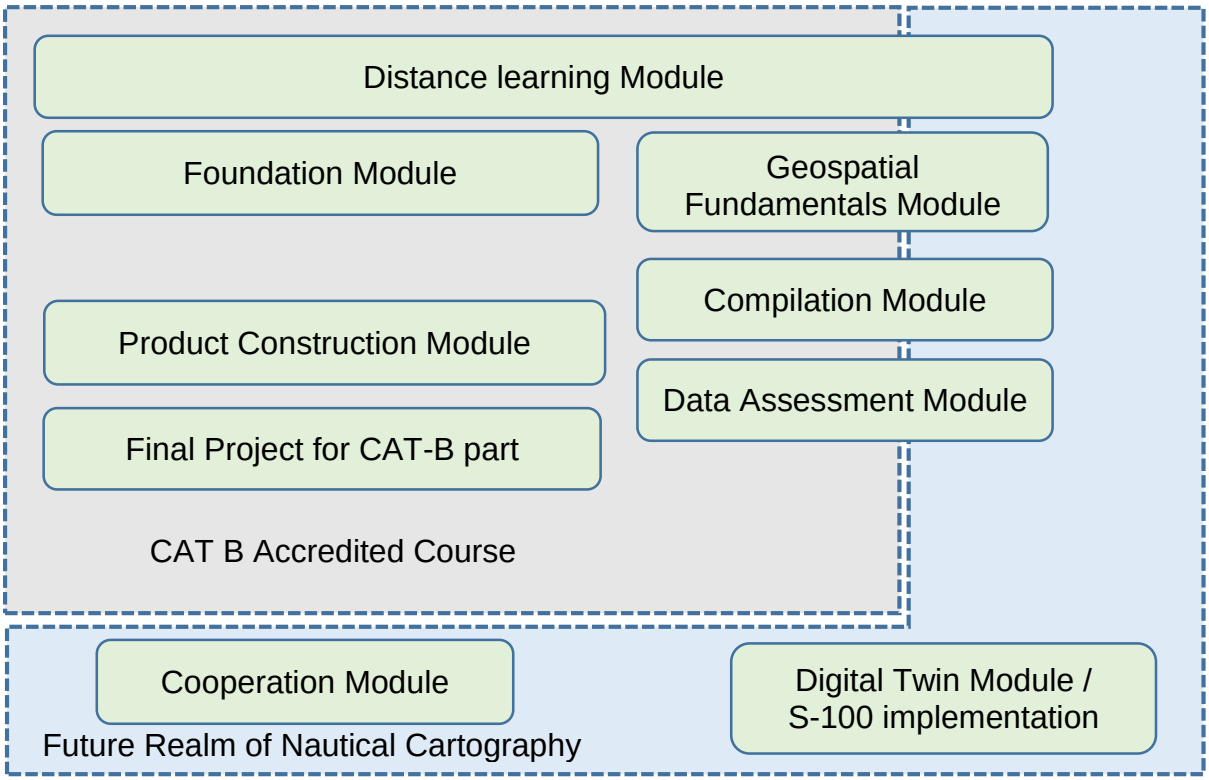
https://iho.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_03_2024

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

OUTLINE OF THE PROPOSED TRAINING COURSE



- **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
- **Foundation Module** – 3 weeks.
  - Cartographic basics covering the underlying details of the nautical cartography.
- **Geospatial Fundamentals Module** – 2 weeks.
  - 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** – 3 weeks.
  - 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** – 3 weeks.
  - 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** – 4 weeks.
  - 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)** – 4 weeks.
  - Overall exercise by students including course review, evaluations and lessons learned sessions.
- **Cooperation Module** – 1 week
  - Integrated data management for Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) for the better ocean governance for 2 days in Taunton, UK.
  - Introduction of ocean mapping, from data collection to product development, to the trainees, and to familiarize them with the multiple users and uses for seafloor maps for 2 days in Taunton, UK.
- **Digital Twin Module** – 1 week
  - Digital twins, S-100 implementation and the link with MSDI, and their potential to be used by autonomous vessels as a 3D world view for navigation purposes bringing efficiency, safety and environmental benefits to the shipping sector for 1 week

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STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY

1. What makes the candidate suitable for the course?
   .....
   .....
   .....

2. What are the expected employment position and responsibilities of the candidate immediately upon completion of the course?
   .....
   .....
   .....

3. How many years the candidate is expected to serve as Cartographer?
   .....
   .....
   .....

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 03/2024.

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*To reach the IHO Secretariat no later than **04 March 2024***

via the IHO Online Form System

https://iho.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_03_2024

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: