



THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE

IHO File No S1/1207 & S3/6000

**CIRCULAR LETTER 06/2024
08 February 2024**

**CALL FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE IHO RESOLUTION – *THE EX ABYSSIS AD ALTA* –
*IHO AWARD FOR HYDROGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE***

References: A. 7th IHO Council meeting Decision C7/16
B. IHO Rules of Procedures M1

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In reference A, the 7th IHO Council endorsed the proposal from HSSC and IRCC for the introduction of an annual Champion of Hydrography Award. The proposed award aims to supplement the *Prince Albert the 1st Medal for Hydrography* granted by the Government of the Principality of Monaco by offering an annual opportunity for the IHO to recognize mid-career achievements and expanded award eligibility in hydrography.

2. The proposed award was designed by the HSSC and IRCC Chairs with support from the IHO Secretariat. The Latin phrase *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* was chosen as the name of the award in honour of Prince Albert 1st of Monaco who used it as his personal motto. With this reference, the Award pays tribute to the instrumental role of the Grimaldi family and the Principality of Monaco in the establishment and continuation of the international collaboration in hydrography.

3. The final proposed version of the IHO Resolution on the Proposed *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* – *IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence* is provided in Annex A.

4. Member States are requested to note the general endorsement of the proposal by Council 7 and are invited – in accordance with reference B – to consider the adoption of this new IHO Resolution on the *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* – *IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence* by providing their reply at their earliest convenience and **no later than 1 April 2024** by email (cl-ic@iho.int) when using the Voting Form in Annex B), but preferably using the IHO Online Form System by accessing the following link:

https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/web_form_cl_06_24

On behalf of the Secretary-General
Yours sincerely,

Dr John E. Nyberg
Director

Annexes

- A: Proposed IHO Resolution on the *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence
- B: Voting Form

IHO Administration The <i>Ex Abyssis ad Alta</i> - IHO AWARD FOR HYDROGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE	X/2024	IHO CLxx	
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Introduction

1. The *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* - IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence was introduced in 2024 following a decision at the IHO Council 7. The aim of the Award is to recognise a champion of hydrography across the global community and IHO Secretariat excluding the Secretary-General and the Directors. The Latin phrase *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* – was the personal motto of Prince Albert I of Monaco. In referencing the motto, the Award pays tribute to the instrumental role of the Grimaldi family and the Principality of Monaco in the establishment and continuation of the international collaboration in hydrography.

Nominations, eligibility and achievement criteria for the Award

2. Each IHO Member State, through their National Hydrographer, may present one nomination for the Award by the first day of May every year, using the form shown in the Annex to this Resolution.
3. Employees of governments, intergovernmental organizations, private industry, and of the IHO Secretariat (excluding the Secretary-General, IHO Directors, current Chairs of IHO Committees, and current Chair of IHO Council) are eligible to be nominated. The award is designed for individuals, however groups, companies, organizations, shared, or other non-individual awards will be considered.
4. Though not absolute, nominations should be oriented toward mid-career individuals. Nominations for career level accomplishments or lifetime achievements should be reserved for the *Prince Albert 1st Medal for Hydrography*.
5. Achievement criteria are specific examples of innovation, original work, exceptional achievement or exceptional devotion which may represent technical, systematic, administrative, scientific, coordination, diplomatic, or other field of focus in support of the IHO and its Member States.

Award Board and selection process

6. The composition of the *Ex Abyssis ad Alta* Award Board includes the Chairs of IHO Council and IHO Committees along with the IHO Directors. The Board will select one recipient of the Award for proposal to the Secretary-General for approval. The Board may also conclude that there is no suitable candidate to recommend for the Award. Should the Award Committee fail to agree on a single candidate, the IHO Secretary-General will decide based on the short list of candidates proposed by the Board.

Award Timeline and Description

7. The Award recipient will be announced on June 21, World Hydrography Day, each year.
8. The recipient will receive a lapel pin, have their name engraved on the IHO Wall of Hydrographic Excellence (IHO Secretariat), and have an article describing their accomplishment published through IHO public relations (website, social media, International Hydrographic Review, or other means of distribution). The recipient will also be allowed to use the Award logo on business cards, CVs, etc.
9. The Award will be delivered to the recipient, normally by the IHO Secretary-General or by one of the two Directors in case the Secretary-General is not available, at an occasion that is agreed between the IHO Secretariat, the nominating office, and the Award recipient, preferably during an IHO related meeting or event, including but not limited to meetings of Council, IHO Committees, Regional Hydrographic Committees and Working Groups.

Financial impact

10. Expenses for the award, lapel pin, engraving, and media will be covered by the IHO operational budget. Any associated travel or additional expenses for the Award recipient shall be covered by their Hydrographic Office, organization, company, or sponsoring entity.

General Data Protection

11. Member States are informed that their country names will be listed in the report for those who made the nominations, but the nominations themselves and the list of nominees will be kept confidential.

NOMINATION FORM

(to be sent by 1 May 20XX to info@iho.int)

Details of Person Being Nominated	
Title	
Surname	
Given Names	
Nationality	
Home Institution	
Awards or Honorifics	

Justification for Nomination

Provide details of how the nominee has made a significant contribution to pursuing the aims and objectives of the IHO, including any positions held or activities undertaken. Also, please include a statement in your own words about why you think the person should be singled out and recognised by the IHO.

As a guide, you may wish to consider some of the following questions:

- In what role(s) or area(s) has the nominee excelled?
- How has the nominee demonstrated service worthy of recognition?
- How has the nominee's contribution impacted on either a particular field, locality, group, community or humanity at large?
- Over what period of time has the nominee made a major contribution?
- Has the nominee's contribution been recognised elsewhere (for example; in the media, by other awards, professional or interest groups, or through government)?
- What makes this person stand out from others?

Reason and Justification for Making this Nomination	
Endorsement by Nominating Member State	
Member State	
Signature	
I certify that the information provided is, to the best of my knowledge, true. I am prepared to provide additional information and justification for this nomination, if requested.	
Title	
Surname	
Given Names	
Position	

IHO Resolution xx/2024 – *the Ex Abyssis ad Alta* – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence

Voting Form

(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat by 1 April 2024)

E-mail: cl-lc@iho.int - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

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

Member State:	
Contact:	
E-mail:	

Do you approve the adoption of the IHO Resolution on IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence?

YES

NO

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

Comments:

Signature:

Date: