

IHO File No S3/0104 & CBSC

CIRCULAR LETTER 09/2025

05 February 2025

23rd MEETING OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE (CBSC23) 28 - 30 May 2025, IHO Secretariat, Monaco

17th MEETING OF THE INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE (IRCC17) 3 - 5 June 2025, IHO Secretariat, Monaco

References:

- A. List of Decisions and Actions of IRCC16
- B. List of Decisions and Actions of CBSC22
- C. Summary Report of the 8th Meeting of the IHO Council (dated 23 October 2024)
- D. IHO CL 05/2025 dated 23 January 2025

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The 23rd meeting of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC23) and the 17th meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC17) are planned to be hosted at the IHO Secretariat in Monaco respectively from 28 to 30 May 2025 and from 3 to 5 June 2025. This event will be an in-person event with passive livestreaming arrangements for those members unable to be physically present.

Registration

2. All delegates intending to participate in CBSC23 and IRCC13 are invited to register through the IHO Portal (CBSC23 and IRCC17) **no later than 29 April 2025**.

Draft Agenda and Timetable for CBSC23 and IRCC17

3. Draft agendas and timetables for CBSC23 and IRCC17 are provided respectively in Annex A and Annex B which take into account some pending important actions and decisions from CBSC22 and IRCC16 (References A and B) and some topics and issues raised at the 8th meeting of the Council (Reference C). Member States and Observers are requested to review the draft agendas and programmes and provide any comments or proposals for new or amended subjects to the CBSC and IRCC Secretariat by 22 April 2025. If necessary, revised draft agendas and timetables will be prepared and posted on the respective CBSC23 and IRCC17 meeting pages of the IHO Portal.

Submission of documents to CBSC23

4. Documents intended for consideration at CBSC23 should be submitted to the CBSC Secretariat (adcc@iho.int, and copy to cba@iho.int) in accordance with the "Instructions for the Submission of Reports and Proposals for Consideration by IRCC and its subordinate bodies" as follows:

Papers	Submission Deadline
Substantive papers – new items Proposals for new work items and any submissions requiring consideration and a decision by CBSC	Not later than 9 April 2025 (seven weeks before commencement of the meeting)
Requests of support to CBSC The submissions should follow the CB Procedures (www.iho.int → Capacity Building → Procedures)	Not later than 22 April 2025
Subsequent Comments and Contributions Subsequent papers (which should be no more than 4 pages), commenting on submissions or proposals submitted as above	Not later than 9 May 2025 (three weeks before commencement of the meeting)
Information documents	

Submission of documents for IRCC17

5. Documents intended for consideration by IRCC17 should be submitted to the IRCC Secretary (dcoord@iho.int and copy to adcc@iho.int) in accordance with the "Instructions for the Submission of Reports and Proposals for Consideration by IRCC and its subordinate bodies" available in the IRCC web page (under Basic Documents) as follows:

Papers	Submission Deadline
Substantive papers – new items	Not later than 14 April 2025
Proposals for new work items and any submissions requiring consideration and a decision by IRCC	(seven weeks before commencement of the meeting)
Subsequent Comments and Contributions Subsequent papers (which should be no more than 4 pages) commenting on submissions or proposals submitted as above	Not later than 12 May 2025 (three weeks before commencement of the meeting)
Reports of the RHCs and IRCC Bodies	
Information documents	

Documents

6. Documents received after the relevant deadline will be treated as information papers only. All documents for the meetings will be posted on the CBSC23 or IRCC17 meeting pages of the IHO Portal as soon as they are available. Member States are invited to consult the IHO Portal regularly.

Members

7. The lists of the members of the IRCC and CBSC are maintained on the IHO website in the respective web pages under Basic Committee (and Sub-Committee) Documents. Both meetings are open to all Member States and to recognized Observer Organizations who may wish to participate, in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the IRCC and CBSC.

Next meetings venues

8. According to arrangements outlined at CBSC22 and IRCC16 and following arrangements with the interested Member States, CBSC24 and IRCC18 are planned to be held in Peru in June 2026. CBSC25 and IRCC19 meetings are tentatively scheduled in Nigeria in June 2027, CBSC26 and IRCC20 meetings are tentatively scheduled in Australia or New Zealand in June 2028 and CBSC27 and IRCC21 meetings are tentatively scheduled in Denmark in June 2029 (TBC). Proposals for hosting the subsequent meetings in 2030 (CBSC28 and IRCC22) are welcome at any time and preferably at IRCC17.

Participation in the One Ocean Science Congress (OOSC), the Blue Economy and Finance Forum (BEFF) and 3rd UN Ocean's Conference (UNOC3)

9. Reference D provided an update on the proposed engagement at the upcoming 3rd UN Ocean's Conference which will be held from 9-13 in Nice, France. The UNOC3 will be preceded by the OOSC (3-6 June, Nice) and the BEFF (7-8 June, Monaco). Member States are encouraged to take advantage of the alignment of IRCC-17 to these events engaging early with their respective national delegations to participate accordingly. An initial **briefing session** on preparations for UNOC3 (and associated events) was held on 30 January 2025 and will be repeated at 15:30 CET (UTC+1) **12 February 2025** for those who were not able to attend previously. This will be followed by a further progress update at 11:00 CET (UTC+1) **18 February 2025**. Member States that have an interest or intention to participate in the UNOC 3 and the associated planning meetings, should join the UNOC 3 Planning Group (UNOC3PG) on the IHO Portal (IHO PORTAL).

On behalf of the Secretary-General Yours sincerely,

Luigi SINAPI Director

Distribution:

IHO Member States
Chairs and Vice-Chairs of CBSC and IRCC, Chair of IRCC

Annexes (in English only):

- A. CBSC23 Draft Agenda and Timetable
- B. IRCC17 Draft Agenda and Timetable

23rd MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE IHO-CBSC23 IHO Secretariat, Monaco 28-30 May 2025

DRAFT AGENDA AND TIMETABLE V1

Note: Presenters of papers in parentheses ()

Time	DAY ONE OF CBSC23 – Wednesday 28 May	Action
CEST	DAT ONE OF CB3C23 – Wednesday 28 Iviay	Action
UTC+2		
09h00	Registration	All
10h00	1. a. Opening Remarks	Chair/
	Opening of the meeting and welcome address by the IHO Secretariat and	IHO
	the CBSC Chair.	Secretariat
	GROUP PHOTO	
	1. b. Introductions	All
	Participants will be invited to introduce themselves.	
		Chair/
	c. Administrative Arrangements Docs: CBSC23-01A List of Documents (Chair)	Secretary
	CBSC23-01A List of Documents (Chair) CBSC23-01B List of Participants (Chair)	
	CBSC23-01C CBSC Membership (Chair)	
	CBSC23-01D ToR and RoP (Chair)	
	CBSC23-01E ToR for the CB Coordinators (Chair)	
	•	
	Logistic guidance and information. Documents are presented and updated as necessary.	
10h40	2. Approval of Agenda	
	Doc: CBSC23-02 Agenda and Timetable (Chair)	
	Participants are invited to comment the agenda and timetable in case	Chair
111.00	updates are necessary.	
11h00	Coffee break	Host
11h30	3. Matters arising from Minutes of CBSC22 and CBSC23 Intersessional (CBSC23 Int) Meetings	
	Docs: CBSC23-03A Minutes of CBSC22 (Chair)	Chair /
	CBSC23-03A Minutes of CBSC23Int (Chair)	Secretary
	CBSC23-03C Status of Action List from CBSC22 (Secretary)	Secretary
	CBSC23-03D Status of Action List from CBSC23Int (Secretary)	
	Approval of the CBSC21 and CBSC23Int Minutes. List of Actions from	
421.22	CBSC21 and CBSC23Int are reviewed and updated.	
12h00	4. Reports by the Chair and the IHO Secretariat	Charle!
	Docs: CBSC23-04A Report by the Chair (Chair)	Chair/
	CBSC23-04B Report by the IHO Secretariat (IHO Secretariat)	IHO Secretariat
	Highlights from the Chair and the Secretariat on ongoing issues and the	secretariat
	future of the IHO Capacity Building Programme.	

12h30	Lunch break	Host
14h00	5. Regional Assessment of CB Activities	11000
	5.1 Reports of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC)	
	Docs: CBSC23-05.1A NSHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1B MBSHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1C BSHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1D USCHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1E EAHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1F EAtHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1G SEPRHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1H SWPHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1I MACHC Report	RHC Reps.
	CBSC23-05.1J SAIHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1K NIOHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1L RSAHC Report	
	CBSC23-05.1M SWAtHC Report	
	RHC Members and CB Coordinators will update the meeting on the status	
	of surveys, charts and MSI (C-55), report on visits (high-level, technical and	
	follow-up) and report on courses, workshops and seminars.	
16h00	Coffee break	Host
16h30	6. Regional or other projects for CB	All
	Docs: TBA	TBA
	Reports and presentations on ongoing/new developments in regional or	
	other projects (Maximum 20 minutes each).	
17h30	END OF DAY ONE	Chair
Time	DAY TWO OF CBSC23 – Thursday 29 May	Action
CEST		71001011
UTC+2		
09h30	Outcomes of the IRCC 16 and 8 th meeting of the Council	
	7.1 Outcomes of the IRCC 16	Chair/
	Docs: CBSC23-07A Decisions and Actions from IRCC16 (Secretary)	Secretary
	7.2 Outcomes of the 8 th meeting of the Council	Chair/
	Docs: CBSC23-07B Decisions and Actions from C-8 (Secretary)	Secretary
	The outcomes of IRCC16 and C-8 will be considered.	
10h30	8. Operational issues of the CBSC	
	8.1 IHO E-Learning Center	eSC Chair
	Docs: CBSC23-08.2 CB e-Learning Steering Committee (SC Chair)	
	Meeting will receive a briefing from the e-Learning Steering Committee	
		_
	8.2 Workforce of the Future Project Team (PT)	PT Chair
	Docs: CBSC23-07B Decisions and Actions from C-8 - Decision 22a.	
	Meeting will receive a briefing from the CBSC Chair on the IHO WF PT.	
11h00	Coffee break	Host

11h30	Doc: CBSC23- update	npowering Women in Hydrography (EWH) Project 08.3 Empowering Women in Hydrography (EWH) Project e (Secretary) eceive briefing from the CBSC Secretary on the status of the ect.	Secretary
	8.4 Update Cartogr	on Sponsored Courses in Hydrography and Nautical	Secretary
	•	update the meeting on the CBWP Sponsored Courses in and Nautical Cartography.	
	Doc: CBSC23-0	tatistics 08.5 Statistics (Secretary) update the meeting on the CBSC Statistics.	Secretary
		cedures are invited to consider improvements to the IHO CB	Chair/All
12h30	Lunch break		Host
14h00	Operational is	sues of the CBSC (Continued)	
	8.7 Fund Ge	eneration Project Team	FGPT
	Meeting will re	eceive a briefing from the Fund Generation Project Team.	
	8.9 Other C	B Contributes:	
		IMO/ Joint CB Coordination Meetings	Secretary
		PRIMAR	
	c.	IC-ENC	
	Meeting will h	be informed on the updates of the contributes to the CBWP	
	_	other Organizations, Primar and IC-ENC.	
14h45		of the 3-year RHC Work Plans 2024-2026	
	Docs: CBSC23	•	
	CBSC23	-	
	CBSC23	2-08.6C EAtHC 3-year Work Plan	
	CBSC23	,	
	CBSC23	,	All
	CBSC23	,	
	· ·	e 3-year Work Plans of the RHCs.	
15h30	Coffee break		Host
16h00	-	ional issues of the CBSC (Continued)	
		of the 3-year RHC Work Plans 2024-2026	All
	•		
17h00	Continuation of END OF DAY T	on the updates of the 3-year Work Plans of the RHCs.	Chair

Time	DAY THREE OF CBSC23 – Friday 30 May	Action
CEST UTC+2		
09h30	9. CB Management	
	9.1 Update on the 2025 CBWP	Chair/
	Doc: CBSC23-09.1 Updated 2025 CBWP (Secretary)	Secretary/
	RHCs will provide additional feedback on the 2025 CBWP revised and	RHC's
	approved by CBSC22.	
	9.2 Finance Report	
	Doc: CBSC23-09.2 Finance Report (Secretary)	Secretary
	Secretary will introduce the finance report for the approval of the CBSC.	
	9.3 Management Plan	
	Doc: CBSC23-09.3 Draft 2026 CB Management Plan (Secretary)	Chair/
	CBSC will review, update and approve the 2026 CB Management Plan.	Secretary
11h00	Coffee break	Host
11h30	9. CB Management (continued)	
	9.4 Adoption of the 2026 CBWP	
	Doc: CBSC23-09.4 Adopted 2026 CBWP (Secretary)	
	CBSC to adopt the 2026 CBWP. <i>Doc. CBSC23-09.4</i> will be drafted during	Chain/
	the meeting following the approval of the 2026 CB Management Plan.	Chair/
12h30	Lunch break	Secretary
14h00	10. CBSC Report to IRCC17 Meeting	Host
141100	Preparation and review of the CBSC Chair report to IRCC17 Meeting.	Chair
14h30	11. Any other business	Crian
141150	11. Any other business	Secretary
	CBSC will discuss any other business.	Secretary
15h00	12. Next CBSC Meetings (venue and date)	
	Confirmation of the dates and venue for CBSC24, CBSC25, CBSC26 and	Chair
	offers to host CBSC27.	
	Current status is:	
	CBSC24: May / June 2026 – Peru	
	CBSC25: May / June 2027 – Nigeria	
	CBSC26: May / June 2028 – Australia or New Zealand	
_	CBSC27: May / June 2029 – Denmark	
15h30	Coffee break	Host
16h00	13. Review of the List of Actions	
	Doc: CBSC23-13 Draft list of actions from CBSC23 (Secretary)	
	CBSC reviews the List of Actions with deadlines and assigned lead. Doc.	Chair/
	CBSC23-13 will be drafted during the meeting.	Secretary
16h45	14. Closure	
	Chair ends the meeting.	Chair
17h00	END OF THE MEETING	Chair

17th MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE IHO-IRCC17

IHO Secretariat, Monaco 3-5 June 2025

DRAFT AGENDA AND TIMETABLE Version 1

Note: Presenters of papers in parentheses ()

Time CEST UTC+2	DAY ONE OF IRCC17 – Tuesday 3 June	Action
09h15	Registration	All
10h00	 a. Opening Remarks Opening of the meeting and welcome address by the IHO Secretariat and the IRCC Chair. 	Chair/ IHO Secretariat
	GROUP PHOTO	
	1. b. Introductions Participants will be invited to introduce themselves.	All
	c. Administrative Arrangements Docs: IRCC17-01A List of Documents (Secretary)	Chair/ Secretary Chair/ Secretary
	Finance Forum (BEFF) June 2025 in Monaco and on the 3rd UN Ocean Conference (UNOC 3) in Nice. 2. Approval of Agenda Doc: IRCC17-02 Agenda and Timetable (Secretary) Participants are invited to comment on the agenda and timetable in case updates are necessary.	Chair / Secretary
11h00	Coffee Break	Host
11h30	3. IRCC Highlights since IRCC163.1 IRCC Chair Report	Chair
	 Docs: IRCC17-03A IRCC Chair Report (Chair) IRCC Chair will provide the preliminary Highlights for the IRCC17 Meeting. 3.2 Matters arising from Minutes of IRCC16 Meeting Docs: IRCC17-03B Report of IRCC16 to C-8 [Minutes of IRCC16] (Sec.) IRCC17-03C Status of Action List from IRCC16 (Secretary) IRCC17-03D IRCC WP 2024-2025 (Secretary) The IRCC16 List of Actions and IRCC WP 2024-2025 are reviewed and updated. 	Chair / Secretary

		T 1
	3.3 Outcomes of the 8 th Meeting of the IHO Council (C-8)	
	Docs: IRCC17-03E List of Decisions and Actions of C-8 (Secretary)	Chair /
	The Meeting will discuss the outcomes of C-8 that affect IRCC.	Secretary
12h15	4. Report by the IHO Secretariat	
	Doc: IRCC17-04 IHO Secretariat Report (Secretariat)	IHO
	Highlights from the activity reports are delivered by the Secretariat.	Secretariat
12h30	Lunch Break	Host
14h30	5.1 HSSC Report	HSSC Chair
	Docs: IRCC17-05.1 HSSC Report (HSSC Chair)	
	HSSC Chair will update the meeting on the highlights of HSSC17	
	5.2 Report of the Ad hoc Drafting Group for Making IHO Events More Inclusive	
	Docs: IRCC17-05.2 Drafting Group IHO Events More Inclusive Report (DG)	Drafting
	IRCC will receive a briefing from a representative of the Drafting Group.	Group
15h00	6. Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs)	
131100	6.1 RHC Reports, including HCA	
	1 / 3	
	Docs: IRCC17-06.1A Nordic HC (NHC Chair) IRCC17-06.1B North Sea HC (NSHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1C East Asia HC (EAHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1D US/Canada HC (USCHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1E Mediterranean and Black Seas HC (MBSHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1F Baltic Sea HC (BSHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1G Eastern Atlantic HC (EAtHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1H South-East Pacific Regional HC (SEPRHC Chair)	RHC Chairs
	IRCC17-06.11 South-West Pacific HC (SWPRHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1J Meso American - Caribbean Sea HC (MACH Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1K Southern Africa and Islands HC (SAIHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1L North Indian Ocean HC (NIOHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1M ROPME Sea Area HC (RSAHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.1N South-West Atlantic HC (SWAtHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-06.10 Arctic Regional HC (ARHC Chair)	
	IRCC17-07A Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA Chair)	
	RHC Chairs are invited to summarize their report briefly and present the key achievements, the challenges faced and lessons learned in each Region	
	including the status of the implementation of the gender-inclusive language on their TOR and ROP in accordance with Decision A3/9.b (maximum 10 minutes each)	
	minutes each). The Committee will be invited to note the key achievements and discuss	
	how to overcome some of the common challenges faced by the RHCs.	
16h00	Coffee Break	Host
16h30	6.1 RHC Reports (continued)	-
101100	Continuation of item 6.1	RHC Chairs
17h30	END OF DAY ONE	Chair
1/1130	LIND OF DATE ONL	Citali

Time CEST UTC+2	DAY TWO OF IRCC17 – Wednesday 4 June	Action
09h00	7. Reports from IRCC Subordinate Bodies	
	Docs: IRCC17-07B World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub- Committee (WWNWS-SC Chair) IRCC17-07C Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC Chair) IRCC17-07D WEND Working Group (WENDWG Chair) IRCC17-07E MSDI Working Group (MSDIWG Chair) IRCC17-07F IHO-EU Network Working Group (IENWG Chair) IRCC17-07G FIG-IHO-ICA IBSC (IBSC Chair) IRCC17-07H CSB Working Group (CSBWG Chair) IRCC17-07J IHO DCDB Report (IHO DCDB Director) IRCC17-07J IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC Chair) Chairs of the IRCC bodies will present the main achievements, challenges faced, lessons learned and work programs, including the status of the implementation of the gender-inclusive language on their TOR and ROP in accordance with Decision A3/9.b in the IRCC bodies (maximum 15 minutes each). The Committee is invited to consider the inputs and to provide guidance of each body's work programme.	Chairs of the IRCC subordinate bodies
10h30	Coffee Break	Host
11h00	7. Reports from IRCC Bodies (continued) Continuation of item 7.	Chairs of sub. bodies
12h30	Lunch Break	Host
14h00	7. Reports from IRCC Bodies (continued) Continuation of item 7.	Chairs of sub. bodies
15h30	Coffee Break	Host
16h00	 8. Strategic Issues of the IRCC 8.1 IRCC SPI's Docs: IRCC17-08.1 IHO Annual Report 2024 Presentation of the results of the IRCC SPI's in 2024. 8.2 Strategic Plan WG Docs: IRCC17-08.2a Decisions and Actions from C-7 - Decision 37 IRCC17-08.2b IHO Strategic Plan 2021-26 The SPWG will update IRCC on the progress of the revised IHO Strategic Plan. 8.3 IRCC Fund Generation PT IRCC17-08.3 Fund Generation PT (PT Chair) The meeting will receive a briefing from the PT on Fund Generation. 	Chair/ Secretary SPWG FGPT
17h30	END OF DAY TWO	Chair

Time	DAY THREE OF IRCC17 – 5 June	Action
CEST UTC+2		
09h00	9. Other information papers Relevant information papers from the IRCC Members, Observers and invited Organizations will be provided, if any.	Chair / Secretariat / All
10h00	10. Any other business Participants are invited to present other business items (if any).	Chair
10h30	Coffee Break	Host
11h00	11. Draft Report from IRCC to the C-9 Review the highlights of the draft IRCC report and proposals (if any) to the 9 th Council Meeting.	Chair / Secretariat / All
11h30	12. IRCC Work Programme Management Docs: IRCC17-13A IHO Work Programme for 2024-2026 (Secretariat) IRCC17-13B Draft IRCC Work Programme (Secretariat) Discussion to build the IRCC Work Programme for 2025-2026 considering the impact of the IHO Work Programme for 2024-2026. Document IRCC17-13B will be drafted during the meeting.	Chair / Secretariat / All
12h30	Lunch	Host
14h00	13. Review of the Actions and Decisions Docs: IRCC17-12 Draft List of Actions Decisions and Recommendations (Secretariat)	Chair /
	Review of the actions, decisions and recommendations agreed during the meeting. Document <i>IRCC17-12</i> will be drafted during the meeting.	Secretariat / All
15h00	,	•
15h00	meeting. Document IRCC17-12 will be drafted during the meeting. 14. Next IRCC Meetings (Venue and Date) Definition of the dates and venue for IRCC18 and confirmation of the dates and venue for IRCC19, IRCC20 and IRCC21. Participants are expected to offer to host IRCC22. Proposed dates and venues are: IRCC18: May / June 2026 – Peru IRCC19: May / June 2027 – Nigeria IRCC20: May / June 2028 – Australia or New Zealand	All Chair / Secretariat /
	meeting. Document IRCC17-12 will be drafted during the meeting. 14. Next IRCC Meetings (Venue and Date) Definition of the dates and venue for IRCC18 and confirmation of the dates and venue for IRCC19, IRCC20 and IRCC21. Participants are expected to offer to host IRCC22. Proposed dates and venues are: IRCC18: May / June 2026 – Peru IRCC19: May / June 2027 – Nigeria IRCC20: May / June 2028 – Australia or New Zealand IRCC21: May / June 2029 – Denmark	All Chair / Secretariat / All