

**QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR THE IHO - NIPPON FOUNDATION  
GEOSPATIAL MARINE ANALYSIS AND CARTOGRAPHY (GEOMAC) PROJECT**

**Reference:**

IHO CL 10/2025 dated 17 February - Questionnaire for the IHO - Nippon Foundation Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) Project.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The CL indicated in the Reference invited IHO Member States (MS) to complete the questionnaire for the IHO – Nippon Foundation Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography (GEOMAC) project. A total of 54 responses to the questionnaire were received from 52 MS and 2 non-MS (Associate Members of Regional Hydrographic Commissions). This is the largest number of responses ever received by the IHO Secretariat for this type of questionnaire, and we would like to thank all the countries that responded.

2. The summary of the questionnaire results is provided below. The detailed results can be found in the Annex.

- A. Of the responding countries, 69% were classified as developing and 31% as developed. Additionally, 85% reported that they publish their own nautical charts, while 15% expressed the wish in doing so in the future.
- B. 94% of the countries were aware of the significant support from The Nippon Foundation (NF) sponsoring education and training of nautical cartographers, indicating the NF's continued support and appreciation for the GEOMAC project.
- C. 74% of the countries have nominated candidates for the JCBP/CHART/GEOMAC training courses, and selected trainees have contributed to ENC and paper chart production in various ways.
- D. 51% of the developing countries indicated a need for more trainee slots, while 49% considered the current number of trainee slots (7 per course) to be adequate. The responses revealed at least 318 potential trainees over the next 10 years.
- E. Several valuable suggestions were received for improving the GEOMAC training course, with particularly strong demand for expanded content on the S-100 hydrographic data model. Other key recommendations included integrating AI/automation, ENC scheming, improving alumni support for adapting to new

technologies, enhancing accessibility for non-English speakers, and increasing the use of online training methods.

3. Based on the analysis of the questionnaire results, the IHO Secretariat will consider developing a focused and resource-efficient proposal to The Nippon Foundation for the next three-year cycle of the GEOMAC project (2026–2028).

4. Taking this opportunity, the IHO Secretariat wishes to renew its sincere appreciation to The Nippon Foundation for its continued and generous support of IHO Capacity Building and other programmes.

On behalf of the Secretary-General  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luigi SINAPI'.

Luigi SINAPI  
Director

Annex:

Report on the Questionnaire Results for the IHO – Nippon Foundation GEOMAC Project  
(in English only), available at the following address:

[https://iho.int/uploads/user/Capacity%20Building/IHO-Nippon%20Foundation%20CHART%20project/GEOMAC\\_QreReport\\_CL10\\_2025.pdf](https://iho.int/uploads/user/Capacity%20Building/IHO-Nippon%20Foundation%20CHART%20project/GEOMAC_QreReport_CL10_2025.pdf).