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CIRCULAR LETTER 05/2026

26 January 2026

**NEW IHO MEMBER STATE**

**REPUBLIC OF PANAMA**

Reference: Convention on the International Hydrographic Organization

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO Secretariat has been informed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Government of Monaco that the Government of the Republic of Panama deposited its Instrument of Accession to the Convention on the International Hydrographic Organization on 14 January 2026.
2. Accordingly, the IHO Secretariat is pleased to announce that the Republic of Panama has become the 104<sup>th</sup> Member State of the International Hydrographic Organization as of that date.
3. Separately, the Government of the Principality of Monaco, through normal diplomatic channels, is now informing the States Parties to the IHO Convention that, in conformity with Article XX, the Convention entered into force for the Republic of Panama, on 14 January 2026.
4. The IHO Secretariat is pleased with the successful finalization of the accession process and delighted to welcome the Republic of Panama to the IHO.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General