

CIRCULAR LETTER N° 08/2026
29 JANUARY 2026

MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAMME IN HYDROGRAPHIC SCIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI (USA) SPONSORED BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES (14th Course, 16 August 2026 – 11 August 2027)

Reference : IHO CL 43/2025, dated 11 November 2025 – *Master of Science Programme in Hydrographic Science at the University of Southern Mississippi (USA) Sponsored by the Republic of Korea – call for Nominations (14th Course)*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In the reference, the IHO Secretariat invited the IHO Member States to consider nominating one suitable candidate who would benefit from the opportunity offered by the IHO-Republic of Korea (ROK) Programme of Technical Cooperation to enroll in the 2026-2027 session of the Category “A” Master of Science in Hydrographic Science at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), USA. The budget allocation from the ROK fund to sponsor the training for this session will be available for two students.
2. The IHO Secretariat received applications from twelve countries. The Selection Panel, comprising representatives from the ROK, the IHO Secretariat, the USM and the Chair of Capacity Building Sub-Committee as an observer, met in person on 21 January 2026 and examined all the applications.
3. The candidates from **Thailand (Mr Jakrapop TUNGMON)** and from **Indonesia (Ms Nadia Zahrina WULANSARI)** were assessed as meeting all necessary criteria and were selected for the session that will be held at the USM from 16 August 2026 (reporting date) to 11 August 2027 (departure date). Individual notification letters have been sent to the selected applicants with detailed instructions. The candidate from Nigeria (Mr Mustapha ADEGBITE) was selected as reserve candidate.
4. In accordance with Annex C of the Reference (Timetable for the selection of candidates), the selected candidates must submit all the required documentation to the USM in liaison with Professor Stephan HOWDEN (e-mail: Stephan.Howden@usm.edu), Director of Hydrographic Science Research Center at the USM. The selected candidates will receive detailed logistic information directly from the USM.

5. Thanks to the continuing and generous support of the Republic of Korea it is expected that another opportunity for training at the USM will be offered in 2027. The IHO Circular Letter regarding the call for nominations for this next session is planned to be circulated in August 2026. The Secretariat advises those organizations whose applications were not selected this time, together with other prospective candidates, to begin preparation for next year's applications now. Prospective candidates should ensure that they have all the necessary documentation readily available well in advance, especially the necessary proof of English language proficiency.

6. The IHO secretariat congratulates the candidates who have been selected and thanks the IHO Member States for their interest.

7. The IHO Secretariat would also like to renew its sincere thanks to the Republic of Korea for its substantial support to the 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
IHO Director