

IHO File No. S1/1207

CIRCULAR LETTER 15/2026  
16 March 2026

**THE EX ABYSSIS AD ALTA – IHO AWARD FOR HYDROGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE**  
**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

Reference: IHO Resolution 01/2024 the Ex Abyssis ad Alta – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO Secretariat is pleased to announce the 2026 call for nominations for the Ex Abyssis ad Alta – IHO Award for Hydrographic Excellence.
2. The Latin phrase Ex Abyssis ad Alta was chosen as the name of the award in honour of Prince Albert I 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. Nominations for award recipients should be sent to the IHO Secretariat ([info@iho.int](mailto:info@iho.int)) **no later than 1 May 2026**. For ease of reference the Nomination form from Reference A can be found at Annex A herewith.
4. 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.

Yours sincerely,



Dr John NYBERG  
Director

Annex A: Nomination form

**NOMINATION FORM**(to be sent **by 01 May 2026** to [info@iho.int](mailto: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	
<b>Endorsement by Nominating Member State</b>	
Member State	
Signature	
<b>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.</b>	
Title	
Surname	
Given Names	
Position	

