

IHO File No. S3/8151/S-100

CIRCULAR LETTER 29/2026
03 June 2026

S-100-BASED STANDARDS

S-97, S-98 AND S-164

CALL FOR APPROVAL

References:

- A. 17th HSSC Meeting (6-8 May 2025, Stavanger, Norway) – List of Decisions & Actions
- B. 18th HSSC Meeting (19-21 May 2026, Gdansk, Poland) – Decisions HSSC18/083, HSSC18/085, HSSC18/088 and HSSC18/090,
- C. IHO Resolution 2/2007 - Procedures for making changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. At its 17th meeting in May 2025, HSSC consolidated the review cycle of the main S-100 based Standards to maintain the S-100 critical framework, implementation strategy while ensuring a safe ECIDS-type approval path. Concerned Standards were S-97 (*IHO Guidelines for Creating S-100 Product Specifications*), S-98 (*S-100 ECDIS and Interoperability Specification*) and S-164 (*IHO Test Data Sets in ECDIS - Instruction Manual for the Use of IHO Test Data Sets in ECDIS*).
2. Thanks to the significant work of the S-100 Working Group, new Editions of the S-100 based Standards S-97, S-98 and S-164 were submitted in a timely manner for endorsement by the HSSC at its 18th Meeting (Reference B), in compliance with the way forward agreed at HSSC17.
3. Noting the decisions made by HSSC on the proposed Editions (Reference B), the consolidated draft Product Specifications have been made available for approval in the IHO Geospatial Information (GI) Registry > Test Bed > [Product Specifications](#) repository (S-97, S-98 and S-164). A link to the Product Specifications for approval has also been placed on the IHO website > Publications > [Draft Publications](#) > Draft Publications awaiting approval by Member States. Member States are now invited, in accordance with Reference C, to approve the Operational Editions of S-100 based product specifications (Phase 2 / Route Planning) **no later than 7 August 2026** using the following link: https://iho.formstack.com/forms/cl_29_2026.

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,



John NYBERG
Director