

IHO File No. S3/0302/ABLOS

CIRCULAR LETTER 45/2026

26 August 2026

**IHO-IAG ADVISORY BOARD ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE LAW OF THE SEA (ABLOS)
- IHO REPRESENTATIVES**

Dear Hydrographer,

1. According to its Rules of Procedure, the IHO-IAG Advisory Board on Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) is composed of eight individual experts who provide advice, guidance and, where applicable, offer expert interpretation of the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea. Four experts are appointed by IHO and the other four experts by the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). The term of membership is for a period of four years and may be renewed for a further four-year term. The current membership of ABLOS is listed in Annex A.
2. Captain Izabel King Jeck, an IHO appointed member since 2017, will retire from ABLOS after completing the second term in October 2026. Her position will therefore become vacant.
3. Member States are invited to consider nominating suitable experts to fill the vacancy (Deadline: 21 October 2026), by email (cl-lc@iho.int) when using the Voting Form in Annex B, but preferably using the IHO Online Form System by accessing the following link: https://iho.formstack.com/forms/cl_45_2026.
4. Member States should take into consideration the Rules of Procedure for ABLOS, in particular the following two articles:
 - 2.5. *Whilst members of ABLOS are appointed by their parent Organizations (IHO/IAG), to whom they are accountable, members are expected to serve as individual experts in their own right.*
 - 2.9. *Members and Observers of ABLOS are expected to be supported by their own host organizations or governments for travel expenses and work.*
5. The IHO Secretariat will review the nominations and select the new ABLOS member, in liaison with the ABLOS Chair, Ms Fiona Bloor from UK.
6. The IHO Secretariat takes this opportunity to express his appreciation to Captain Izabel King Jeck, Brazil, for her valuable contribution to ABLOS activities over the years of her membership.

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,



Luigi SINAPI
Director

Annex A: Current list of ABLOS members

Annex B: Nomination form

**IHO-IAG ADVISORY BOARD ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE LAW OF THE SEA
(ABLOS)**

List of current ABLOS members

IHO representatives:

Ms Fiona BLOOR	United Kingdom	April 2019 – October 2023 (BM30); October 2023 – October 2027 (BM34)	Chair
Captain Izabel King JECK	Brazil	July 2017 – October 2022 (BM29); October 2022 – October 2026 (BM33)	
Prof Lorenzo Schiano Di Pepe	Italy	January 2021 – October 2025 (BM32); October 2025 - October 2029 (BM36)	
Att Dr Virginie Tassin Campanella	Monaco	March 2024 – October 2028 (BM35)	

IAG representatives:

Dr Niels ANDERSEN	Denmark	July 2019 – October 2023 (BM30); October 2023 – October 2027 (BM34)	
Mr John Ells	Canada	March 2021 – October 2025 (BM32); October 2025 - October 2029 (BM36)	
Dr Richard S. Gross	USA	October 2024 – October 2028 (BM35)	Vice-Chair
Prof. Dr. Harald Schuh	Germany	April 2025 – October 2029 (BM36)	

Ex-officio members:

UN DOALOS: Ms Alice Hicuburundi

IHO: Mr Leonel Manteigas (Secretary)

IHO-IAG ADVISORY BOARD ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE LAW OF THE SEA
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Nomination Form

(to be returned to the IHO cl-lc@iho.int by 21 October 2026)

Note: The boxes will expand as you type your answers

Member State

Would you like to nominate an expert to be a member of ABLOS?

YES ☐	NO ☐
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IF YES:

Name of expert:

E-mail :

Comments :

Signature :

Date :

Attachment: CV of nominated expert