IHO File No. S3/0302/ABLOS

CIRCULAR LETTER 61/2026
27 October 2026

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

Reference: IHO CL 45/2026 dated 26 August - IHO-IAG Advisory Board on Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) - IHO Representatives

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In the CL in reference the IHO Secretariat informed Member States that one IHO position will become vacant on the IHO-IAG Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) following the retirement of Captain Izabel King Jeck (Brazil). In response to the invitation for candidates the IHO Secretariat received the following seven nominations for the vacant IHO position:

- Cdr Jorge Ariel Alavera (Ecuador);
- Rear Admiral Dr Najhan Md Said (Malaysia);
- Professor Clive Howard Schofield (Australia);
- Professor Hyun Jung Kim (ROK);
- Dr. Rafael Toscani Gomes da Silveira (Brazil);
- Captain Amit Pant (India);
- RAdm (Ret) Kresno Buntoro (Indonesia).

2. The curricula vitae of all candidates were carefully reviewed by the IHO Secretariat, in consultation with the ABLOS Chair. Following consideration of the candidates' professional backgrounds, technical expertise, academic achievements, current responsibilities and potential contributions to the work of ABLOS, Professor Hyun Jung Kim (Republic of Korea) has been selected to fill the vacant IHO position on ABLOS for the 2026–2030 term.

3. Unless an objection is received from a Member State, the appointment of Professor Hyun Jung Kim will be effective from 27 November 2026. The updated membership list of ABLOS, which is anticipated to be effective from 27 November 2026, is provided in Annex.

On behalf of the Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,

Adam GREENLAND
Director

Copy to: IAG Executive Committee Chair, ABLOS
Annex: List of ABLOS Members as of 27 November 2026

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Annex to IHO CL61/2026

MEMBERS OF ABLOS – November 2026

IHO Representatives:

Fiona Bloor {April 2019 – October 2023 (BM30); October 2023 – October 2027 (BM34)}
Technical Law of the Sea - UK Hydrographic Office
UK

Professor Lorenzo Schiano Di Pepe (Vice Chair from completion BM33) {January 2021 – October 2025 (BM32); October 2025 - October 2029 (BM36)}
Professor of European Law - University of Genoa
ITALY

Att Dr Virginie Tassin Campanella {March 2024 – October 2028 (BM35)}
VTA Tassin
MONACO

Professor Hyun Jung Kim {November 2026 – October 2030 (BM37)}
Professor of International Law – Yonsei University
Republic of Korea

IAG Representatives:

Professor Niels Andersen {July 2019 – October 2023 (BM30), October 2023 – October 2027 (BM34)}
Deputy Director DTU Space - Technical University of Denmark National Space Institute
DENMARK

John Ells {March 2021 – October 2025 (BM32); October 2025 - October 2029 (BM36)}
Geodetic Engineer - Canadian Hydrographic Services Fisheries and Oceans Canada
CANADA

Dr Richard S. Gross – President of IAG (Chair from completion BM33) {October 2024 – October 2028 (BM35)}
JPL Geodynamics and Space Geodesy Group
USA

Prof. Dr. Harald Schuh {April 2025 – October 2029 (BM36)}
GFZ Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences
GERMANY

DOALOS ex-officio Representative:

Alice Hicuburundi {October 2021 – October 2025 (BM32); October 2025 – October 2029 (BM36)}
Secretary, Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
Division for Ocean Affairs and the law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (DOALOS)

IHO Secretariat ex-officio Representative:

Leonel Manteigas (Secretary)
Assistant Director,
International Hydrographic Organization

IHO Observers

Dr Elfatih El Rasheed Abdulrahman Elnour {October 2017 – October 2021 (BM28); October 2021 – October 2025 (BM32); October 2025 – October 2029 (BM36)}
Qatar Standing Committee of the Convention on the Law of the Sea
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
QATAR

Mr Omar Ali Hassan Al-Ali {October 2025 – October 2029 (BM36}
Qatar Standing Committee of the Convention on the Law of the Sea
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
QATAR

Professor Clive Schofield {October 2018 – October 2022; October 2022 – October 2026 (BM33)}
Director of Research & ARC Future Fellow
Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS),
University of Wollongong
AUSTRALIA

LT José Córdoba Aguilar {October 2024 – October 2026(BM33); October 2026 – October 2030 (BM37)}
Instituto Oceanográfico de la Armada
ECUADOR

Ms Elise Campbell {October 2025 (BM32) – October 2029 (BM36)}
Technical Law of the Sea -UK Hydrographic Office
UK

RAdm Dr. Najhan Md Said {October 2026 (BM33) – October 2030 (BM37)}
Director General National Hydrographic Centre
MALAYSIA

CDR Carlos Videira Marques {October 2026 (BM33) – October 2030 (BM37)}
Portuguese Hydrographic Office
PORTUGAL

LCdr Rafael TOSCANI Gomes da Silveira {October 2026 (BM33) – October 2030 (BM37)}
Centro de Hidrografia da Marinha (CHM)
BRAZIL