



WHAT IS ABLOS

John Brown (Chair of ABLOS)

ABLOS-HYSK Joint Seminar

“Roles of the Law of the Sea and the Hydrography in Asian Region

Ramada Seoul Hotel

Seoul, Korea 28 October 2016

ADVISORY BOARD ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

- In 1985 began as a Working Group of the IHO with 12 members
- Tasked with producing a special publication on the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea
- 1st Edition published in 1988



ADVISORY BOARD ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

- In 1994, IHO and IAG formed a joint Advisory Board to provide advice and guidance and offer expert interpretation of hydrographic, geodetic and other technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to parent organizations, their member States, and other organizations on request
- In 1999, *Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission* (IOC) was invited to join; in 2006, IOC withdrew



ABLOS OBJECTIVES (1/2)

- Provide advice, guidance and, offer expert interpretation of hydrographic, geodetic and marine geo-scientific aspects of the Law of the Sea
- Review State practice and jurisprudence on Law of the Sea matters



ABLOS OBJECTIVES (2/2)

- Study, promote and encourage development of appropriate techniques in application of technical provisions contained within UNCLOS
- Issue, review and update ABLOS publications as necessary and to review relevant IHO Special Publications



ABLOS MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS

- Advisory Board comprises 4 representatives from IHO Member States and 4 representatives from IAG
- UN DOALOS and IHB are ex-officio members
- IHO Member States may send observers to meetings, as well as IAG and ABLOS observers



ABVISORY BOARD GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



ABLOS CONFERENCES

- Every two years, ABLOS organizes an international technical aspects of the Law of the Sea conference in Monaco with support from IHB
- Topics and themes vary, with presenters and attendees from hydrographic, legal, geodetic, and policy communities



ABLOS CONFERENCES

- 2010 “Contentious Issues in UNCLOS – Surely Not?”
- 2012 “UNCLOS in a Changing World”
- 2015 “UNCLOS – Advances in Governing the Blue World”
- 2017 “Pushing the Limits of UNCLOS”



ABLOS BUSINESS MEETINGS

- ABLOS Business Meetings are held annually
- Members and observers gather to plan ABLOS activities and promote such activities
- Business Meetings outside Monaco are accompanied by regional ABLOS seminars



ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING LOCATIONS



TALOS MANUAL

- Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea manual
- IHO publication C-51
- Version 5 released June 2014
- Addresses interplay between LOS and disciplines of Geodesy, Hydrography and Marine Geoscience
- Provides overview of technical issues key to practice of international law in ocean environment
- Contents includes: geodesy, charting, baselines, outer limits, and boundaries

