

Cooley

WHAT IS ABLOS?

John Brown

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

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION

- The International Hydrographic Organization is an intergovernmental consultative and technical organization that was established in 1921 to support safety of navigation and the protection of the marine environment.
- The object of the Organization is to bring about:
 - The coordination of the activities of national hydrographic offices
 - The greatest possible uniformity in nautical charts and documents
 - The adoption of reliable and efficient methods of carrying out and exploiting hydrographic surveys
 - The development of the sciences in the field of hydrography and the techniques employed in descriptive oceanography



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEODESY

- Scientific organization in field of geodesy
- Promotes scientific cooperation and research in geodesy globally and contributes through its research bodies
- **Mission:** advancement of geodesy ... furthering geodetic theory through research and teaching ... collecting, analyzing, modelling and interpreting observational data ... stimulating technological development and providing consistent representation of figure, rotation, and gravity field of Earth its temporal variations



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 IHO Secretariat 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 IHO
- Topics and themes vary, with presenters and attendees from hydrographic, legal, geodetic, and policy communities

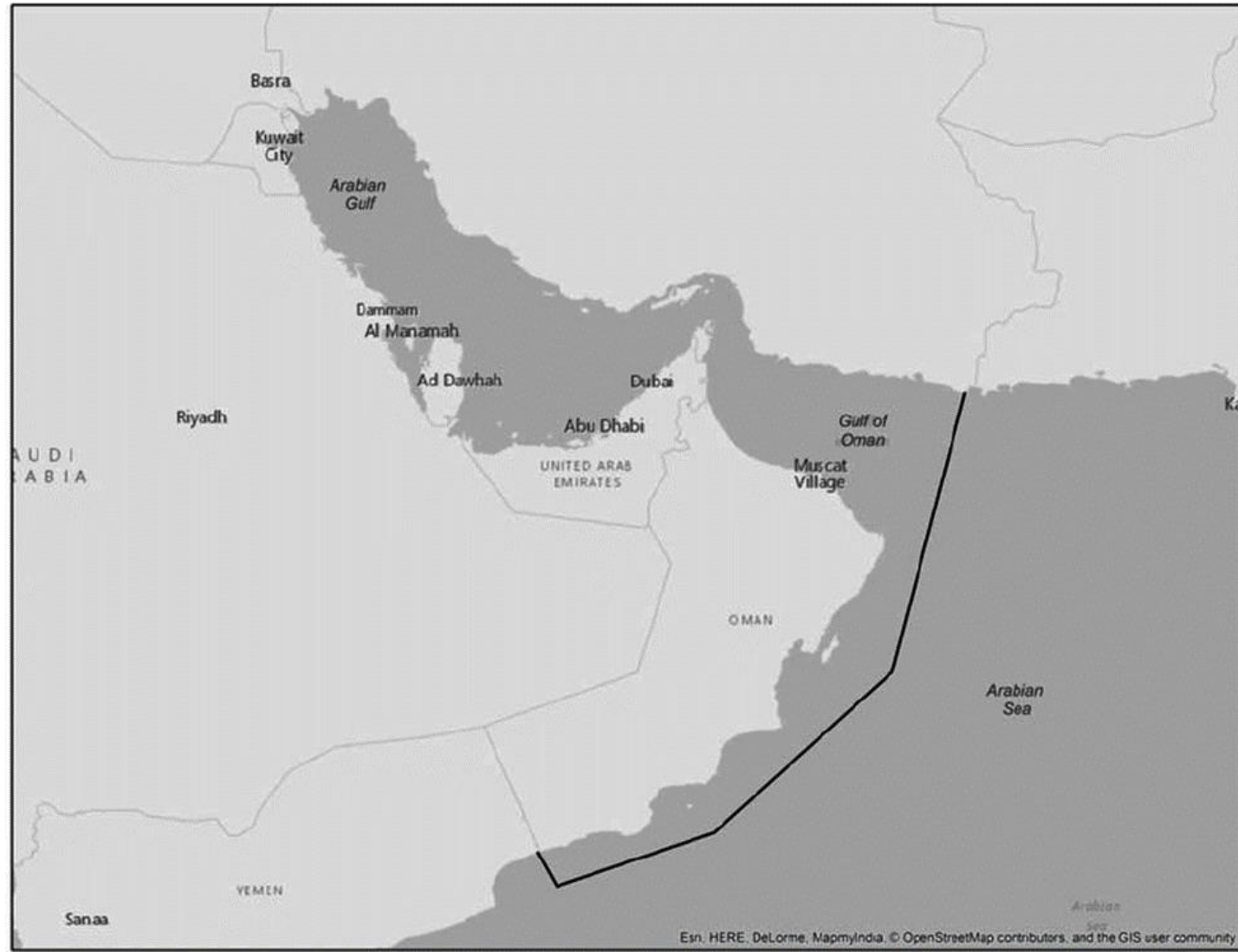
ABLOS CONFERENCES

- 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 normally accompanied by regional ABLOS seminars

ROPME Sea Area



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

Capacity Building

Capacity Building is considered by the IHO as a strategic objective.

Capacity Building - Concept

With respect to the IHO, Capacity Building is defined as the process by which the Organization assesses and assists in sustainable development and improvement of the States, to meet the objectives of the IHO and the obligations and recommendations related to hydrography, charting and maritime safety described in SOLAS Chapter V, UNCLOS and other international instruments.

LOS Capacity Building Workshop Locations



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