



IHB File N° S3/8151/HSSC

CIRCULAR LETTER 02/2016
08 January 2016

**OUTCOME OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES
AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (HSSC)**

References:

- A. IHO CL 37/2015 dated 1 June - *Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) - 7th Meeting, 10-13 November 2015, Busan, Republic of Korea*
- B. IHO CL 88/2015 dated 16 December - *Recruitment of a Technical Standards Support Officer in the Secretariat of the IHO*
- C. IHO CL 92/2015 dated 21 December - *Approval of the Draft Revision 4.6.0 of IHO Publication S-4 - Chart Specifications of the IHO*
- D. IHO CL 85/2015 dated 9 December - *Proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the International Hydrographic Organization and the International Cable Protection Committee*
- E. IHO CL 83/2015 dated 7 December - *Establishment of the IHO Hydrographic Surveys Scoping Project Team (H2SPT)*
- F. IHO CL 84/2015 dated 9 December - *Establishment of IHO S-100 Project Teams*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As announced in Reference A, the seventh meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) took place from 10 to 13 November 2015 in Busan, Republic of Korea, hosted by the Korea Hydrographic and Oceanographic Agency (KHOA). The meeting was chaired by Dr Mathias Jonas (Germany) and attended by 48 representatives from 20 Member States, the IHB, and six international organizations accredited as observers. A half-day IHO Stakeholders' Open Session was included in the agenda of the meeting and attracted eight additional participants who attended all, or part, of the HSSC sessions as invited observers.

2. The minutes of HSSC-7, together with the list of actions arising from the meeting and their current status, are now available from the HSSC page of the IHO website (www.iho.int > Committees & WG > HSSC), at section HSSC 7. The consolidated HSSC Work Plan 2016-2017 is also available from that page, in the section 'Miscellaneous'.

3. The items considered by the meeting which require input from Member States are reviewed in the following paragraphs.

Maintenance of IHO Publications

4. Subsequent to Action HSSC7/08 related to the approval of the IHO Work Programme and Budget for 2016, the Directing Committee issued Reference B inviting applications for the recruitment of a Technical Standards Support Officer in the Secretariat of the IHO.

5. In accordance with Action HSSC7/23, Reference C invited Member States to consider the approval of the draft revised Edition 4.6.0 of IHO Publication S-4 - *Chart Specifications of the IHO*.

6. Three IHO Circular Letters will be issued in due course by the Directing Committee to seek Member States' approval of respectively:

- the draft revised Edition 5.1.0 of IHO Publication S-58 - *ENC Validation Checks* (Action HSSC7/13 refers);
- the draft revised Edition 1.1.0 of IHO Publication S-66 - *Facts about Electronic Charts and Carriage Requirements* (Action HSSC7/17 refers);
- the revised draft IHO Resolution 3/1919 - *Datums and Bench Marks* (Action HSSC7/27 refers).

7. In accordance with Action HSSC7/49, ***Member States are invited to consider the status report on IHO Publications*** available on the HSSC page of the IHO web site (Home > Committees & WG > HSSC > HSSC7 > HSSC7-10A Rev1) ***and to provide their comments to the IHB (info@iho.int) regarding dates for next edition and possible requirements and contributions for translation into French and/or Spanish*** (Action HSSC7/49 refers).

Liaison with External Stakeholders

8. In accordance with Action HSSC7/44, Reference D invited Member States to review the proposed Memorandum of Understanding agreed between the Directing Committee and the Executive Committee of the International Cable Protection Committee.

9. HSSC reviewed the list of events that could offer opportunities to interact with stakeholders in 2016 and considered which events would justify the involvement of representatives from IHO Member States and/or from the IHB, taking into account the available resources. The list of potential stakeholders' events is available on the HSSC page of the IHO web site (Home > Committees & WG > HSSC > HSSC7 > HSSC7-09A). ***Member States are invited to liaise with the IHB (info@iho.int) if they are in a position to represent the IHO at those events where no participation is currently planned.***

10. In accordance with Action HSSC7/47, ***Member States are invited to consider representing IHO interests in the stakeholders' meetings organized by Digital Ship and inform the IHB (info@iho.int) of their intentions.***

Participation in HSSC Activities

11. The Committee endorsed the continuation of its current working groups and approved the revised Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Nautical Cartography Working Group (NCWG) and the Tides, Water Level and Currents Working Group (TWCWG). ***Member States are invited to consider participating in the working groups in which they are not yet involved.***

12. In accordance with Actions HSSC7/2, 10 and 31, References E and F invited Member States to participate in the project teams established by the Committee to address respectively:

- the scope and the deliverables expected from any new hydrographic surveys working group, if and when established;
- the development of IHO product specifications based on IHO Publication S-100 - *Universal Hydrographic Data Model* related to under keel clearance management information and to maritime limits and boundaries (S-121).

13. The list of HSSC Contacts used for inter-sessional correspondence is maintained by the IHB and posted on the HSSC page of the IHO web site (Home > Committees & WG > HSSC > Members). ***Member States are requested to ensure that the relevant contact information is current and to inform the IHB (info@iho.int) of any changes.***

Next HSSC Meetings

14. In relation with the implementation of Action HSSC7/05, the HSSC Chair Group, composed of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee and the Chairs of its subordinate organs, agreed to meet in Paris, France on 1 and 2 June 2016 to prepare the Committee's contribution to the revision of the IHO Strategic Plan and the preparation of the next pluriannual IHO Work Programme. *Member States are invited to give favourable consideration to the participation to this important meeting of the members of the HSSC Chair Group under their responsibility.*

15. *Member States are invited to note, for planning purposes, that the next HSSC meeting (HSSC-8) will be held from 14 to 18 November 2016 at the IHB in Monaco. HSSC-9 is planned to take place in Ottawa, Canada in early November 2017 and HSSC-10 in Rostock, Germany in November 2018.*

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO
Director