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CIRCULAR LETTER 28/2016

07 June 2016

**PROGRESS ON THE APPROVAL OF THE PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE IHO**

Reference:

- A. IHO Circular Letter 16/2016 dated 29 March - *Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO – 47 of 48 approvals achieved*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Directing Committee is very pleased to report that the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations has recently informed the Directing Committee that the President of the Syrian Arab Republic signed decree number /132/ on 5 May 2016 in which Syria approves the 2005 Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO.
2. Following on from the approval of Turkey, reported in Reference A, the approval of the Syrian Arab Republic marks the 48th Member State of the IHO to approve the Protocol, thus achieving the minimum majority required for the amendments to enter in to force.
3. However, before the amendments to the Convention can enter in to force, the Government of Monaco, as Depositary for the Convention, must receive formal notification from both the Governments of Turkey and the Syrian Arab Republic. It is understood that this process is underway. Meanwhile, other Member States which complete their own national process are invited to notify their approval to the Government of Monaco as soon as possible. The revised Convention will enter in to force three months after the 48th notification of approval has been received by the Government of Monaco. The Directing Committee will inform the Member States as soon as this has been achieved.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD
President