

26th BUSINESS MEETING OF IHO-IAG ADVISORY BOARD ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF LAW OF THE SEA (ABLOS BM24)

IHO Secretariat 7th and 10th October 2019

1. Welcome Address

Director Mustafa Iptes welcomed the participants on behalf IHO Directing Committee and Secretariat. He noted that there were two new IHO appointed members and an observer. He also noted that this will be 10th conference which is successful landmark occasion. He highlighted the high level of participation (67), which means that there continues to be a good level of interest and the Law of the Sea (LoS) is becoming more important as the oceans have risen up the political agenda and become more prominent within the general public debate. As the focus looks beyond the waters of national jurisdiction, the need for good governance and sustainable use for future generations has never been more important, which means the role of ABLOS will remain.

2. Domestic and Administrative Arrangements

ABLOS Secretary gave a short briefing on domestic and administrative arrangements for the meeting.

3. Opening Remarks by the Chair

The Chair welcomed all participants, in particular the new members and observers on the ABLOS, as well Shin Tani for attending the meeting as an observer. He highlighted that he was in discussion with the IAG Executive Council in the search for an additional IAG appointed member. The Chair made note of important topics to cover, being the upcoming ABLOS Conference and discussions about the future of ABLOS.

4. Appointment of Rapporteur

Ms Fiona Bloor volunteered to assist the Secretary by taking additional notes.

5. Introduction of Participants and Apologies

All participants introduced themselves, providing a brief background on their role and activities within their host organizations, list Annex A.

Apologies received from Mikael Lilje (IAG Observer - Sweden), Peush Pawsey (IHO Observer – India) and Vladimír Jareš (UN DOALOS).

6. Agenda

The Chair suggested that the agenda could include a particular current topic on which participants could focus discussions to meet the ABLOS remit of providing advice and technical opinion for the benefit of IHO Member States and IAG members. He noted that the BM needed to address its normal business, TALOS and conference preparation, but he felt the BM should consider current hot topics. He noted that ABLOS is tasked to raise questions and give advice to IHO and UN for the development of LoS within its area of competence. He acknowledged that the ABLOS had raised questions on the governance of the oceans, however there are other questions that could be raised.

The agenda was adopted, the Chair noted that it was only a guide for topics to be covered and the order would be adjusted to suit the time as well as the direction of discussions, see Annex B. List of meeting documents is at Annex C.

7. **Approval of the minutes from BM25 and outcomes from HSSC11 and IAG Executive Committee Meetings**

The minutes of the previous ABLOS BM25 were approved without amendment. The Chair briefed on his attendance at the 11th Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC11) meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, in May. He highlighted the outcomes relevant to the ABLOS, in particular the approval of the revised Terms of Reference (ToRs) and the endorsement of C-51 – TALOS Manual – Edition 6.0.0 for circulation to IHO Member States and the IAG Executive Council for final approval. It was noted that HSSC12 would be in Bristol, UK, in May 2020.

Outcomes from HSSC11

The following actions for ABLOS from the HSSC11 meeting were reviewed:

Action 6.1 on approval of the proposed amendments to the ABLOS ToRs. The Chair reported that the revised ToRs had been approved by HSSC without amendment

Action 6.1 on publication of C-51 – TALOS Manual – Edition 6.0.0. The Chair noted that HSSC had endorsed the revised edition of C-51, which now needed finalized ready for circulation to IHO Member States and the IAG Executive Council for approval and adoption.

8. **Review of Actions from BM25**

The Secretary went through the list of actions from BM25. It was suggested that the DTU ABLOS Conference website could be adapted to become the ABLOS information resource as well as the dedicated conference website. It was acknowledged that the IHO ABLOS website was focused on administrative aspects of ABLOS and was not really suitable as a wider information resource. The Chair agreed that DTU could host the revamped website, he agreed to provide details of the development and look, **Action 1 – DNK**, however it did require information and links to be highlighted to the website manager to keep it relevant. **Action 2 – All** It was noted that it would fulfil the outreach and communications aspects of ABLOS. FRA commented that there needed to be commitment from the members to contribute material. It was suggested the history of ABLOS could be an item on the new website. **Action 3 – DNK** AUS noted that the Chair of the S-121 Project Team (S-121PT) had sent a letter to UN DOALOS on the current state of S-121, which after the S-121PT meeting in Monaco, had progressed to Edition 1.0.0, that was to be published in October. It was agreed that all other outstanding actions would be discussed under the relevant agenda items.

9. **10th ABLOS Conference – Final Arrangements**

The Chair provided a brief background on the state of preparations for the ABLOS 10th Conference. The Secretary provided a brief on the administrative aspects of the programme. The vice-Chair suggested that all session chairs contact their speakers to obtain a brief introduction and request copies of their presentations in powerpoint and pdf formats. The Secretary agreed to upload a list of Conference participants, noting that registrations were still being received.

It was felt that the Conference theme had been well received with a good response from potential presenters and the general level of registrations, 77. It was noted that presenters will always submit abstracts on what they are working, so the sessions always need to be created around the topics submitted. More importantly it remained an opportunity for the community to gather and exchange ideas and views without restrictions of national positions.

It was noted that all arrangements were completed within the final nine months, which probably reflected the budget timeframe for participants. The Secretary confirmed the list of participants and pdf versions of

the presentations would be up loaded to the website. **Action 4 – IHO**

10. ABLOS the way forward

The Work Plan was described and explained by Secretary. AUS highlighted the problems identified with the current C-51 contents and the way it is used by developing coastal states, he considered that there was too much detail in the manual, presented in a too technical manner.

.1 Terms of Reference

It was suggested that an Outreach WG should be treated in the same manner as the C-51 Editorial Board. It was agreed that ToRs for these groups should developed so that the task, outcomes and deliverables were clear. It was agreed no amendments were necessary for the ABLOS ToRs.

.2 Membership including review of terms

The Secretary displayed the current membership list, it was noted that some amendments were required. Add dates to Observers, start on date of new ToRs. **Action 5 – IHO** It was noted that two IHO appointed members were due to end their second terms and that one IAG appointee completes her first term in 2021. The Chair confirmed he was in discussion with the IAG Executive Council to identify a fourth IAG appointed member. **Action 6 – DNK** It was noted that the Chair will need to advise the IHO Secretariat of the forthcoming vacancies after BM27 next year.

.3 Capacity Building

The Secretary described how the CB process worked and how the maintenance of the CB course material could work. It was agreed that the ownership and state of the current course needed to be established and confirmed. It was noted that the delivery of the course was an ABLOS task. Vice-Chair asked if a résumé of the course and basic contents outline was available, GBR agreed to provide the details of the course delivered by UKHO as a guide. **Action 7 – GBR** The Chair agreed to discuss the issue with John Brown, as the most recent instructor the MBSHC. It was agreed that a member of ABLOS should act as the custodian of the training material to maintain it and ensure its currency; the latest version should be lodged with the IHO. It was felt import that those who provided training should send a feedback report on the training course and provide a copy of the adapted material used for use by others as deemed appropriate. The Secretary noted this was the method used for the Water Levels and Currents course and the Maritime Safety Information training material. It was agreed that it important that the ABLOS felt it had ownership of the course and the material.

.4 The future of ABLOS

The Chair introduced the discussion on the future of ABLOS and what continuing role it should fulfil. JPN suggested better visibility of ABLOS was a necessity, he noted that the website was an important tool which needed to be maintained and kept current. The Chair confirmed the offer to host the ABLOS website at DTU, however it needed support and input from all ABLOS members for it to be of any value. JPN suggested categorizing past conference themes into topics and geographic areas as a repository for ABLOS Conference presentations. The vice-Chair suggested developing an outline content for the website, look at the top level subject areas; the Chair suggested that the target audience needed to be identified. It was agreed that DNK, BRA, CHL, JPN and WMU would act as the group to start the development with DNK coordinating. **Action 9 – DNK/BRA/CHL/JPN/WMU** FRA asked whether the initial scope should be limited with the intention to increase the topics and contents over time. WMU suggested details on what is ABLOS and its history, who are the key personnel, past conference topics, useful links, executive summary of C-51 and next conference information, could be initial areas for considerations. USA suggested ABLOS should look ahead to identify future challenges which may need

to be addressed, particularly noting the impacts of climate change and access to formerly ice covered areas. AUS suggested that ABLOS needed to look at its relevance; GBR asked how ABLOS could give advice as an inter-government organization whilst avoiding clashing with national positions. JPN explained the relationship between ABLOS, Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) and UN DOALOS. WMU noted that there appeared to be a communications gap with the CLCS and it was agreed that effort should be focused on engaging with CLCS members to demonstrate what capability and resources ABLOS could contribute. JPN suggested using the conference as a catalyst for identifying new ideas and directions, which could provide the future direction for the work of ABLOS.

KOR suggested there should be a record on how much/often ABLOS had provided advice and technical assistance to coastal states and other organizations. It was acknowledged that, apart from the details of individual members of ABLOS activities, no proper record existed. It was noted that the role and focus of ABLOS had evolved with the maturity of UNCLOS and the wide spread establishment of maritime boundaries by individual coastal states. The ABLOS needed to address some fundamental questions on its future role and function beyond maintaining C-51 and organizing a biennial conference.

It was agreed that ABLOS needed to communicate better with external organizations and IHO Member States, particularly highlighting its relevance and what resources could be made available to assistance and advice organizations and coastal states, other than in a legal context. In particular the relationship with DOALOS needed to be improved so that the requirements of Annex 2 of UNCLOS are being exercised by the CLCS in approaching the recognised UN competent authorities for hydrography (IHO) and oceanography (IOC), amongst others. It was confirmed that the ABLOS was the IHO body which should carry out this particular task. It was agreed that there was a need for renewed dialogue between DOALOS and ABLOS to re-establish the beneficial relationship between the two bodies, it was noted that this should be a two way process and DOALOS needed also to recognise the role and competence of ABLOS and advise the CLCS of the expertise available, noting that the IHO is the UN recognised competent authority for hydrographic and nautical charting matters.

It was noted that there were issues outside LoS, although related, such as sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ) and are not referred to in the Convention but are very relevant to LoS and ABLOS activities and therefore could that be targeted under the current ToRs. It was suggested that ABLOS should be harmonised with other aspects of what IHO is doing and focus on the basics of UNCLOS and what will come from International Law Commission (ILC) and other sources so ABLOS can reflect its worth by staying abreast of technology, ILC was trying to understand what is happening with climate change and its impacts on the UNCLOS and its application.

11. 10th ABLOS Conference Wash-up

The Chair opened the Conference wash-up discussions. He thanked all for their input and work to make the event so successful. The Secretary provided an up-date on the ABLOS fund state and suggested ways that some of the funds could be used. It was proposed that between 1,000-2,000€ could be used to support the creation and maintenance of an ABLOS website. The Chair noted that it would be advantageous for ABLOS to be seen by IHO and IAG Executive Council to be putting some funds into Outreach. It was noted that a number of editorial corrections needed to be made to the Conference Fund Guidelines.

Action 10 – IHO The general feedback received was mainly positive, there was some comment on the construction of the session content, which was driven by the abstracts received. It was noted that CSB had generated significant discussion and was seen as an ideal topic for ABLOS as it involved legal, hydrographic and technical issues.

It was suggested that extended abstracts and biographical notes should be submitted by the speakers for future conferences. The Chair requested CHL to develop an abstract and biographical note template for circulation and discussion at the next BM. **Action 11 – CHL** It was suggested that having questions at the end of each session meant that they focused on the final presentation, however it was also suggested

that having questions after each presentation could disadvantage younger less experienced presenters. It was suggested that session moderators could be more active in controlling the questioning to ensure that younger less experienced presenters were not unduly pressured or embarrassed by points and questions from the experienced members of the audience.

It was agreed that the session lengths and the day lengths were correct as it allowed sufficient time for questions. It was agreed that sessions of three presentations with questions at the end were the best balance with 20 minute presentations and 10 minutes for questions. The use of the PowerPoint cursor for pointing on both screens should be encouraged. Presenters should be encouraged to consider the colour balance of their slides to ensure a good clarity on a large screen. BRA suggested considering reducing the number of presentations, if the quality of the abstracts were not appropriate. The ideal number of presentation could be 21 (7 sessions).

Despite offers for alternate venues and locations, it was felt that using the IHO was a significant positive. GBR asked whether holding the conference at an alternative location could widen the participants and meet some Outreach requirements. The Chair noted that the ABLOS Conference was different and should not try and replicate other events already available. He agreed that there could be more presentations from ABLOS Members. He suggested that the BM and the associated seminar was the vehicle to taking ABLOS to different locations. The Chair suggested that the WMU could host the BM29 in 2022, although it was recognised that the location should be based on identified capacity building and outreach needs.

CHL agreed to undertake the analysis of the feedback questionnaire and provide a pdf summary to the ABLOS for further discussion. **Action 12 – CHL**

12. Election of vice-Chair

The Chair proposed CHL as the next vice-Chair. Dr Juan-Carlos Báez (IAG – Chile) was unanimously elected as vice-Chair.

13. 10th ABLOS Conference 2019 (thoughts and planning)

.1 Dates and Venue

It was agreed that the Conference should be held in Monaco at the IHO Secretariat. It was agreed the dates should be 4 and 7 October for BM28 and 5-6 October for 11th Conference.

.2 Organising Committee

The organizing committee was established, BRA, CHL, FRA, DNK, USA and WMU under the coordination of the Chair.

.3 Conference Fund status report

This was given during item 11.

.4 Title and session themes

It was suggested that the theme and title should be based around the UN Decade for Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, particularly looking at the technical aspects related to UNCLOS. It was noted that 2021 was also the centenary of the IHO. The conference theme would be developed by the organizing committee and circulated to all ABLOS members for comment. **Action 13 – BRA**

.5 Publicity

It was agreed that the new ABLOS website should be the main tool for advertising the conference. It was agreed the IHO would investigate the creation of a generic ABLOS email address connected to a selected email address in CHL for the present. **Action 14 – IHO/CHL.** QAT volunteered to email participants of the seminar in Doha with details of the 11th ABLOS Conference, which was welcomed by the ABLOS.

.6 Key Note Speaker

It was suggested that Professor Larry Mayer could be an ideal Key Note speaker. It was agreed that he should be approached soon to ensure his availability. The Chair suggested that he be contacted as soon as possible. **Action 15 – BRA**

.7 Sponsorship and Industry Involvement

It was agreed that no sponsorship is needed and that this should not be considered again in the future.

14. TALOS Manual (C-51) - Report of the editorial board

Chair of the TALOS Manual Editorial Board suggested considering the future of the manual, its content and its layout to better serve the user community, particularly the developing coastal states. JPN reminded all on the origins of the manual and its target audience, which was to ensure consistent technical application for cartographers and hydrographers as well as a guidance textbook for legal councils. It was suggested that work on 7th Edition should be started immediately.

It was agreed that the role and use of the C-51 needed to be clarified, was it a guide for hydrographers and cartographers or a text book for legal terms? It was felt that the use by developing coastal states should be considered and therefore their level of knowledge should be a consideration, therefore was there a requirement for executive summaries at the beginning of chapters and sections, particularly the more technical ones.

.1 Appointment of the Editorial Board Chair

The Chair of the Editorial Board, AUS, provided a brief on the state of the Manual and the format and development direction it could take in future. He suggested that the contents should be harmonized with and referenced to other IHO publications, standards and S-121 Product Specification with significantly reduced and simplified content. He also noted that the audience and use of the C-51 needed to be clarified. He suggested that better use of digital functions could be made with internal links to other publications and documents. QAT suggested consideration should be given to how the next edition can be revised to make it of more use to lawyers and members of administrations of developing coastal states.

.2 Review of Edition 6.0.0

AUS noted he would complete his review of the draft Edition 6.0.0 by 18 October (**Action 16 – AUS**) and circulate for final comments from the ABLOS members, with a deadline of 25 October. **Action 17 – All** The Chair of the Editorial Board would provide the final version to the IHO, notifying the Chair and vice-Chair, who would confirm to the Secretary that the version was approved by ABLOS and ready for circulation via IHO CL. **Action 18 – BRA/CHL** The IHO would then issue the Circular Letter requesting the approval of IHO Member States and the IAG Executive Council. **Action 19 – IHO** The Chair suggested that the development of Edition 7.0.0 should be an agenda item for BM27 and he requested all ABLOS to consider what format could be used and how the content could be revised to make the Manual more relevant.

The Chair requested the Editorial Board to provide details of the proposed format and outline content of

Edition 7.0.0 for discussion at BM27. **Action 20 - AUS**

.3 Review of French and Spanish versions of Edition 6.0.0 and Spanish animations

It was noted that the French and Spanish versions needed to have the final Edition 6.0.0 to use as the basis for completing the translation. It was agreed that the leads – FRA and CHL – should set their own deadline targets for completion. **Action 21 – FRA/CHL.** QAT asked if it was possible for C-51 be translated into Arabic, the IHO confirmed that, if provided, an Arabic version would be adopted and made available from the IHO website.

15. Reports on Members' attendance at LOS related conferences

The Chair requested all ABLOS provide details to the Secretary for inclusion in the meeting report. **Action 22 – All** Details of reported activities since the previous BM25 are listed at Annex H.

WMU suggested that details of future events should also be noted and circulated by email until the website was created, when details should be provided to publication in the website. **Action 23 – All** The Chair requested that the agenda be amended to include details of future events. **Action 24 – IHO** WMU volunteered to collate the details provided for discussion at the BM27 and at which ABLOS could be highlighted. **Action 25 – WMU/All**

16. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:

GBR suggested that ABLOS should be able to provide advice to the IHO on crowdsource bathymetry (CSB). USA noted that he would be collaborating on the development of a paper in support of CSB from a legal position. WMU indicated that he would be interested in helping. The Chair noted that the IHO S-G had requested the action from ABLOS to support the case for CSB and for ABLOS to investigate the issues. It was suggested that topic and issues could be addressed as a component of the overall seminar.:-

17. Report to IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC), including review of Work Programme and representation/attendance

The Secretary displayed the draft WP 2020-2021. A number of amendments and changes were agreed. The revised draft version would be included as an annex to the meeting report when the draft meeting report was circulated. **Action 26 – IHO**

18. Any Other Business

A key new tool underdevelopment is S-121 – Maritime Limits and Boundaries – tasked to the S-121 Project Team (S-121PT), which comes under the S-100 Working Group (S-100WG), and is one of a number of S-100 based product specifications. It is a single issue PT, when version 2.0.0 is published, it is likely the project team will be moth balled, until such time as S-100WG or HSSC identified that there is further work to be done on S-121, at which point the project team will undertake a review and generate a revision as version 3.0.0 which may evolve into version 4.0.0 for publication.

To address harmonisation and consistency between the different PS, all groups developing S-100 based PS report to the S-100WG, which is a significant part of the process. In addition, the IHO GI Registry Manager and domain control bodies play an important role on definitions, feature and object descriptions, and concepts to de-conflict and avoid duplication.

19. Date of the 28th Business Meeting and 11th ABLOS Conference

BRA provided details of the outline programme for ABLOS BM27, 6-9 October, in Niterói, Brazil. It was

proposed that the seminar included an element of CSB together with exploration of seabed resources; it was confirmed that members of adjacent RHCs and western African coast and island states would be invited. The Secretary will provide a draft letter of invitation and logistics early in 2020 for completion by Brazil hosts and publication in March 2020, 6 months ahead of the meeting. **Action 27 – IHO**

The dates for the ABLOS BM28 were agreed as 4 and 7 October 2021 with the 11th ABLOS Conference on 5-6 October.

20. Review of List of Actions for BM26 and draft agenda for 27th Business Meeting.

The Secretary displayed the list of Actions generated from the meeting, a number of amendments were suggested. The list of Action Items was agreed, Annex D. The draft agenda for BM27 was noted and it was agreed to refine it in light of progress on conference preparations, Annex G.

21. Closure of the Meeting

The Chair closed the meeting, he thanked all for their hard work on putting on such a successful conference. He thanked the Secretary and the IHO Secretariat for all the support they had provided for the BM and the Conference, which went to ensure the success of both the Conference and the BM. He wished the new Chair every success and looked forward to seeing all participants at the BM27 in Niterói. The participants expressed their gratitude to the outgoing Chair for his contribution to ABLOS during his term of office.

Annexes:

- A. List of Participants
- B. Agenda BM26
- C. List of Documents
- D. List of Actions
- E. Terms of Reference
- F. Work Plan 2020-2021 - draft
- G. Draft agenda BM27
- H. Members LOS Related Activities

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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26th ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING
IHO, Monaco, 7th and 10th October 2019

Agenda

1. Welcome address by Director Kampfer, International Hydrographic Organization (IHO)
2. Domestic and administrative arrangements (*Secretary*)
3. Opening remarks by the Chairman, including welcome to new participants
4. Appointment of Rapporteur
5. Introduction of participants and apologies
6. Adoption of the Agenda
7. Approval of the minutes of the 25th Business Meeting and outcomes of HSSC11.
8. Review of Actions from BM 25
9. 10th ABLOS Conference – Final arrangements
10. ABLOS the way forward:
 - .1 Terms of Reference
 - .2 Membership, including review of terms
 - .3 Capacity Building Training Course
 - .4 Future of ABLOS
11. 10th ABLOS Conference wash-up
12. Election of vice-Chair
13. 11th ABLOS Conference 2021 (initial thoughts and planning):
 - .1 Dates and venue
 - .2 Organizing Committee
 - .3 Conference fund status report
 - .4 Title and session themes
 - .5 Publicity
 - .6 Key Note Speaker
 - .7 Sponsorship and Industry involvement
14. TALOS Manual (C-51)
 - .1 Appointment of the Editorial Board chair
 - .2 Review of Edition 6.0.0
 - .3 Review of French and Spanish versions of Edition 6.0.0 and Spanish animations
15. Reports on members' attendance at LOS related conferences
16. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars:

17. Review of Work Programme and representation/attendance at HSSC12
18. Any Other Business
19. Confirmation of dates and venue of the 27th Business Meeting – date and venue and dates for 28th Business Meeting and 11th ABLOS Conference
20. Review of List of Actions for BM26 and draft agenda for 27th Business Meeting.
21. Closure of the Meeting

ABLOS BM26 List of Documents

ABLOS26 Invitation Letter	ABLOS26 Letter of Invitation
ABLOS26 Registration Form	Registration Form (Word Version)
ABLOS26-02	Programmes for ABLOS26 BM and Conference 10 v1.0
ABLOS26-06	Draft Agenda v1.1
ABLOS26-07.1	ABLOS BM25 Minutes
ABLOS26-07.2	ABLOS Report to HSSC11
ABLOS26-07.3	ABLOS Presentation to HSSC11
ABLOS26-07.4	HSSC11 Decision and Actions
ABLOS26-08	ABLOS BM25 List of Action - Updated 1 October 2019
ABLOS26-10.1	ABLOS ToRs (Clean)
ABLOS26-10.1	ABLOS ToRs (Track Change)
ABLOS26-10.2	Current ABLOS membership status
ABLOS26-10.3	Capacity Building
ABLOS26-	ABLOS10 Conference Survey Report
ABLOS26-13.3.1	ABLOS Conference Fund Guidelines
ABLOS26-13.3.2	ABLOS Fund Status
ABLOS26-17	Work Plan 2020-2021
ABLOS26-20.1	Provisional List of Actions
ABLOS26-20.2	Draft Agenda BM27
ABLOS26-List of Participants	List of Participants

LIST OF ABLOS26 BM ACTION ITEMS
(As of 12 November 2019)

Number	Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
	ABLOS23	Raising profile of ABLOS	On going	Investigate ways to raise profile of ABLOS amongst IAG community and recruit additional personnel as IAG Observers	All IAG members
	ABLOS24	Future of ABLOS	On going	Highlight to CB Regional Coordinators for them to raise at RHCs what ABLOS can provide in terms of CB training and regional based seminars, normally associated with an ABLOS BM	Chair/IHO
ABLOS BM25					
19	ABLOS25 11	TALOS Manual	14 November	Provide Spanish versions of TALOS Manual animations to Secretariat for uploading to IHO website Delayed due to password problems	CHL
ABLOS BM26					
1	8	List of Action ABLOS BM25	ABLOS BM27	Provide details of proposed content and layout of new ABLOS website	DNK
2	8	List of Action ABLOS BM25	On going	Provide links to relevant events and organizations for inclusion in the ABLOS website	All
3	8	List of Action ABLOS BM25	ABLOS BM27	Create history of ABLOS article for publication on ABLOS website	DNK
4	9	10 th Conference	18 October Complete	Upload participant list and pdf versions of presentations and pass to DTU for uploading onto ABLOS Conference website	IHO
5	10.2	ABLOS Membership	ABLOS BM27	Update ABLOS membership list with dates for Observers	IHO
6	10.2	ABLOS Membership	ABLOS BM27	Identify suitable candidate to fill IAG vacancy	DNK
7	10.3	ABLOS – Capacity Building	ABLOS BM27	Provide details of LoS course delivered by UKHO	GBR

Number	Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
9	10.4	Future of ABLOS	ABLOS BM27	Commence initial development of new website under coordination of DNK	DNK/BRA/ CHL/JPN/ WMU
10	11	Conference wash-up	14 November Complete	Complete editorial corrections to Conference Fund Guidelines and include new version as annex to meeting report Revised version appended to ToRs and RoPs	IHO
11	11	Conference wash-up	ABLOS BM27	Develop abstract and biographical note template	CHL
12	11	Conference wash-up	ABLOS BM27	Conduct analysis of Feedback survey questionnaire and provide summary results for further discussion	CHL
13	13.4	11 th Conference	29 November	Organizing Committee to develop conference theme and title for wider ABLOS discussion	BRA
14	13.5	11 th Conference	ABLOS BM27	Investigate the creation of a generic ABLOS email address for use in conference preparations	IHO/CHL
15	13.6	11 th Conference	29 November	Invite Professor Larry Mayer to be Key Note speaker at conference	BRA
16	14.2	TALOS Manual	18 October Complete	Complete editorial review and then circulate to ABLOS	AUS
17	14.2	TALOS Manual	25 October Complete	Review final draft Edition 6.0.0 and provide comments to Chair of Editorial Board	All
18	14.2	TALOS Manual	25 October Complete	Chair and vice Chair confirm ABLOS approval of final draft	BRA/CHL
19	14.2	TALOS Manual	31 October	Issue IHO CL seeking approval of Member States and IAG Executive Council for Edition 6.0.0 Awaiting access to Chair final input	IHO
20	14.2	TALOS Manual	ABLOS BM27	Provide proposed format and outline contents of Edition 7.0.0 for discussion	AUS
21	14.3	TALOS Manual	ABLOS BM27	Progress French and Spanish translations of Edition 6.0.0 and notify ABLOS of anticipated deadline for completion	FRA/CHL
22	15	ABLOS Activities	7 November	Provide details to Secretary of activities since BM25 Not all input received	All
23	15	ABLOS Activities	ABLOS BM27	Provide details of significant forthcoming events	All

Number	Agenda Item	Subject	Status / Due Date	Comments	Action By
24	15	ABLOS Activities	ABLOS BM27	Amend agenda to include request for details of forthcoming events at which ABLOS could be represented	IHO
25	15	ABLOS Activities	29 November	Collate details of future events and activities provided by ABLOS for representation consideration	WMU/All
26	19	WP 2020-2021	24 October Complete	Circulate draft WP 2020-2021 with draft meeting report	IHO
27	20	BM27	7 April 2020	Issue invitation letter for BM27	IHO
28	20	BM28 and Conference	ABLOS BM27	Confirm venue and dates details	IHO
29	20	Meeting report	18 October Complete	Circulate to ABLOS members and observers	All
30	20	Meeting report	1 November Complete	Provide comments, inputs and amendments to IHO	All
31	20	Meeting report	14 November Complete	Publish final report	IHO
32	20	HSSC Report	15 March	Draft report to Chair and vice-Chair	IHO



TERMS OF REFERENCE
For the Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS)
of the
International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and
the International Association of Geodesy (IAG)
(as amended 25 October 2018)

Ref: 1st HSSC Meeting (Singapore 2009)
11th HSSC Meeting (Cape Town 2019)

OBJECTIVE:

To provide information and advice on technical aspects of the Law of the Sea.

1. Terms of Reference

- 1.1. To provide information and advice with regard to the technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to:
 - a) the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) or to other organizations; and
 - b) to their Member States.
- 1.2. To review State practice and jurisprudence on Law of the Sea matters which are relevant to the work of ABLOS so as to be in a position to provide expert advice when needed.
- 1.3. To study, promote and encourage the development of appropriate techniques in the application of the technical concepts contained within certain provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- 1.4. To review and update IHO Special Publication C-51 "A Manual on Technical Aspects of the United Nations' Convention on the Law of the Sea - 1982" (TALOS Manual).
- 1.5. To prepare, review and update other ABLOS publications as required by the parent organizations (IHO/IAG).

2. Rules of Procedure

- 2.1. ABLOS shall be composed of eight voting Members, preferably chosen with wide geographic representation. Each parent Organization (IHO/IAG) shall appoint four members. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS), and the IHO Secretariat shall have representatives in an ex-officio capacity without voting rights.
- 2.2. ABLOS should normally take decisions by consensus. Should a vote be necessary then a simple majority of those present and voting is required, subject to a minimum of 4 voting members being present. In the case of a tied vote the Chair shall have a casting vote.

- 2.3. The Member States of the IHO, the IAG and ABLOS through its Chair may appoint observers to ABLOS. Observers may participate in correspondence and attend meetings but may not vote.
- 2.4. Appointed Members and Observers shall serve for a term of four years, renewable by a recommendation of the Board for one additional four-year term and with the approval of the corresponding parent organization. Observers may be reappointed with the approval of the ABLOS for further terms. The Chair shall inform the relevant parent organization of any foreseeable vacancy in a timely manner. Members and Observers are expected to attend every meeting of ABLOS. Where a Member or Observer fails to attend two consecutive meetings the Chair should raise the matter with the parent Organization (IHO/IAG) with a view to rectifying the situation.
- 2.5. Whilst Members of ABLOS are appointed by their parent Organizations (IHO/IAG), to whom they are accountable, Members are expected to serve as individual experts in their own right. No statements or publications may be issued in the name of ABLOS without ABLOS's prior approval.
- 2.6. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by ABLOS and should normally come from different parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) on a rotational basis. They will serve for a two-year period, after which the Vice-Chair becomes Chair and a new Vice-Chair is elected. If the Chair is not present or available, the Vice-Chair shall act in this capacity until the next meeting. Should the Vice-Chair not be available to take office as Chair when required, a new Chair and Vice-Chair should be elected.
- 2.7. ABLOS may establish Working Groups to carry out specific tasks.
- 2.8. ABLOS will have its permanent Secretariat at the IHO Secretariat, Monaco. The Secretariat will publish the documents and publications produced by the Board as required.
- 2.9. Members and Observers of ABLOS are expected to be supported by their own host organizations or governments for travel expenses and work. Exceptionally, an ABLOS appointed Observer may be supported by ABLOS for a specific task.
- 2.10. ABLOS will normally meet once a year at a venue and time that minimizes cost and conducts business by correspondence between meetings.
- 2.11. ABLOS may organise conferences and seminars. A biennial technical conference will normally be held in Monaco in conjunction with an ABLOS meeting. ABLOS may operate a fund to cover the receipts and expenses of running such a conference. Guidelines for the operation of this fund are appended to these terms of reference.
- 2.12. The Chair or his/her nominated representative shall report on the activities of the Board to the annual meeting of the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and to each ordinary session of the Assembly through the Council. The Chair or his/her nominated representative shall also provide an annual report on ABLOS's activities to the IAG and a report covering the inter-sessional period to the General Assembly of the IAG.
- 2.13. These TOR should be reviewed by ABLOS as required and not less frequently than every 4 years. Amendments, recommended by ABLOS, are to be submitted to the parent Organizations (IHO/IAG) for approval.

ABLOS CONFERENCE FUND GUIDELINES
(As amended 27 October 2016)

Reference: IHO resolution 1/2014, as amended

1. Introduction

1.1 The Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) is formed by four representatives from each of the following bodies: The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG). Secretarial support for ABLOS is provided by the IHO Secretariat. The parent organizations (IHO/IAG) approve the Terms of Reference (TOR) for ABLOS. The Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (DOALOS) of the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and the IHO Secretariat attend ABLOS meetings in an ex-Officio capacity.

2. Biennial Conference

2.1 The TOR invite ABLOS to organise seminars and technical conferences and permit the operation of a fund to support such activities.

3. Income

3.1 The primary source of income for the fund will be from the registration fees of delegates attending such seminars / conferences. ABLOS should set the level of registrations fees in order to provide a modest excess of income over expenditure given an estimated attendance.

4. Expenditure

4.1 The primary expenditure for the fund will be to cover the costs of running the seminars / conferences. Expenditure may include but is not limited to: assistance to speakers / tutorial leaders, conference equipment, documentation, proceedings, staff overtime, reception and tea breaks.

4.2 ABLOS may use any funds in excess of 3000 Euros remaining after all expenses for a seminar / conference have been settled, to fund other activities conducted by ABLOS. Limited support for travel / subsistence in connection with production of a new edition of C-51 'A Manual on Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea' might be considered such an activity. Such expenditure must be approved by a simple majority of the ABLOS Membership.

4.3 Routine expenditure in support of a seminar / conference may be transacted by the IHO Secretariat and reported in the fund accounts.

5. Operation

5.1 The fund will be operated by the IHO Secretariat on behalf of ABLOS. A copy of the fund accounts will be provided to the Annual Business Meeting of ABLOS and immediately after finalising the accounts following a seminar / conference.

6. Review

6.1 This guidance should be reviewed, and amended as necessary, by ABLOS at intervals not exceeding 4 years.

12. ABLOS WORK PLAN 2020-21

12.1 ABLOS Tasks

A	Organise the 11 th ABLOS Conference in 2021 (IHO Task 2.12.2)
B	Maintain IHO Publication C-51 “Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (TALOS) Manual” (IHO Task 2.12.3)
C	Deliver a standard training program on the hydrographic aspects of maritime delimitation (IHO Task 3.5.2)
D	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea to relevant organizations, bodies and Member States (IHO Task 2.12.3)
E	Organize and prepare ABLOS business meetings in 2020 and 2021 (IHO Task 2.12.1)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
A1	Organise 11 th ABLOS Conference	H	Begin advertising Identify and invite key note speaker Confirm conference title Attract presentation abstracts	2019 2019 2019 2019	2021 2021 2020 2021	O O O P	All members of ABLOS through Committee	N/A	
A2	Conference support and outreach	H	Develop and maintain ABLOS website	2019	On going	P	Niels Andersen		

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
B1	Prepare draft 6 th Edition of C-51 (TALOS Manual) for adoption by Member States	M		2013	2016 2019	PO	Grant Boyes*	IHO Publication C-51	
		H	Review contents of chapters and identify areas requiring revision	2014	2016 2017 2018 2019	OC			
		M	Review initial French translation and propose amendments	2018	2019 2020	PO	Marie-Françoise Lequentrec-Lalancette*		
		M	Review Spanish translations of animations	2018	2019	O	Juan Carlos Báez Soto*		
		M	Review initial Spanish translation and propose amendments	2018	2019 2020	O	Juan Carlos Báez Soto*		
B2	Commence 7 th Edition	M	Confirm Format and Content	2019	2020	O	Grant Boyes* Editorial Board	IHO Publication C-51	
C1	Deliver standard training programmes for the CBSC	H	Develop and maintain core training material	2011	Continuous	O	Hyunsoo Kim* Steve Keating Grant Boyes Isabel King Jeck Fiona Bloor Juan Carlos Báez Soto	IHO Publication C-51	No workshops planned in 2020 in the CBSC Work Plan.
D1	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea	H		Continuous		O	All members of ABLOS through the Chair		

12.2 ABLOS Meetings (Tasks A & E)

Date	Location	Activity
19 - 23 October 2015	IHB, Monaco	ABLOS 22 and 8 th ABLOS Conference
26 - 28 October 2016	Seoul, Korea	ABLOS 23
9 - 12 October 2017	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 24 and 9 th ABLOS Conference
22 - 25 October 2018	Qatar	ABLOS 25
7 - 10 October 2019	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 26 and 10 th ABLOS Conference
6 - 9 October 2020	Niterói, Brazil	ABLOS 27
4 - 7 October 2021	IHO, Monaco	ABLOS 28 and 11 th ABLOS Conference

Chair: Izabel King Jeck Email: izabel@marinha.mil.br
Vice-Chair: Dr Juan-Carlos Báez Email: jcbaez@csn.uchile.cl
Secretary: David Wyatt Email: adso@iho.int



27th ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING
Niterói, Brazil, 6th and 9th October 2020

Draft Agenda

1. Welcome address by host
2. Domestic and administrative arrangements (*Secretary/Host*)
3. Opening remarks by the Chairman, including welcome to new participants
4. Appointment of Rapporteur
5. Introduction of participants and apologies
6. Adoption of the Agenda
7. Approval of the minutes of the 26th Business Meeting and outcomes of HSSC12.
8. Review of Actions from BM 26
9. ABLOS the way forward:
 - .1 Terms of Reference
 - .2 Membership, including review of terms
 - .3 Capacity Building Training Course material
 - .4 Future of ABLOS
10. 11th ABLOS Conference 2021 (thoughts and planning):
 - .1 Dates and venue
 - .2 Organizing Committee
 - .3 Conference fund status report
 - .4 Title and session themes
 - .5 Publicity
 - .6 Key Note Speaker
11. TALOS Manual (C-51)
 - .1 Report from Chair of Editorial Board
 - .2 Edition 6.0.0 status and initial thoughts for Edition 7.0.0
 - .3 Review of French and Spanish versions of Edition 6.0.0 and Spanish animations
12. Reports on members' attendance at LOS related conferences and details of significant forthcoming events
13. Review of requests to ABLOS, including IHO Capacity Building training/courses/seminars
14. S-121 Product Specification progress update
15. Review of Work Programme and representation/attendance at HSSC13
16. Any Other Business

17. Confirm details of the 28th Business Meeting and 11th ABLOS Conference – date and venue and dates for 29th Business Meeting
18. Review of List of Actions for BM27 and draft agenda for 28th Business Meeting.
19. Closure of the Meeting

ABLOS Members LOS Related ActivitiesNiels Andersen

- i. Nordic Geodetic Commission (NKG) Presidium - 4 meetings in 2018/2019;
- ii. Member of Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs delegation on delimitation Poland/Denmark 2018/2019;
- iii. Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Two Arctic Dialogue Meetings (Arctic Council) 2018/2019;
- iv. IUGG General Assembly/Montreal/2019; and
- v. IUGG Centennial Celebration/UNESCO/Paris/2019

Fiona Bloor

- i. S-121 project team member;
- ii. OGC S-121 pilot participant;
- iii. Scene setting presentation for Seven Nations Polar Conference, London, 19 September; and
- iv. Delivered Technical Aspects of Law of the Sea half day acquaint to Nippon Foundation-IHO Cat B Cartographic course at UKHO.

Clive Schofield

Conferences/Meetings:

- i. The Role of Maritime Law in East Asian Maritime Relations, International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), Malta, March 2019;
- ii. Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction: Intractable Challenges and Potential Solutions, 43rd Center for Ocean Law and Policy (COLP) Annual Conference, World Maritime University, May 2019;
- iii. *Sea + You = Tomorrow*, European Parliament, Brussels, April 2019; and
- iv. London International Boundaries conference, King's College London, April 2019.

Capacity-building training courses contributed to:

- v. Ocean Sustainability Governance and Management, World Maritime University, ongoing;
- vi. Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea, September 2019;
- vii. Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, July 2019;
- viii. Resolving Complex Maritime Boundaries training workshop, Singapore, June 2019; and
- ix. Training for President of Palau's Territory and Boundary Task Force, August 2019

Izabel King Jeck

- i. Presentations in Brazil about the law of the sea and the Continental Shelf delimitation in Brazil; and

- ii. Wrote the chapter of a book disclosing the project of delimitation of the Brazilian outer limit and in this context try to clarify and disseminate the application of article 76 of UNCLOS.

Grant Boyes

- i. 18th Pacific Islands Maritime Boundaries and Limits Development Working Session - University of Sydney 11 to 21 Feb 2019;
- ii. in country workshop - Samoa - delimitation and legislative process;
- iii. in country workshop - Nauru - legislative process and UN lodgement of boundaries; and
- iv. The Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law - The 27th ANZSIL - International Law Futures: the intersection law and knowledge.