



International Hydrographic Organization

- Roles and Functions of the IHO -

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Topics

- **IHO Structure**
- **IHO Decision Making Process**
- **Regional Hydrographic Commissions**

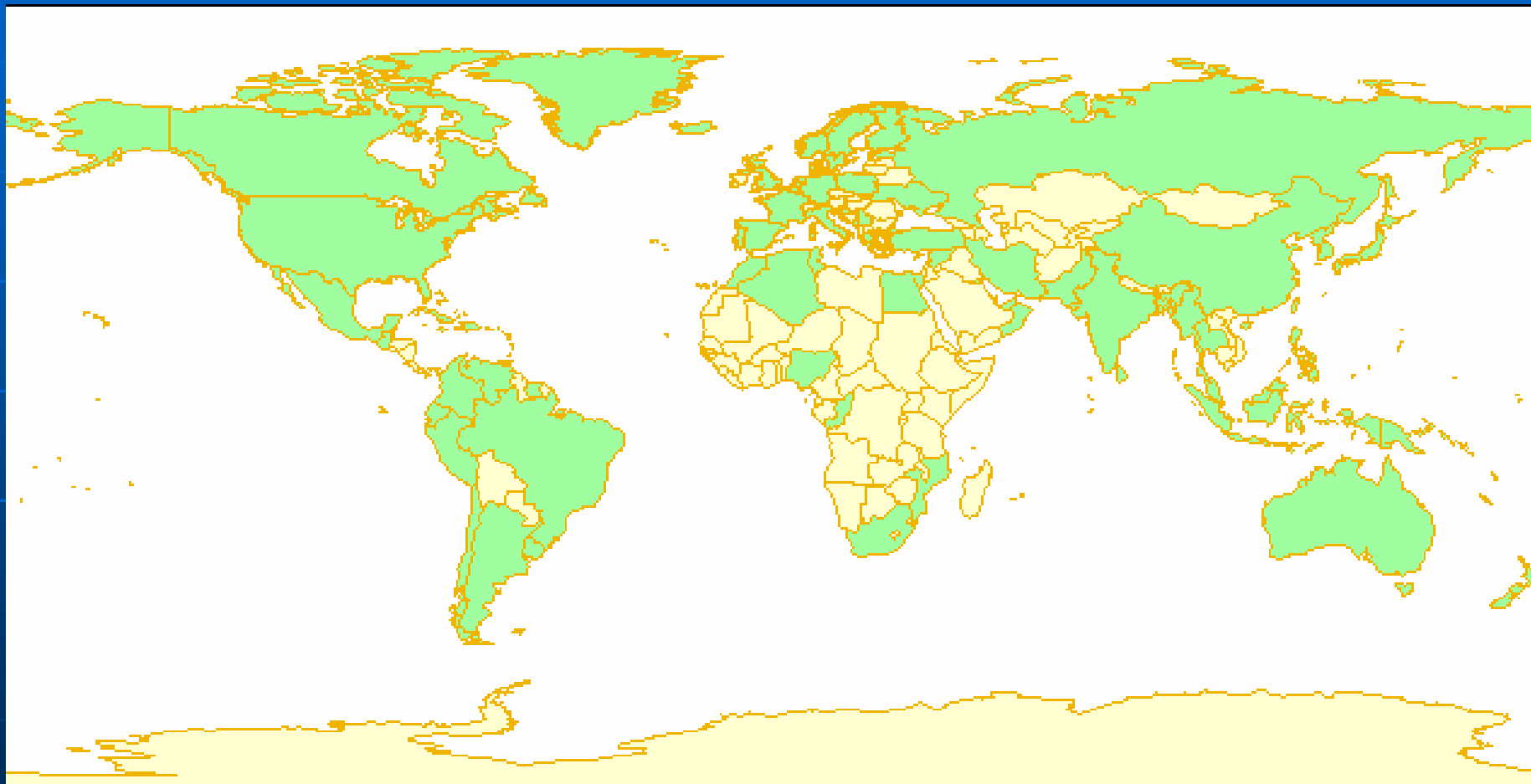


80 IHO Member States

(167 IMO Member States)



80 IHO Member States



2 Approvals and 2 Applications Pending: Bulgaria and Mauritania, Cameroon and Sierra Leone



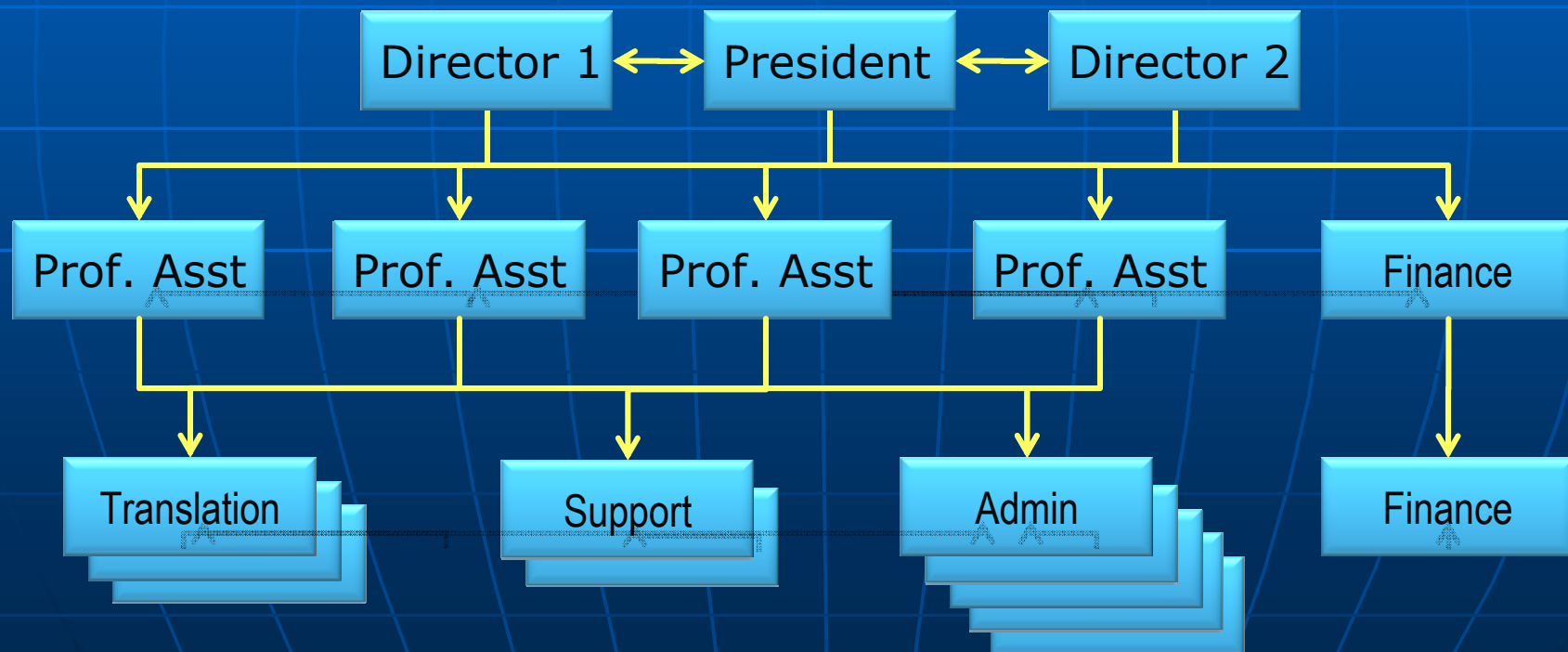
IHO

- Inter-governmental Organisation
- Established 1921
- “Convention on the IHO” - 1967
 - *Convention registered at UN in 1970*
- Secretariat :
 - International Hydrographic Bureau – Monaco
- Depositary Nation : Monaco



International Hydrographic Bureau

- IHO Secretariat
- 19 Staff





International Hydrographic Bureau

- Representational duties
 - IMO, IOC, IALA, UN, ..., ..,
- Secretariat for:
 - IHO Conference
 - All Main Committees
 - 11 WGs (out of 22)
- Maintain
 - 14 standards
 - 30 other publications
 - 23 publications in at least two languages (French, English (and Spanish))



- peak body for the coordination of global hydrographic services
- recognised by UN as the Competent Authority on charting and hydrography



IHO - Objectives

- the greatest possible uniformity of nautical charts and documents
- the development and maintenance of international standards for hydrographic data
- the development of related sciences and techniques



Principal Programmes

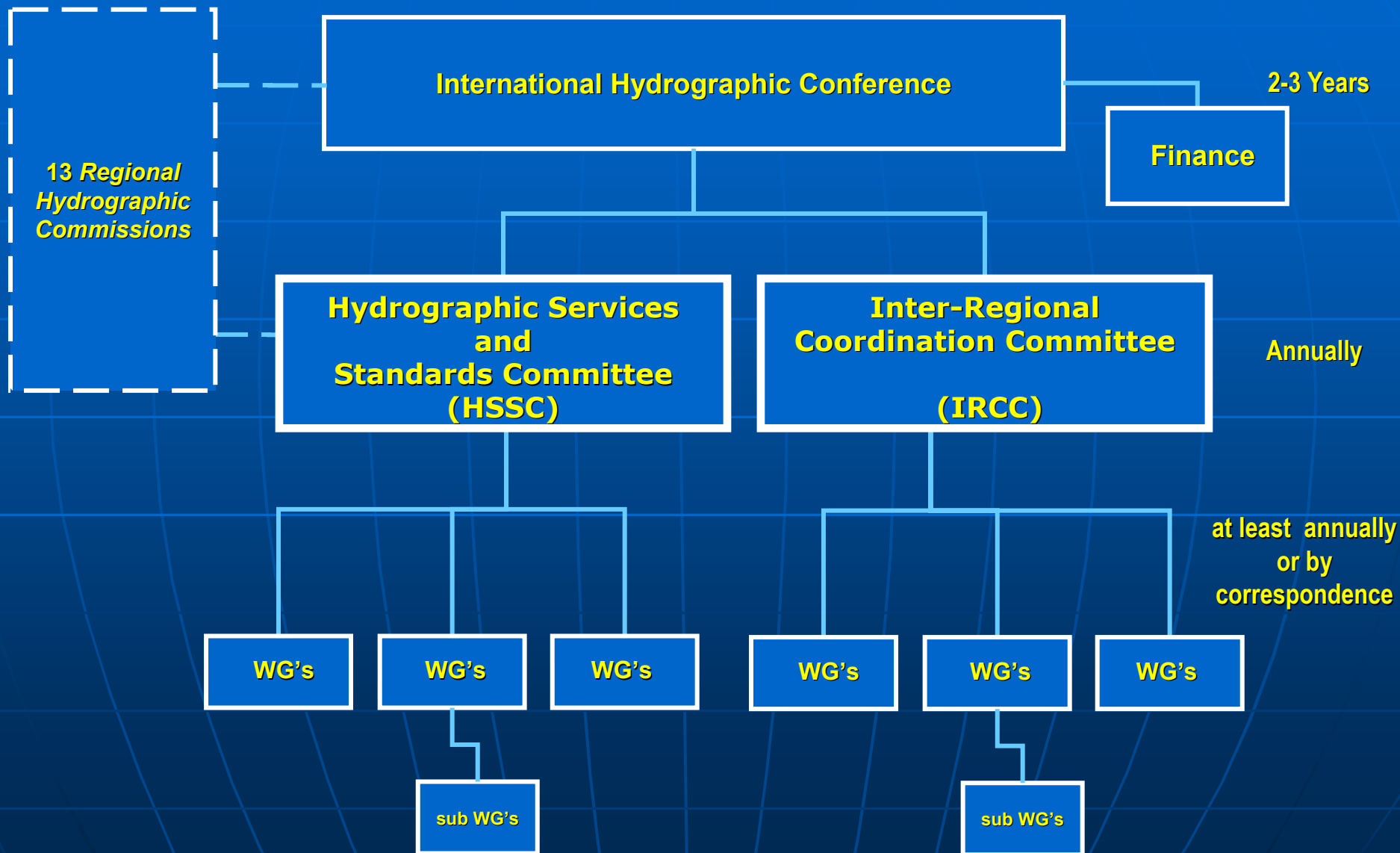
- Cooperation between MS and with other International Organizations
- Capacity Building
- Technical



IHO Structure



Revised IHO – Structure – January 2009





Regional Hydrographic Commissions





South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission

SWPHC Members

- Australia
- Fiji
- France (chair)
- New Zealand
- PNG
- Tonga
- UK
- USA

➤ Not Members

- Cook Is
- Kiribati
- Marshall Is
- Fed. St. of Micronesia
- Nauru
- Palau
- Samoa
- Solomon Is
- Vanuatu



IHO Hierarchy

International Hydrographic Conference

(IHO Work programme, Budget)

↳ Committees

↳ Working Groups

↳ Sub Working Groups / Task Groups



IHO Decision Making

- IHO decisions are made by consulting ALL IHO M/S
- Committees and WGs only make recommendations
- Voting represents the government position
- Majorities vary according to subject:
 - $\frac{2}{3}$ of M/S
 - simple majority
- means at least 39 *YES* votes required
- This is normal procedure for most inter-governmental organizations



Participation

- M/S represented by official government delegates
- NGIO's speak for non-government interests and participate as observers
- Technical WG's may invite "technical experts" to participate as observers



Costs and commitment

SWPHC

- travel to regional meetings
- some access to IHO capacity building
- regional cooperation and coordination
- no financial contribution
- rotational chairmanship
- provide a regional voice

IHO

- travel to relevant meetings
- full access to IHO capacity building
- global cooperation, standards and developments
- annual contribution: ~ €10K
- provide a regional voice and lobby group



International Hydrographic Organization