

**INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
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EAtHC12-06.1A

Chairmen of the following RHCs:

East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC)
East Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (EAtHC)
Meso American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC)
North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission (NIOHC)
ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC)
Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)
South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)

Monaco, 02 April 2012.

IHB File N°S1/5007 & S3/0112 - S3/0122 - S3/0125 - S3/0123 - S3/0129 - S3/0127 - S3/0118

Dear Chairman,

Following the last annual coordination meeting the IHB had with other international organizations such as IMO, IOC, IALA, WMO, IALA and others, the IHB has had discussions with IALA on capacity building.

On March 09, 2012, the IHB Director and Assistant Director responsible for capacity building (CB) matters met IALA people involved on the same subject. One of the conclusions agreed at the meeting was that enhancing a closer relationship at a regional level should be explored, particularly in areas where IHO and IALA would benefit from a join approach. The RHCs in the address list were identified.

The IHB is of the opinion that the implementation of this initiative shall be with the Chairmen of each RHCs, who can consider inviting IALA to attend RHCs meeting to give a brief and discuss any initiative for join activities as they feel appropriate.

IALA has prepared the attach document to introduce IALA World Wide Academy, as a starting point. As Chairman of the selected RHCs, you are invited to consider this issue and to invite IALA to attend the next RHC's meeting, if felt appropriate.

Personal regards,

Hugo GORZIGLIA
Captain - Chilean Navy
IHB Director

Copy: IALA

**The IALA World Wide Academy
Brief to Regional Hydrographic Commissions**

Member States of each Regional Hydrographic Commission will be aware of the close liaison maintained between the International Hydrographic Organisation and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA). In late 2011, the IALA Council decided to set up the independently funded **IALA World Wide Academy** (IALA WWA) which commenced operations in January 2012. One role of the Academy is to develop a series of internationally accredited Model Courses on the management and operation of aids to navigation including specific subjects such as Vessel Traffic Services. In common with IHO objectives, the Board of the IALA WWA stressed that a key role for the Academy is Capacity Building.

The Board of the IALA WWA has drawn up a Master Plan which sets out its strategy for both the short (current year) and medium (following three year) term. At a meeting with the IHO in March 2012, it was agreed that it would be appropriate to adopt the system established by the IHO and develop a Capacity Building model which grouped both IALA Member and potential Member States into regions. One country in each region will be identified as the lead Member State. The Academy has developed a similar strategy to the IHO which will be applied in each region. This “**4A**” model is based on raising **awareness** through seminars; the **assessment** of needs in each region; **analysis** of requirements, based partly on available AIS data from several sources, leading to proposed **actions** to meet those requirements.

The Dean of the IALA WWA, Rear-Admiral Jean-Charles Leclair, suggested that it might be mutually beneficial if The Academy could attend selected Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) meetings if invited to do so by the Chair of each RHC. This would provide the opportunity for the IALA WWA to gain an understanding of regional needs so that safety of navigation issues were addressed on a common front. The Chair of each RHC might wish to invite the IALA WWA to deliver a short presentation on how Capacity Building for aids to navigation services could be developed in the region for the benefit of mariners worldwide. If considered appropriate, the IALA WWA could then plan to deliver a two-day awareness seminar for senior executives from the relevant Competent Authorities in the region and other interested parties.

The first “Level 1+” awareness seminar was held in Bahrain in late January 2012. Further Level 1+ seminars are planned for the Southern African region in late May and for the Australasian region in November 2012. The Academy will fund soft copies of the IALA NAVGUIDE and VTS manuals to present to participants, some of whom could be sponsored to maximise the effectiveness of these awareness seminars.

Contact details for the IALA WWA are:

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