



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION
MESO AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION



MACHC Circular Letter
05/2013

Date, 3 April 2013

To: All MACHC representatives,

Subject: MACHC website proposal

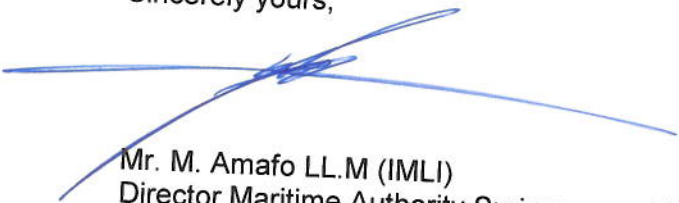
Dear MACHC representatives,

Please find attached with reference to MACHC action 13.2.28 the MACHC website proposal.

The plan offers a way to eliminate confusion and duplication of effort between the U.S (NOAA) managed website, used as a repository for the MACHC committees, and the IHO website, used to host commission meeting agendas and related documents.

Kindly provide your comments to Leland.Snyder@noaa.gov and Erich.Frey@noaa.gov by April 26th.

Sincerely yours,



Mr. M. Amafo LL.M (IMLI)
Director Maritime Authority Suriname and MACHC Chair

DRAFT

PROPOSAL **Clarify the distinctions between the IHO MACHC and NOAA MACHC websites and eliminate redundancies.**

Submitted by: U.S. (NOAA), MICC Chair

Reference: MACHC Action 13.2.28

PROPOSAL:

Confusion has lingered for some time about the differences between the two MACHC websites, maintained by the IHO and NOAA respectively. In order to eliminate this confusion and duplication of effort, the U.S. (NOAA) proposes to make appropriate adjustments to its website so that the focus will be a work site and document repository for the MACHC Committees, (MACHC Integrated Charting Committee--MICC; Marine Economic Infrastructure Program—MEIP; and Capacity Building). Further, the NOAA site will no longer duplicate MACHC documents which are available on the IHO website, such as Commission meeting agendas and related documents, Circular Letters and Statutes. The NOAA MACHC site will provide links as appropriate to the IHO MACHC site and vice versa.

Background:

The NOAA MACHC (formerly the CGMHC) website preceded the existence of the IHO website and was originally intended as a working repository strictly for the former Electronic Chart Committee documents and activities. However, as work progressed and since the initial basis for the development of ENC's was based on regional INT Charts, it was logical to include INT Chart Committee materials as well. At that time, the INT Chart Committee was chaired by Adm. Chris Andreasen, (U.S./NGA) and all the pertinent materials were readily available. Additionally, and prior to the currently established Capacity Building Committee, a pilot capacity building project in the Gulf of Honduras was under the ECC auspices and information on this project was added as well. Over time, the site expanded to include information on upcoming Commission meetings and associated documents. In later years, the IHO website was developed, including representation of all RHCs in a standard format.

Explanatory Note:

The NOAA-supported MACHC website will be adjusted to reflect the working documents of the MACHC Committees only. It will have a new gateway (welcome page) reflecting this and a dedicated section for each of the three MACHC committees (MICC, MEIP and Capacity Building). As the NOAA MACHC website presently contains a significant number of useful documents, the plan is to archive them for reference as needed.

The new NOAA MACHC site will not include MACHC Circular Letters (CLs), Statutes or Commission meeting documentation which will exclusively be maintained on the IHO website. The MACHC Committee Chairs will be responsible for providing any final versions of meeting documents to the IHB for appropriate posting to its site. These actions should eliminate the redundancy and potential confusion which now exists. Essentially, the goal is to go back to the original intent and use this website only for the working Committees of MACHC and leave the IHO website address the greater MACHC topics as it does now.