

From: **Rear Admiral Tim Lowe CBE**  
**The UK National Hydrographer**  
**and SAIHC Chair**



**SAIHC Letter No. 1/2018**

31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

**To:** Members, Associate Members, and Observers of the IHO Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)

**Subject:** **Chair Handover, 15<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Meeting Dates, Agenda Input and National Report**

Dear SAIHC Colleagues,

### **Chair Handover**

UK stood in as chair at the 14<sup>th</sup> SAIHC meeting in Reunion, in the absence of Captain Theo Stokes, who had just taken up the position of National Hydrographer for South Africa at the time. Subsequently under agenda item 12. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman, UK was elected as chair and South Africa elected as vice-chair; in subsequent discussions with Captain Stokes, he and I agreed that we would formally assume these positions with effect from 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

I would like to thank you all, in my role as chair of the SAIHC, for providing this opportunity which I hope we can progress the aims of the hydrographic commission, and encourage increased engagement at the forthcoming SAIHC meeting. I must also take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the previous SAIHC chair Abri Kampfer, now IHO Director, for all his hard work in bringing this commission forward over the last 10 years and fully realise that I have some big shoes to fill - I will do my very best.

### **15<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Meeting Dates**

I am delighted to announce that with the kind permission and support of the Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA), the 15<sup>th</sup> Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission Conference, hosted by SMSA, will be held in Victoria, Seychelles, from 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

The preliminary program proposed for consideration is as follows:

- The SAIHC plenary meeting, from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018, to include the SAIHC INT Chart Coordination Working Group (ICCWG).
- The meeting will be preceded by the SAIHC Seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

This letter serves as advance notice for diary planning and travel purposes, a formal invitation will be issued, as the venue details are confirmed, along with the logistics information, registration form, draft agenda, and status of actions in due course.

## Agenda Input

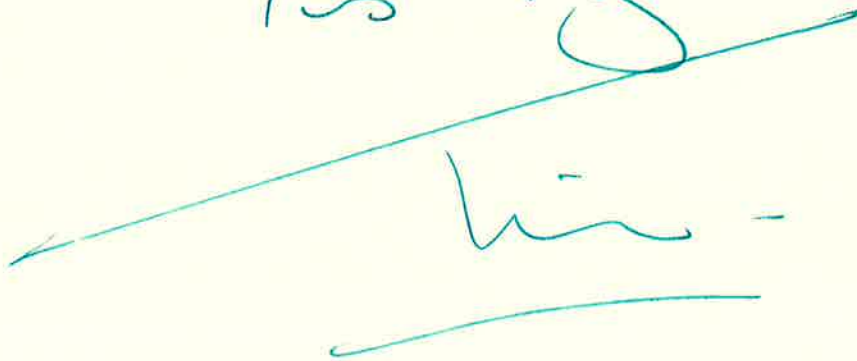
Please note that proposed agenda items for SAIHC15, should be forwarded to the Chair at least four months prior to the Conference. I would appreciate it if you could send your agenda items by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 by email to: [International.RelationsUKHO@UKHO.gov.uk](mailto:International.RelationsUKHO@UKHO.gov.uk) and to the SAIHC secretariat: [su.marks@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:su.marks@ukho.gov.uk).

## National Report

I would like to encourage all SAIHC Members and Associate Members, even if unable to attend SAIHC, to submit a national report, in order to fully understand the issues within the region, and to allow us to discuss and develop ways to resolve them.

looking forward to seeing you  
all in the Seychelles.

Ys Aye

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a long horizontal line with a wavy, cursive shape underneath it.