



MINISTÈRE DE LA DÉFENSE



SERVICE HYDROGRAPHIQUE
ET OcéANOGRAPHIQUE
DE LA MARINE

DIRECTION DE LA STRATEGIE,
DE LA PLANIFICATION ET
DES RELATIONS EXTERIEURES

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Paris, le 6 octobre 2008
N° 179 SHOM/DSPRE/NP

IHO South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission CL 02/2008

Objet : 9th meeting of the International Hydrographic Organisation
South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission.

Reference : IHO SWPHC CL 01/2008 dated 19 February 2008.

Enclosure : Standard draft agenda.

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Dear Hydrographer, dear colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you that the 9th meeting of the IHO South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) will take place in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, during the week of March 9-13, 2009.

On behalf the SWPHC members, I would like first to ask the director of the National Maritime Safety Agency (NMSA) of Papua New Guinea and his staff to accept our most grateful thanks for their kind invitation to arrange our 9th meeting in their country. We believe that this event, hosted by Papua New Guinea for the first time, is a demonstration that hydrography is now clearly identified in the region as a key component of safety at sea and of all marine activities in relation with the protection of environment and a sustainable development.

Destinataire(s) : SWPHC members - [+ all IHO rep. in countries of INT charting Area L] - Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) - Pacific Islands Maritime Association - Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) - IHB - European Commission (Voir liste jointe).

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As agreed with NMSA, it is our intention to have a one-day technical workshop and a two-day plenary session during the week. Then, and as stated in the CL 01/2008 quoted in reference, following up the decisions made at the 8th meeting of the SWPHC (Papeete, 19-20 Sep. 2007), it is in my opinion that three main objectives should be considered during the workshop and the meeting with the highest priority:

- assessment of the situation in the region in terms of hydrographic services to be provided in compliance with SOLAS, Chap V, Reg. 9 against maritime requirements ;
- development of hydrographic capabilities in the island States ;
- implementation of an adequate ENC coverage to meet IMO requirements.

In order to prepare the agendas of the 9th meeting and the technical workshop, I would be grateful to you if you can provide SHOM¹, **by November 30, 2008**, with your inputs, proposals and comments. A standard draft agenda of the SWPHC meeting is given in enclosure for your initial consideration. The programme of the workshop will be defined in liaison with the IHB, in the light of the technical joint IMO-IHO workshop on hydrography which will take place in Fiji in October 2008 on one hand, and in accordance with any requirement made by Papua New Guinea which may wish to involve their political authorities, or by any member or associate member in the area, on the other hand.

Yours sincerely,

Vice-admiral (hydro.) Gilles Bessero,
Chief Executive of SHOM
Chairman of the IHO South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission

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Copie(s) extérieure(s) : SHOM's rep. in the Pacific (Head of the Pacific Oceanographic Group)
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Draft Agenda of the 9th IHO SWPHC Conference

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks
(Chair and Host Nation)
2. Approval of the Agenda
(Chair)
- 2a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
(Chair)
3. Review of Action Items from the 8th SWPHC Conference (Papeete – September 2007)
(Chair, All Members)
4. Exchange of information through National Reports
(All Members)
5. Reports from other international, regional agencies and observers
(IHB, SOPAC, SPC, PacMA, IMO, etc)
6. Reports on IHO meetings (ISPWG, WEND, CHRIS)
(Chair, IHB, all Members)
7. Reports on IHO CBC meetings and actions.
(Australia)
8. Preparation of the 4th Extraordinary IHO Conference, June 2009.
(All Members, IHB)
9. Review of the INT Chart Scheme for Area L
(INT Chart Co-ordinator)
10. Regional co-operation in surveying and chart production
(All Members)
11. IHO Special Publication S-55 (Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide)
(IHB and All Members)
12. Progress with Production and Distribution of ENC's (Impact of WEND 11 and CHRIS 20)
(INT Chart Co-ordinator, IHB, All Members)
13. Other Business – Preparation of the World Hydrography Day 2009
(All Members)
14. Summary of Resolutions, Decisions, Recommendations and Actions
(Chair)
15. Date and Venue of next conference
16. Closing Remarks