

TITLE	Reference	Last amendment (CL or IHC/A)	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition Reference
<b>INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC REVIEW</b>	<b>6/2009 as amended</b>	<b>07/2019</b>	<b>Q2.5</b>

## 1 Background

The International Hydrographic Review (IHR) is an international journal publishing peer-reviewed papers on all aspects of hydrography and associated subjects, ranging from the latest technical developments to history. It was first published in 1921 and since then has been published regularly with two or three issues per year. In September 2000 the IHR, which had until then been compiled and published internally by the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) (now IHO Secretariat), was transferred to a private publisher aiming at improving the scope and quality of the IHR, to widen the circulation and to reduce costs. In October 2007 the Directing Committee was informed by the publisher that they were no longer prepared to renew the contract due to financial circumstances. After a detailed study, the Directing Committee concluded that there were no realistic possibilities for the IHO to continue the publication of the IHR in its traditional form without a significant increase in costs and expenditure and proposed to the Member States to go digital. The decision adopted by the Member States was to publish the IHR as a web-based publication, with peer-reviewed articles, with two editions a year and an annual printed copy consisting of a compilation of the articles, initially for IHO Member States only. Member States also agreed to have the Editor as a “part time” collaborator, in accordance with terms of reference agreed with the IHO Secretariat.

## 2 The Digital International Hydrographic Review

A digital version of the publication was introduced in 2009 with the editions placed on the IHO website twice a year, in May and November. Access is open to all and free of charge. As with the previous hard copy version, strict standards of review and editing maintained. Once a year a hard copy compendium will be produced that will be available to Member States only and will provide an ongoing historical record. Member States – particularly their staff and cooperating industries - are strongly urged to contribute to the Review as an important means of sharing information on their activities and developments within the hydrographic community. Individuals and organizations working in the field, but outside the Member States’ Hydrographic Offices, are also urged to contribute.

Given the multi-lingual nature of the community, potential contributors should not be intimidated by concerns over language as any linguistic problems may be handled by the Editor and the Editorial Board during the editing process. Likewise the work of developing hydrographic offices is as important as that of the developed, well equipped offices, in the overall discussions on progress in the profession. It is hoped that contributions will be received from all sectors of the community. Material should be sent to the Editor in accordance with paragraph 4.

## 3 The IHR Format

The IHR is composed of four parts: Editorial, Articles, Notes and General Information:

### a) Editorial:

This part will be written by the IHR Editor and will be a maximum of one-page highlighting the content of the edition, motivating the reader to get into the subjects content. This page will include a photo of the IHR Editor. The IHR Editor might wish to liaise with any Regional Hydrographic Commission Chairs or the Secretary-General for the purpose of including relevant messages or concepts associated to the content of the IHR. The Editorial shall be approved by the Secretary-General / relevant Director.

- b) **Articles:**  
It is expected that articles will be between 4,000 and 6,000 words long, although longer articles may be considered. Articles will concern hydrography and associated subjects. Unpublished articles that have not yet been submitted for publication elsewhere will be given priority. All articles will be peer-reviewed.
- c) **Notes:**  
Notes are expected to be between 1,500 and 2,500 words long. Notes are brief records of testimony of an event, a meeting, a conference, an action, a speech or a particular circumstance. Notes will not be refereed but will be subject to editorial comment and amendments.
- d) **General Information:**  
Falling under this part will be contributions on matters providing general information to the community. These may include, as examples: a book review, a calendar of forthcoming events, letters to the Editor and the corresponding reply if pertinent, and any Obituaries.

#### 4 The IHR online

The IHR will be accessible from the IHO website. The web page will provide details for contacting the Editor, information and instructions for contributors and access to the IHR online editions.

IHR online editions: the reader will access the different IHR Editions. The content may be on the IHO website or in a repository elsewhere.

#### 5 The IHR Editorial Board

The IHR will have an Editorial Board to help the IHR Editor in keeping a good standard of the Review. The Editorial Board will be comprised of representatives of all Regional Hydrographic Commissions, who are expected to encourage the following activities at a regional level:

- a) Motivate Member States in his/her region to submit Articles, Notes and General Information suitable for the IHR;
- b) Contribute with relevant Notes after holding RHC's Meetings or other IHO-related events;
- c) Search and identify suitable and available experts in their region who could volunteer to peer-review the Articles, to ensure the peer-review process; and
- d) Provide the Editor with key information to be highlighted in the Editorial of the IHR.