



IHB File S1/5000

**CIRCULAR LETTER 21/2016
17 May 2016**

**APPLICATION FROM INTERTANKO
TO BE GRANTED OBSERVER STATUS
AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

Reference A: IHO Resolution 5/1957 as amended - *IHO Relations with other Organizations*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Directing Committee has received an application from INTERTANKO (The International Association of Independent Tanker Owners) to be granted observer status as a Non-Governmental International Organization (NGIO) under the terms of Reference A.

2. INTERTANKO represents over 210 independent tanker owners and 270 associate members representing a variety of organizations related to the tanker industry. The combined fleet of the membership comprises more than 3650 tankers.

3. INTERTANKO is a non-profit organization with its headquarters in Oslo (Norway) with representational offices in London (UK), Brussels (Belgium), Singapore and Washington DC (USA). INTERTANKO has for many years held Observer status in the IMO and has provided the IHO with stakeholder feedback on various issues whenever requested.

4. The main aim of INTERTANKO is to lead the continuous improvement of the Tanker Industry's performance in striving to achieve the goals of Zero fatalities, Zero pollution and Zero detentions. In this context, the goals of INTERTANKO in maintaining the safest possible navigation and operations at sea are complementary to those of the IHO.

5. INTERTANKO has indicated that the following areas of its interest relate to the work of the IHO:

ENC Software compatibility	INS and ECDIS performance standards
ENC standards	e-Navigation
ENC availability	INS human centred design and operation
ENC symbology	Availability of hydrographic information
Under keel clearance	

6. The application from INTERTANKO has been duly examined by the Directing Committee which is satisfied that INTERTANKO meets the requirements for accreditation as an NGIO as described in IHO Resolution 5/1957 as amended, in that:

- it has the character of a non-governmental international organization, representing individuals and organizations with an interest in nautical charting, high-technology navigation and the use hydrographic information;
- the objectives and functions of INTERTANKO are in harmony with the objectives of the IHO, as defined in Article II of the Convention on the IHO;
- it has a governing body, an executive officer and a secretariat authorized under its constitution to speak for its members; and

- it will, as it has done informally already, make a positive contribution to the work of the IHO.

7. Member States are kindly invited to consider the application from INTERTANKO for accreditation and to submit any objections or comments that they might have by **31 July 2016**. Subsequently, the Directing Committee will notify INTERTANKO of the outcome of its consultation with IHO Member States.

On behalf of the Directing Committee,
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert WARD
President