



IHB File No. S1/6200

CIRCULAR LETTER 46/2016
21 September 2016

**CALL FOR MEMBER STATES TO DECLARE IN WHICH
REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (RHC) THEY WISH TO BE COUNTED
FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING THE NUMBER OF SEATS ALLOCATED TO
EACH RHC IN THE IHO COUNCIL**

References:

- A. IHO Circular Letter 41 dated 23 August 2016 - *Date of entry into force of the Amendments to the Convention on the IHO and its supporting Documents*
- B. General Regulations of the IHO - Article 16 - *Selection of Members of the Council*
- C. 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference - Decision 6 - *Council Selection Process*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Reference A announced that the amendments to the Convention on the IHO would enter into force on 8 November 2016 and as a consequence a Council would be established at the first session of the IHO Assembly in April 2017. The procedure for determining the composition of the Council is set out in Reference B.
2. The start of the process of determining the composition of the Council is for the Secretary-General to determine, in accordance with sub-subparagraph (b)(iv) of Reference B, the number of seats allocated to each RHC.
3. Following the principles of the guidance agreed at Reference C, this Circular Letter invites **Member States which are full members of more than one RHC**, as listed in Annex A, to indicate in which RHC they wish to be counted for the purpose of enabling the Secretary-General to determine the number of seats on the Council allocated to each RHC.
4. As indicated in Reference C, in the event that no preference is expressed by a Member State member of more than one RHC, the Secretary-General will, in the first instance, allocate that State to the RHC that it joined first. However, following this principle may not be possible in the event that doing so would leave anyone of the RHC's with no possible candidates to occupy a seat allocated to it on the Council.
5. In order to provide as much time as possible for the Secretary-General to determine the allocation of the number of seats and to inform the Chairs of RHCs accordingly, the Member States concerned are encouraged to express their preferences, using the form at Annex B, as soon as possible, and in any case, **no later than 30 November 2016**.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert WARD
President

Annexes: - Annex A: List of Member States members of more than one RHC
- Annex B: Response Form

LIST OF IHO MEMBER STATES MEMBERS OF MORE THAN ONE RHC

Brazil
Canada
Colombia
Denmark
Egypt
Finland
France
Germany
Iceland
Morocco
Netherlands
Norway
Pakistan
Russian Federation
Saudi Arabia
Spain
Sweden
Thailand
United Kingdom
United States of America

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RESPONSE FORM

To be returned to the IHO Secretariat by **30 November 2016**

E-mail: *cl-lc@iho.int* - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40

Member State:	
Point of Contact:	
Contact e-mail:	

RHC in which the Member State wishes to be counted:

(Indicate your choice in decreasing order of priority as applicable. The first choice will be retained whenever possible)

1

2

(...)

Name/Signature: Date: