

IHO File No. S1/6200

**CIRCULAR LETTER 52/2019 Rev1**  
**23 October 2019**

## **NOTICE OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF REGIONALLY-BASED SEATS ON THE IHO COUNCIL**

### References:

- A. IHO CL No. 33/2019 dated 30 June - *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*
- B. General Regulations of the IHO - Article 16 – *Selection of Members of the Council*
- C. 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the Assembly – Decision 26 – *Endorsement of the Selection Process for the Council*
- D. Finance Regulations of the IHO - Article 6 (a)
- E. IHO ACL No. 08/2019 dated 20 July 2019 - *Preparation of the Table of Tonnages*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Reference A invited those Member States that are members of more than one Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) to declare their preference for which RHC they wished to be counted for the purpose of enabling the Secretary-General to allocate the number of seats on the Council assigned to each RHC and to determine the States that are eligible to occupy those seats in each RHC, in accordance with the processes and guidance described in References B and C.
2. The IHO Secretariat thanks the following Member States that are members of more than one RHC for responding to Reference A: Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.
3. Where a Member State, who is a member of more than one RHC has expressed a preference, this has been taken into account. However, those Member States<sup>1</sup> who have not expressed a preference, the Secretary-General has followed the process in accordance with Reference A, paragraph 5 and Reference C, and has assigned them to the first RHC in which they became a Member State.

### **Distribution of and eligibility to occupy the regionally-based seats on the IHO Council**

---

<sup>1</sup> Indonesia, Pakistan and Thailand.

4. The table provided in Annex A shows the resultant distribution of the 20 seats on the Council allocated to the RHCs and those States that are eligible to be selected to occupy those seats.

5. Some RHCs have already selected the States that will occupy the seat(s) allocated to them. Where this is known by the Secretariat, it is shown in the table.

6. In accordance with sub-paragraph (b)(vi) of Reference B, the table in Annex A may be amended up to 3 months before the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Assembly if new States become members of the IHO before that date, that is before 21 January 2020. However, it is unlikely that new accessions, if any, will require revising the number of seats allocated to each RHC.

**Eligibility to occupy the remaining 10 Seats on the IHO Council that are based on hydrographic interest (tonnage)**

7. In accordance with Reference D, the Secretariat will use the table of tonnages provided at Annex A to Reference E, subject to the addition of any new Member States, to determine the remaining 10 seats to be occupied on the Council. The Secretary-General will approach each State on the list which has not already been selected to occupy a seat by the RHCs, in turn and in order of highest tonnage, inviting the State to declare if it wishes to take up one of the 10 seats available based on hydrographic interest (tonnage). This process will continue until all 10 seats have been filled.

8. Noting that sub-paragraph (b)(vii) of Reference B sets the closing date for RHCs to declare the identity of the States that they have selected to occupy the first 20 seats on the Council that are allocated on a regional basis as *before the last day of the Assembly*, the allocation of the remaining 10 seats is dependent upon when the Secretary-General has a complete list of the States that will occupy the regionally based seats. For this reason, Chairs of RHCs are requested to provide the identity of the State(s) that will occupy the seat(s) allocated to their RHCs as soon as it is known. This will enable the allocation of the last 10 seats on the Council to be made earlier than on the penultimate day of the session of the Assembly, subject to the accession up to that date of any new Member State qualifying for one of the 10 seats according to its tonnage.

9. In accordance with Reference E, the table of tonnages that will be used to define the 10 remaining seats is annexed for your convenience.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General

**Annex**

- A. Table showing the number of seats on the IHO Council distributed on a regional basis and the Member States eligible to occupy those seats.
- B. Table of tonnages in force since 01 January 2018 until 31 December 2020

**Table showing the number of seats on the IHO Council distributed on a regional basis and the Member States eligible to occupy those seats**

<b>Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC)</b>	<b>Member States (MS) eligible to occupy one of the 20 Council seat(s) allocated to the RHCs</b> (MS that are Members of more than one RHC shown in <b>bold</b> ) (MS whose rights are suspended shown in <del>strike</del> )	<i>Number of MS to be counted in the calculation of the number of seats on a proportional basis</i>	<b>Number of Council seats allocated to the RHC</b>	<b>MS selected by the RHC to occupy the Council seat(s) allocated to the RHC</b>
MBSHC	Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, <b>France</b> , Georgia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Romania, <del>Serbia</del> , Slovenia, <b>Spain</b> , <del>Syria</del> , Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine.	17	3	
EAHC	Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, <b>Indonesia</b> , Japan, Korea (Rep of), Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, <b>Thailand</b>	10	2	
MACHC	<b>Brazil</b> , Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, <b>Netherlands</b> , Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela.	10	2	
RSAHC	Bahrain, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Kuwait, Oman, <b>Pakistan</b> , Qatar, <b>Saudi Arabia</b> , United Arab Emirates	8	2	
SWPHC	Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, <b>USA</b> , Vanuatu	7	1	
NIOHC	Bangladesh, <b>Egypt</b> , India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka	5	1	
SAIHC	Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, <b>United Kingdom</b>	5	1	
EAtHC	Cameroon, <b>Morocco</b> , Nigeria, Portugal	4	1	
NSHC	Belgium, <b>Germany</b> , <b>Iceland</b> , Ireland	4	1	
BSHC	Estonia, Latvia, Poland, <b>Sweden</b>	4	1	
SEPRHC	Chile, <b>Colombia</b> , Ecuador, Peru	4	1	
ARHC	<b>Denmark</b> , <b>Norway</b> , <b>Russian Federation</b> ,	3	1	Russian Federation
SWAtHC	Argentina, Uruguay	2	1	Argentina
NHC	<b>Finland</b>	1	1	Finland
USCHC	<b>Canada</b>	1	1	Canada
<b>Total</b>		85	20	

	<b>Table of tonnages (based on table in force since 1 January 2018)</b>	<b>Tonnages</b>
1	CHINA	97 570 000
2	SINGAPORE	86 352 300
3	MALTA	70 700 000
4	UNITED KINGDOM	48 102 992
5	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	44 384 155
6	GREECE	41 716 093
7	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	25 526 217
8	CYPRUS	22 868 153
9	JAPAN	22 647 157
10	NORWAY	18 330 480
11	ITALY	16 250 171
12	DENMARK	15 604 079
13	INDONESIA	12 944 000
14	MALAYSIA	12 143 950
15	INDIA	11 227 227 2