

Proposal to Amend the General Regulations Concerning the Election Process for Electing the Secretary-General and Directors

Submitted by:	Canada supported by Australia, France and Norway
Executive Summary:	This paper proposes amendments to the IHO General Regulations in order to strengthen the election process for the Secretary-General and the Directors of the IHO.

Background

1. The first session of the IHO Assembly was successfully held in Monaco 24-28 April 2017. The election of the Secretary-General and the two Directors was held on the 28 April. This was the first election to take place under the modified election arrangements that came into force on 8 November 2016, as a result of the amendments to the Convention on the IHO.
2. Taking in to account the experience gained from the election process at the 1st Session of the Assembly, further amendments to the General Regulations covering the elections and the terms of office of the Secretary-General and of Directors, are proposed in order to strengthen the election process.

Presentation of the candidates

3. The XVIIIth International Hydrographic Conference (2012) amended Article 20 of the new IHO General Regulations to further expand the opportunities for candidates and Member States to understand the positions and the perspectives that candidates would bring to the IHO Secretariat. The following text was added in Article 20(a):
 - *candidate's Position, which should include, but is not limited to, the candidate's vision of the importance of hydrography and cartography, of the role of the IHO and of the objectives and approach envisaged to best advance the priorities of the Organization as established by the Member States; ...*
4. All candidates should be given the opportunity prior to the election to present themselves to the Member States and expound on their vision and proposals for the IHO as part of the leadership team of the Secretariat. For many Member State representatives, this may be the first and only time that they will be able to hear the candidates communicate their ideas. If it is considered necessary, the presentation session could be professionally facilitated. These presentations would be for a maximum of 15 minutes in duration per candidate and should take place early in the Session to allow delegates time to consult with their country's administration, if required.
5. It is proposed to add a new clause to Article 21 of the General Regulations as shown in Annex A.

The term of office of the Secretary-General and Directors

6. Noting that there may be suitable candidates for election that are not able to commit to an initial six-year term of office, it is proposed that candidates be given the option to declare the length of their intended initial service as either three years or six years. The limit of no more than two consecutive terms, and a total cumulative time of service (includes both time as Director and Secretary-General) of no more than nine years, would continue to apply.
7. It is proposed to amend Articles 20, 24 and 26 of the General Regulations as shown in Annex B.

The voting process

8. In the past Assembly elections and previous Conference elections there have been instances where no single candidate has received a majority of the votes (50 percent plus one of the votes). It is proposed that if no single candidate achieves a majority of 50 per cent of the votes cast plus one vote in a ballot, then a second, run-off ballot between the two candidates with the largest number of votes should be held.

9. It is proposed to amend Article 23 of the General Regulations as shown in Annex C.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the proposed amendments to the General Regulations be endorsed by the Council and presented to the Member States for voting by correspondence in enough time for the amendments to take effect prior to the next Assembly.

Action required of the Council

11. The Council is invited to:

- a. **Endorse** the proposed amendments set out in Annexes A, B and C; and
- b. **Instruct** the Secretary-General to invite Member States to adopt the proposed amendments by correspondence procedure.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 21 OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS
IN RELATION TO THE ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND
DIRECTORS**

ARTICLE 21

Proposed changes shown in red / ~~red~~.

Add:

(c) Early in the Session of the Assembly, and prior to the election, each candidate for the position of Secretary-General and/or Director shall present themselves. For this presentation candidates would be invited to include an expansion of the “candidate’s position” that was presented in their nomination submitted in accordance with Article 20(a) and shall have a duration of no more than 15 minutes. The session shall be professionally facilitated.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES 20, 24 AND 26 OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS IN RELATION TO THE ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND DIRECTORS

ARTICLE 20

- (a) Each nomination shall indicate:
- whether it is for the post of Secretary-General or Director or for both posts-, and, when applicable,
 - the preferred length of the term of office - three years or six years.
- (b) ~~;~~ and Each nomination shall include a statement detailing the candidate's qualifications. The following specific information should be provided:
- nominating Member State;
 - name;
 - nationality;
 - date of birth;
 - titles and decorations;
 - education (periods including specialized or special qualifications);
 - languages (speaking and reading capacity);
 - all service and experience relevant to the nomination and which provide an indication of the extent to which the candidate is qualified to serve as Secretary-General or Director;
 - candidate's Position, which should include, but is not limited to, the candidate's vision of the importance of hydrography and cartography, of the role of the IHO and of the objectives and approach envisaged to best advance the priorities of the Organization as established by the Member States; and
 - such additional information as may be relevant;

Revised Version:

ARTICLE 20

- (a) Each nomination shall indicate:
- whether it is for the post of Secretary-General or Director or for both posts-, and, when applicable,
 - the preferred length of the term of office - three years or six years.
- (b) Each nomination shall include a statement detailing the candidate's qualifications. The following specific information should be provided:
- nominating Member State;
 - name;
 - nationality;
 - date of birth;

- titles and decorations;
- education (periods including specialized or special qualifications);
- languages (speaking and reading capacity);
- all service and experience relevant to the nomination and which provide an indication of the extent to which the candidate is qualified to serve as Secretary-General or Director;
- candidate's Position, which should include, but is not limited to, the candidate's vision of the importance of hydrography and cartography, of the role of the IHO and of the objectives and approach envisaged to best advance the priorities of the Organization as established by the Member States; and
- such additional information as may be relevant;

ARTICLE 24

Proposed changes shown in red / ~~red~~.

Individuals elected to the posts of Secretary-General and Directors by the Assembly shall serve a ~~first~~ term of office of three years or six years according to their preference, when applicable, expressed as part of the nomination procedure described in Article 20.

Revised Version:

ARTICLE 24

Individuals elected to the posts of Secretary-General and Directors by the Assembly shall serve a term of office of three years or six years according to their preference, when applicable, expressed as part of the nomination procedure described in Article 20.

ARTICLE 26

Proposed changes shown in red / ~~red~~.

- (a) Individuals having served a first term of office as Secretary-General or as a Director may, immediately upon expiry of that term of office but not otherwise, seek re-election to any of those posts, and if re-elected shall serve a second term of office ~~as follows.~~
- ~~(i) — An individual having been elected by the Assembly and having served a full first term of office of six years shall upon re-election serve a term of office of three years.~~
 - ~~(ii) — An individual having been elected in accordance with Articles 25 (c) or 25 (d) above shall upon re-election serve:~~
 - ~~(A) — in the case of an individual having served a first term of office of three years or less, a term of office of six years; or~~
 - ~~(B) — in the case of an individual having served a first term of office of more than three years, a term of office of three years.~~

- (b) In no circumstances shall any individual occupy the post of Secretary-General or Director or a combination of both for an aggregate ~~term~~period of more than nine years.

Revised Version:

ARTICLE 26

- (a) Individuals having served a first term of office as Secretary-General or as a Director may, immediately upon expiry of that term of office but not otherwise, seek re-election to any of those posts, and if re-elected shall serve a second term of office.
- (b) In no circumstances shall any individual occupy the post of Secretary-General or Director or a combination of both for an aggregate period of more than nine years.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 23 OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS
IN RELATION TO THE ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND
DIRECTORS**

ARTICLE 23

- (a) The candidate receiving ~~the largest number~~ at least 50% plus one of ~~the~~ votes cast in a ballot shall be elected.
- (b) In the event that no candidate receives the required number of votes (see clause (a)), a further ballot restricted to the two candidates that received the largest number of votes will be held. The two candidates that received the largest number of votes would be offered an additional 15 minute time to present themselves a last time before the last ballot is held. The candidate receiving the greater number of votes on this last ballot shall be elected.
- (bc) In the event that two or more candidates tie with the largest number of votes, a ~~new~~ further ballot restricted to those candidates shall be held. Clauses (a) and (b) will then apply to the results of this ballot.

Revised Version:

ARTICLE 23

- (a) The candidate receiving at least 50% plus one of the votes cast in a ballot shall be elected.
- (b) In the event that no candidate receives the required number of votes (see clause (a)), a further ballot restricted to the two candidates that received the largest number of votes will be held. The two candidates that received the largest number of votes would be offered an additional 15 minute time to present themselves a last time before the last ballot is held. The candidate receiving the greater number of votes on this last ballot shall be elected.
- (c) In the event that two or more candidates tie with the largest number of votes, a further ballot restricted to those candidates shall be held. Clauses (a) and (b) will then apply to the results of this ballot.