



IHO File No. S1/6200/C-1

**COUNCIL
CIRCULAR LETTER 06/2017
19 July 2017**

**CALL FOR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSALS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 1st
MEETING OF THE IHO COUNCIL**

References:

- A. Council Circular Letter 03/2017 dated 09 June – *Announcement of the first meeting of the IHO Council and provisional agenda*
- B. Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council - *Rule 7*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Assembly and the Council have now taken over as the principal organs of the IHO where proposals submitted by Member States, IHO subsidiary bodies and Observer Organizations are considered.
2. The former pre-Conference process included the distribution of a so-called “*Red Book*” that contained the proposals submitted for consideration by the Conference together with any subsequent comments provided by Member States, supplemented, as appropriate, by comments from the Directing Committee. This process provided Member States with a good understanding of the issues to be discussed together with the various opinions of other Member States, in advance of the Conference itself, thereby assisting in the considerations and the decision-making process. However, unlike the previous practice for International Hydrographic Conferences, the existing Rules of Procedure for the Assembly and for the Council do not contain any specific provision for inviting and circulating comments on proposals in advance of the sessions or the meetings.
3. The Secretary-General considers that it would be useful to maintain the previous arrangement by inviting comments in advance of sessions of the Assembly and meetings of the Council. For this reason, the “*Red Book*” process was followed as part of the preparations for the first session of the Assembly held in April 2017. No adverse comments were received from Member States regarding this procedure.
4. In order to formalise the process under the arrangements for the Assembly and the Council, the Secretary-General is inviting the Council to endorse the “*Red Book*” process as part of the preparations for future sessions of the Assembly and meetings of the Council. In the meantime, and as was the case for the first session of the Assembly, the Secretary-General, through this letter is seeking comments on the Proposals that will be considered by the first meeting of the Council.
5. In addition to seven proposals prepared by the Secretary-General relating to items on the provisional agenda circulated in Annex A to Reference A, the IHO Secretariat has received two proposals from Member States in response to the invitation to submit proposals also made at Reference A. A list of these Proposals is shown in Annex A. The proposals (in English only) can be downloaded from the Council page of the IHO website at www.iho.int→IHO Council. Paper copies of the proposals can be provided upon request to those Member States that may not be able to

download copies via the internet.

6. Reference B requires that all supporting documents be circulated to the Member States at least two months before the opening day of the meeting of the Council; that is, no later than 17 August 2017. In order for a “*Red Book*” to be prepared, Member States are invited to consider the proposals listed in Annex A that will be submitted to the Council and to forward any comments that they may have, so that they reach the IHO Secretariat (by e-mail: cl-lc@iho.int or by fax: +377 93 10 81 40) **no later than 7 August 2017**. The comments will then be published in a “*Red Book*” as part of the meeting documents that will be published shortly thereafter.

Yours sincerely,



Robert WARD
Secretary-General

Annex

A. List of Proposals submitted for consideration by the 1st meeting of the IHO Council.

**LIST OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION BY
THE 1st MEETING OF THE IHO COUNCIL**

(as of 17 July 2017)

Agenda Item	Object of the Proposal	Submitted by	Reference
2	Revision of IHO Resolutions 5/1957, 1/1969, 9/1967, 5/1972, 1/2014, 4/1957, 8/1967, 1/1965 and 2/1965	Secretary-General	C1-2.2
2	Consideration of Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council	Secretary-General	C1-2.3
2	Methodology and timetable to deal with each year's financial statements and adjustments to the basic documents	Secretary-General	C1-2.4
5	Review of the Strategic Plan	Secretary-General	C1-5.1
5	Proposal to evaluate status, requirements and options to integrate the IHO Strategic Plan/Performance Indicators, budget and work programme activities	USA	C1-5.2
6	Proposed theme for World Hydrography Day 2018	Secretary-General	C1-6.1
6	Proposal to amend the General Regulations to address the medical fitness of candidates for election to the positions of Secretary-General or Director, and the conditions of service of Directors	Secretary-General	C1-6.2
6	Council consideration of the definition of the term " <i>hydrographic interest</i> "	Secretary-General	C1-6.3
6	Proposal to amend the General Regulations concerning the election process for electing the Secretary-General and Directors	Canada Supported by: Australia, France and Norway	C1-6.4