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**From:** Executive Secretary  
**To:** Dr Mathias Jonas International Hydrographic Organization  
**Subject :** IHO Seminar ATCM 2018-2019

Dr Mathias Jonas  
International Hydrographic Organization  
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Dear Dr Mathias Jonas,  
Last year in May, during the XL Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) held in Beijing, China, the International Hydrographical Organization (IHO) proposed to organise a seminar on the Importance of Hydrography in the Antarctic Region. Stressing the value of nautical charts in the Antarctic to ensure safe navigation, the ATCM welcomed the IHO proposal (paragraphs 227-229 of the XL ATCM [Final Report](#)).

In November 2017, the host Government of this year's ATCM informed the Secretariat that, unfortunately, it was unable to fulfil its commitment to organise the meeting. This very unusual situation has forced Antarctic Treaty Parties to organise a limited meeting. The ATCM is thus unable to give the IHO the time and facilities that the IHO Seminar deserves in 2018. Underscoring the relevance of this event, Antarctic Treaty Parties would like to extend a new invitation for the IHO to organise a Seminar, if possible, on the Importance of Hydrography in the Antarctic Region during the Antarctic Treaty Meeting that will take place at the beginning of July 2019 in Prague, Czech Republic. In closing, I would like to thank you for your understanding and place myself at your disposal to address any queries regarding next year's ATCM.

With kind regards,

Albert Lluberas  
Executive Secretary