



IHB Files No. S3/0104, S3/4204

CIRCULAR LETTER 64/2015
31 August 2015

REVISED MANAGEMENT, REVIEW AND MONITORING OF NEW INT CHARTS

Reference:

A: Document IRCC7-06B – *Management and Monitoring of the IHO INT Chart Collection.*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Decision 2.4 of the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference ... *tasked IRCC to review arrangements for the collection and examination of INT charts currently regulated by Article 19 of the IHO General Regulations and IHO Resolution 1/1992 (Monitoring of INT Charts) and to consider the need to amend or develop relevant IHO Resolutions, taking into account the comments from the Conference.*
2. The seventh meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC-7) took place in Mexico City, Mexico, from 1 to 3 June 2015. As directed by the Conference, the IRCC considered the arrangements for the collection and examination of INT charts in conjunction with a proposal submitted to IRCC-7 by the IHB (Reference A), concerning practical revised arrangements for the management and monitoring of the IHO INT Chart Collection. As a result, the IRCC, through Decision IRCC-7.3, decided to implement a two-year trial procedure.
3. The draft report, lists of decisions and actions of IRCC-7 are available on the IHO website at:

www.iho.int > Committees&WG > IRCC > IRCC7 > Documents
4. This Circular Letter describes the two-year trial procedure for the review of new INT charts and the subsequent inclusion of those charts in the IHB INT Chart Reference Collection, as agreed by IRCC-7. The procedure is to be implemented by the relevant Regional INT Chart Coordinators (or INT Charting Coordination Working Group - ICCWG).
5. The IRCC invited (see Action IRCC7/27):
 - a. **New INT Chart Producer Nations** to provide the first edition of any INT chart to the relevant Regional INT Chart Coordinator (or ICCWG) for review as soon as convenient during the production cycle;
 - b. **INT Chart Coordinators/ICCWGs** to manage the review of any first edition INT chart produced by a new INT Chart Producer Nation to verify its compliance with the IHO standards, and to provide feedback to the Producer Nation and to report results to the next RHC meeting;

- c. **All INT Chart Producer Nations** to provide first editions and new editions of INT charts to the relevant Regional INT Chart Coordinator (or ICCWG) three months prior to every RHC meeting to enable the Regional INT Chart Coordinator (or ICCWG) to validate the current INT chart scheme;
 - d. All editions of INT charts submitted under actions a) and b) to be subsequently forwarded to the IHB to be included in the IHB INT Chart Reference Collection, for internal use; and
 - e. **All Member States** to provide an update to the IHO published list of on-line chart catalogues, either directly or systematically when updating the Yearbook.
6. The IRCC invites the Chairs of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs) to ensure that the above actions are implemented, as soon as possible, and not later than 31 October 2015.
7. In order to facilitate the work of the Regional INT Chart Coordinators (or ICCWG) in implementing the revised procedures, the IHB:
- a. will propose that the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) considers tasking the Nautical Cartography Working Group (NCWG) to prepare a “basic quality assurance check-list template” for use by INT Chart Coordinators/ICCWG in support of the review of new INT charts; and
 - b. is preparing a workshop for all Regional INT Chart/ENC Coordinators. The workshop will take place back-to-back with the 2nd meeting of the NCWG (NCWG-2) at the IHB in Monaco in April 2016. This will provide an opportunity for Regional INT Chart/ENC Coordinators to attend NCWG-2 as well. Provisional topics to be considered by the workshop are listed in Annex A. Regional INT Chart/ENC Coordinators are requested to indicate their interest in attending the workshop by completing the form provided in Annex A **no later than 31 October 2015**. Based on the feedback and lessons learned from the workshop, other events and follow-on arrangements may be considered in the future.
8. In accordance with Action IRCC7/28, the Chairs of RHCs have been invited by the IRCC to report on the experimental procedure at IRCC-8. Depending on the feedback reported by the RHCs, the possible revision of Article 19 of the IHO General Regulation and IHO Resolution1/1992 (*Monitoring of INT Charts*) will then be considered.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,



Mustafa IPTES
Director

Annex A: Workshop for Regional INT Chart/ENC Coordinators – Response Form

Copy: - Chairs of Regional Hydrographic Commissions
- Regional INT Chart / ENC Coordinators

WORKSHOP FOR REGIONAL INT CHART/ENC COORDINATORS

NCWG-2, 26-28 April 2016, IHB, Monaco
Workshop, 25 April 2016, 14:00 – 17:30 (*to be confirmed*)

Response Form
(*to be returned to the IHB info@iho.int by 31 October 2015*)

Provisional topics

- Identification and review of the IHO documentation (new Edition of S-11 Part A, S-4, ...)
- Identification and review of available tools, catalogues (IHO ENC Catalogue, RENC Coverage and Overlap Checker, Digital Reference Tool for Cartographers)
- Identification and review of S-11 Part B INTOGIS webservices
- Discussion of best practices, and test cases

Note: The boxes will expand as you type your answers

INT Charting Region:

Do you intend to participate in the workshop (followed by the NCWG-2 meeting)?

YES or NO?

Name:

E-mail:

Comments/Proposal for additional topics:

Signature:

Date: