

IHB File No. S3/1000

**CIRCULAR LETTER 8/2001
9 February 2001**

IHO MANUAL ON HYDROGRAPHY

References: a) CL 48/1998
b) CL 5/1999
c) CL 37/2000

Dear Sir,

You will recall that CL 37/2000 sought the Member States' approval to proceed with the project of developing an IHO Manual on Hydrography. At the same time, you were asked whether you intended to nominate a representative for the Working Group, which will be created to develop the Manual, and whether your representative would be available to act as Chairman, instead of Captain GORZIGLIA who was proposed by Chile.

The Bureau is grateful to the 43 Member States who responded. All but one voted in favour. Thus the required simple majority – 33 votes in favour - has been attained (cf. Convention on the IHO, Article VI (5) and (6)).

Specific comments made by some Member States are summarized in Annex A, attached herewith. A list of representatives is given in Annex B.

The Bureau has informed Captain GORZIGLIA that he has been confirmed as Chairman of the Working Group. The first meeting of the WG will be held at the IHB, probably in June 2001.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Summary of Member States' Comments
(Responses to CL 37/2000)

Argentina

The representative nominated may not be able to attend meetings in 2001 due to budget reasons.

Australia

Offers to take a leading role in laser airborne hydrography.

Chile

Confirms that Captain GORZIGLIA is available to serve as Chairman of the WG.

Cyprus

Fully supports the project.

France

Considering the scope of the project, SHOM cannot participate permanently and actively in the deliberations of the WG. Nevertheless SHOM would like to be kept informed of progress made and contribute if necessary. Thus the representative nominated should be considered a “corresponding” member of the WG. SHOM offers to make the drafts of the French Training Manual for Cat. B available; a review of these Manuals has nearly been completed.

Germany

Approval of the project is subject to analysis of and agreement on the requirements of the Manual; existing handbooks should be used to the maximum extent possible. The WG should primarily work by e-mail.

Indonesia

Hopes that the new IHO Manual on Hydrography will provide guidance for carrying out hydrographic surveys using the latest technology and will also cover the conventional methods for developing countries.

Italy

Contributions from academia and industry are very important.

Japan

Nominates a “corresponding” member for the WG as budget does not permit attendance at meetings.

Netherlands

The project is perhaps too ambitious and it will therefore be very difficult to deal with all subjects in-depth and to keep the Manual up-to-date. It might be necessary to deal with some subjects in a more general way and make reference to existing publications which provide a more detailed account. Wish to be kept informed of progress made.

Sweden

Strongly in favour of developing the Manual; important for work of HOs and for training institutions.

Turkey

The Manual will be particularly useful for developing countries.

UK

The project is supported. Comments made previously by the UK are still valid, except those relating to the Admiralty Manual of Hydrographic Surveying, as this work has been suspended.

List of Representatives for Working Group on IHO Manual on Hydrography

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