

IHB File No. S3/1208

**CIRCULAR LETTER 10/2001
15 February 2001**

IHO MULTI-BEAM USER GROUP

Dear Sir,

The Bureau has recently been informally approached by staff members of several Hydrographic Offices of IHO Member States with a proposal to establish an **informal** IHO Multibeam User Group. The main reasons for this proposal are that staff involved in multibeam work are frequently confronted with very specific problems, which require a knowledgeable counterpart for discussions so that solutions may be found in an efficient way and without too much delay; furthermore, newcomers to the multibeam domain should have access to a human knowledge base which is independent of commercial interests.

It should be noted that this User Group will not be considered an Intersessionary Subsidiary Body of the IHO (cf. IHO Resolutions T 1.1), i.e. neither a Committee nor a Working Group, and will therefore not have any official standing. The User Group will work exclusively by e-mail.

A staff member of the Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (BSH - German Hydrographic Service) has volunteered to maintain the membership list of the User Group.

Member States interested in participating in the activities of the User Group are invited to communicate the name and e-mail address of their representative (preferably only one representative per Member State) to:

Mr. Hartmut PIETREK (e-mail: hartmut.pietrek@n1.hamburg.bsh.d400.de)