

18 November 2002

COMPOSITION OF THE JOINT IHO-IOC GUIDING COMMITTEE FOR GEBCO

- Reference: 1) GEBCO Letter 41, dated 27 April 1998
2) IHO-IOC Publication B-7 "GEBCO Guidelines"

Dear Hydrographer,

1. Ingénieur général Patrick SOUQUIÈRE (France) has informed the Bureau that he has retired from the Service hydrographique et océanographique de la Marine française (SHOM) as from 30 June 2002 and, consequently, has ended his 4-year representation of the IHO on the IHO-IOC Guiding Committee for GEBCO (General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans).
2. This Circular Letter is to request that Hydrographic Offices submit nominations to the Bureau for this vacant post. Nominations should include a short Curriculum Vitae of the nominee. Candidates should be confirmed hydrographers with extensive knowledge and experience, enabling them to carry out efficiently their mandate within the Joint IHO/IOC Guiding Committee for GEBCO. The Terms of Reference are attached at **Annex A**.
3. Members of the GEBCO Guiding Committee must have the support necessary to attend all sessions of the Guiding Committee. The Guiding Committee meets every two years. The next Guiding Committee meeting will be held on 16 (p.m.)-17 April 2003 at the IHB, Monaco, immediately following the GEBCO Centenary Conference [14-16 (a.m.) April]. It is requested that any Member State submitting nominations by filling in the nomination form at **Annex B**, take this into consideration before making a nomination. The form should be returned to the IHB **by 15 January 2003**.
4. Guidance about the make-up of the GEBCO Guiding Committee is contained in IHO-IOC Publication B-7 "GEBCO Guidelines", section 1.3. Your attention is drawn in particular to paragraph 1.3.1.2 (3) of the IHO-IOC Form of Understanding, which says "*Members of the Guiding Committee are experts acting in their personal capacity and shall not represent their Government*".
5. A list of the current IHO and IOC members of the Guiding Committee is provided at Annex C.

6. The IHB thanks Ingénieur général SOUQUIÈRE for his valuable contribution to GEBCO and appreciates the generosity of France for having made him available for the Guiding Committee.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA
Director

Encl: Annexes A-D

Copy to: Sir Anthony LAUGHTON, Chairman of GEBCO
Dr Robert WHITMARSH, Permanent Secretary of GEBCO

TERMS OF REFERENCE
for the

JOINT IOC-IHO GUIDING COMMITTEE FOR THE GEBCO

The Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for the General Bathymetric Chart of Oceans (GEBCO) shall :

1. Guide the GEBCO project and make recommendations to the two parent organizations on the policy to be followed for the preparation and dissemination of that world series of contoured charts of the ocean floor and of the “GEBCO Digital Atlas”.
2. Identify the needs of the various users of the bathymetry of the world’s oceans, study the ways and means whereby these needs can be met, and implement actions found feasible which meet these needs.
3. Advise the International Hydrographic Organization (in its capacity as the World Data Centre for Bathymetry) on matters connected with the collection and exchange of bathymetric data, including the development of automatic data assimilation, archival, retrieval and distribution methods, soliciting the advice and assistance of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) and others as necessary.
4. Stimulate the flow of data relevant to GEBCO by actively identifying sources of new data and encouraging release of data to appropriate data banks, with the object of ensuring that maximum available data are provided to the World Data Centre for Bathymetry and its IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry.
5. Supervise the means of maintaining, further developing and routinely updating the “GEBCO Digital Atlas” (GDA) activities :
 - i. Organizing procedures for new compilations of bathymetry;
 - ii. Advising on standards and methodology;
 - iii. Generating and developing a supplementary file containing shiptracks, for the purpose of providing graphic presentation for quality assurance related to interpreted bathymetric information;
 - iv. Integrating in an appropriate way the geographical names of undersea features; and
 - v. Considering the best medium and software for the effective use of the GDA by all users.
6. Explore the potential, for the better interpretation of oceanic bathymetry, of techniques such as acoustic imagery and satellite observations.
7. Taking into account the new technologies and data available, draft specifications and a timetable for the production of a 6th Edition of the traditional printed GEBCO chart series.

8. Investigate and develop new extra-budgetary logistic and financial arrangements necessary for the production of a 6th Edition of GEBCO.
9. Prepare and maintain, in association with national and international bodies, an authoritative Gazetteer on Geographical Names of Undersea Features.
10. Recommend and develop measures for optimum publicity, distribution and sales of copies of the “GEBCO Digital Atlas” and printed charts produced under the aegis of the Guiding Committee.
11. Maintain, as necessary, advisory Sub-Committees on :
 - i. Undersea Feature Names; and
 - ii. Digital Bathymetry.And create others as required from time to time.
12. Advise regional bodies affiliated to IOC and/or IHO of the specifications for, and collaborate in the preparation of, bathymetric charts at scales suitable for regional projects, to help ensure their compatibility with, and later inclusion in, the GDA.
13. Provide advice on ocean mapping, as requested by intergovernmental and non-governmental organization.

References :

- b) Document IOC/XVII/3; Report of the 17th Session of the IOC Assembly, Paris, France, 25 February-11 March.*
- b) IHB Circular Letter No. 42/1993 of 15 September 1993.*

NOMINATIONS
for the

JOINT IHO-IOC GUIDING COMMITTEE FOR GEBCO

NOMINATION FORM
(to be returned to the IHB by 15 January 2003
E-mail: info@ihb.mc - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

Member State:

.1 Taking into consideration the Terms of Reference for the Joint IHO-IOC Guiding Committee for GEBCO, as in Annex A to IHB CL 53/2002, do you wish to propose a member for the Joint IOC-IHO Guiding Committee for GEBCO.

YES NO

.2 If yes, please indicate the name of your representative:

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E-mail:

Comments :

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.....
.....

Name / Signature

Date:

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LIST OF IHO-IOC MEMBERS ON THE GUIDING COMMITTEE**IHO Members**

- M. David MONAHAN (Canada), since 1985. Vice-Chairman from 1 May 1989.
- Mr. Kunio YASHIMA (Japan), since 1991.
- Mr. Alexis HADJANTONIOU (Greece), since 1993.
- Dr. Michael S. LOUGHRIDGE (USA), since 1998.

IOC Members

- Sir Anthony LAUGHTON (UK), since 1974. Chairman from 1 July 1985.
 - Dr. Gleb B. UDINTSEV (Russian Federation), since 1974.
 - Dr. Robin K.H. FALCONER (New Zealand), since 1985.
 - Dr. Ing. Hans-Werner SCHENKE (Germany), since 1991.
 - Lic. José Luis FRIAS SALAZAR (Mexico), since 1994.
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