

IHB Files No. S3/2540

<p><b>CIRCULAR LETTER No. 21/2003</b> <b>3 March 2003</b></p>
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**GEBCO CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS**

*“Charting the secret world of the ocean floor. The GEBCO Project 1903-2003”*

**Monaco, 14-16 April 2003**

Reference: IHB CL 33/2002

Dear Hydrographer,

We would like to remind you that the Centenary commemoration of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), which was initiated by Prince Albert 1st of Monaco, will take place in Monaco on 14-16 April 2003 (IHB CL 33/2002). The whole event will include a Conference, a technical ocean mapping exhibition, social events, as well as the unveiling of a commemorative plaque during the Opening Ceremony. This event is jointly organized by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), with contribution from the Government of Monaco, through a Centenary Organizing Committee chaired by Sir Anthony Laughton, Chairman of GEBCO.

It is planned that the GEBCO Centenary Conference will be opened by HSH Prince Rainier or HSH Prince Albert. More detailed information may be obtained from the GEBCO web site: ([www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/gebco/gebcocentenary.html](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/gebco/gebcocentenary.html)).

To date only 8 Hydrographic Offices have confirmed their participation. We strongly urge the Hydrographers of all IHO Member States to send delegates to this important commemoration of the work of international oceanographers. The Conference Organizing Committee has fixed the attendance fee at US\$ 100 for each delegate. However, the IHB has obtained free admittance for one delegate from each IHO Member State.

We would very much appreciate it if you could inform the IHB, as soon as possible, on whether your country will be represented at this event or not.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

*(original signed)*

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA  
Director