

IHB File No. S3/1401/WG

CIRCULAR LETTER 71/2003  
20 November 2003

**IHO TIDAL COMMITTEE**

Appointment of Chairman, New Members and Adoption of  
Revised Terms of Reference

Reference: CL 51/2003 dated 18 July 2003.

Dear Hydrographer,

The 38 Member States who responded to CL 51/2003 unanimously endorsed the appointment of Cdr. John Page (UK) as Chairman of the IHO Tidal Committee. The IHO is grateful to the UK for its continued support of this important committee.

37 Member States approved the amended Terms of Reference as circulated with CL 51/2003 with China voting against. The IHB therefore deems the TOR to be approved. France approved the TOR whilst proposing 3 minor changes to the wording. The amendments proposed by France and the objection raised by China are detailed at Annex A. The IHB will request the Chairman of the Tidal Committee to raise these matters for discussion at the next meeting of the Tidal Committee.

The following additional members of the Tidal Committee were nominated:

Cuba:	Ingenierio Angel Acanda Reyes
Ecuador:	CPNV-EM Byron San Miguel M
Indonesia:	Fadm T. H. Soesetyo
Portugal:	Leonor Martins
South Africa:	Miss R E Farre
United States of America:	Stephen Gill
Venezuela:	Teniente de Fragata Oscar Mendoza Maldonado

The IHO is grateful for these nominations and the individuals concerned will be included in all future Tidal Committee correspondence. Member States are reminded that they may nominate a representative to the Tidal Committee at any time.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

*(original signed)*

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS  
President

Annex A: Comments by China and France.

REPLIES TO CL51/2003

Comments by France:

Composition : it is inconsistent to consider certain Observers as "ex officio members", but not to give them voting rights. It would be more correctly stated, as follows:

"The Committee may invite observers to participate in its deliberations during and between meetings: these observers are not entitled to vote."

Procedure: the title "Procédures" in the French version should be in the plural.

Procedure, para. 2 : Should be corrected to read (ONLY AFFECTS THE FRENCH VERSION) :

" ... le président doit soumettre un rapport concernant toutes les questions relevant de la commission depuis la conference précédente".

Comment by China:

"The observers should be approved by their National Hydrographic Offices."