

IHB Files No. S3/2620

<p>CIRCULAR LETTER 65/2004 5 October 2004</p>

**UNITED NATIONS - NIPPON FOUNDATION
LAW OF THE SEATRaining PROJECT**

Dear Hydrographer,

The IHB received the enclosed letter from the United Nations requesting our participation, as appropriate, in the UN – Nippon Foundation of Japan project to provide capacity building in expertise relating to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). While your government would have also received the same request, I am forwarding this to you as it may not have been actioned to you within your government and you may have interest in such a project.

While I believe the IHB has, in a very narrow area, the potential to participate in the project as an organization providing training after the initial research fellowship, the IHB is not currently resourced to provide such training. However, the Hydrographic Offices of our Member States may have the requisite expertise and resources to provide a meaningful training environment. Should you believe this to be the case in your instance, you may wish to reply either through your government or the IHB. If you reply through your government, it would be beneficial to the visibility of the IHO that you note your relationship with the IHO and provide a copy of your response to the IHB.

In the interim, the IHB will respond to the UN that this matter has been conveyed to IHO Member States and an affirmative response for participation must await their responses. Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director

Encl: Letter from UN

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE:

6 August 2004

Dear Rear Admiral Barbor,

I am pleased to inform you that on 22 April 2004, the United Nations and The Nippon Foundation of Japan concluded a trust fund project agreement to provide capacity-building and human resource development to developing coastal States Parties and non-Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) through academic and fellowship opportunities. In this connection, I wish to invite your institution to participate in the Project.

Firstly, I should explain that the Project's objective is to provide advanced education and training in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea or related disciplines to Government officials and other mid-level professionals, between ages 25 to 35 and possessing a first university degree, from developing coastal States so that they may obtain the necessary skills to assist their countries to formulate comprehensive ocean policy and to implement the legal regime set out in UNCLOS. The fellows are to focus on acquiring knowledge of UNCLOS and other related international instruments on ocean affairs and the law of the sea adopted at the global or regional level, especially their implementation and enforcement at the national level, as well as the building of national capacities in this regard. It is expected that upon completion of their research/training, fellows will have advanced awareness and understanding of key issues and best international practices in ocean affairs management, including enhanced professional and managerial capacities and competencies. The fellows are expected to return to Government service and use their experience to assist with the effective implementation of UNCLOS.

Secondly, you should know that the Selection Committee established under the Project will review applications and select candidates who will be awarded Project fellowships. Only 10 fellowships will be awarded per annum under the Project for the first two years.

Rear Admiral Kenneth Barbor
Director
International Hydrographic Bureau (IHO)
4 Quai Antoine 1er B. P. 445 –
MC 98011 Monaco Cedex

Thirdly, the research, training and acquisition of specialized experience will be implemented at a university or research institution affiliated with the Project that has in-depth competence and expertise in relevant fields. The fellows will undertake from three to six months, maximum, of research at such universities or institutions. Research topics will be chosen by the fellow, reviewed by the Selection Committee and approved by the supervising professor.

Lastly, after completing the research part of the fellowship, fellows will undertake a three-month training at the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS), Office of Legal Affairs, or at an intergovernmental agency or organization competent in the chosen field.

Accordingly, I am extending an invitation to your institution to be associated with the Project. This would be a unique opportunity to be involved actively in the capacity-building of developing States. The basis for association with the Project is that the institution concerned would accommodate a fellow and provide facilities for advanced study and research at the post-graduate level for a 3-6 month period without the levy of fees or tuition charges and, if possibly, to provide living accommodations free of charge. If such an arrangement is acceptable to you, then the International Hydrographic Bureau will be included in our list of participating institutions commencing with the initial 2004-2005 fellowships we hope to award by early next year.

Thanking you very much for your prompt attention to this matter, I am,

Yours sincerely,



Vladimir Golitsyn
Director
Division for Ocean Affairs
and the Law of the Sea
Office of Legal Affairs