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CIRCULAR LETTER 72/2004
3 November 2004

ABLOS BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2005

Reference: IHB CL 1/2004 dated 7 January 2004

Dear Hydrographer,

ABLOS held its 11th Business Meeting at the offices of Geoscience Australia in Canberra from 18 – 20 October 2004. A full report of this meeting will be posted on the web site in due course.

One of the subjects discussed at the meeting was the 2005 Biennial ABLOS Conference. A review of the feedback from the 2003 conference suggested that the structure of 1 day of tutorials plus 2 days of lectures had been a success and should be repeated for 2005. A mini seminar on Marine Scientific Research held at the end of the meeting in Canberra demonstrated that this would be a good subject for the 2005 conference, there being many unclear issues in UNCLOS.

The 2003 conference was so successful that the facilities at the IHB were filled to capacity. ABLOS believed that it could attract more attendees in 2005 and that it might therefore be necessary to seek an alternative venue. Several venues had been offered but each had its own restrictions. The IHB is investigating the possibility of an alternative venue in Monaco. ABLOS will consider the options and make a decision as to venue and timing in late 2004 / early 2005. For planning purposes it may be assumed that there will be a 3-day ABLOS Conference in late 2005, probably in October. The first day will comprise tutorial sessions probably covering Article 76 issues with the subsequent 2-days focussed on Marine Scientific Research.

A further CL will be issued as soon as plans have been finalised.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President