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CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION OF  
HSH PRINCE ALBERT 1<sup>st</sup> of MONACO

Dear Hydrographer,

In 2006 the Principality of Monaco will be celebrating the centenary of the Arctic Expedition of HSH Prince Albert 1<sup>st</sup>. HSH Prince Albert 2<sup>nd</sup> will make an expedition to the North Pole from 10 to 19 April 2006. A film company will produce a documentary film about the expedition which is intended for international transmission. The expedition will be followed by a seminar and exhibition at the Oceanographic Museum in Monaco on 11 and 12 May 2006, focussed mainly on climate and environmental issues.

The IHB, together with the Oceanographic Museum and the International Atomic Energy Agency's Marine Environment Laboratory, has been invited by the Government of Monaco to organise the seminar and exhibition. Subjects that have been identified for presentation during the seminar include:

- a) Climate and environmental changes over geological time scales (from the birth of life on earth to the present).
- b) Climate and environmental changes over historical time scales (from the Egyptians to the present through the Vikings' odyssey in Greenland).
- c) Global pollution (measured impacts of human activities on a global scale).
- d) Men in the arctic regions.
- e) Marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the arctic regions.
- f) Adaptation of plants and animals to the cold.
- g) Maritime routes in the arctic regions (strategic issues).

The IHB has to provide a suitable speaker for item (g) but suggested names of speakers from academia or other agencies for the other presentations would also be welcome. The exhibition will also present the hydrographic, charting and navigational activities in this area. For this reason the IHB is also seeking the offer of loan of suitable objects: charts, maps, photographs, models, and scientific instruments etc, for display in the exhibition.

The cost of travel and allowances for the speaker and of transportation / insurance for items for the exhibition will where appropriate be covered by the government of Monaco.

Your assistance and positive contribution to these high profile events would be appreciated. Replies are requested by **15 December** and further details will be communicated in early 2006.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS  
President