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CIRCULAR LETTER 37/2005  
5 April 2005

**GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE  
OF INTERNATIONAL CHART SCHEMES**  
*Part A of IHO Publication M-11*

Ref: Circular Letter 75/2004 dated 10 November 2004.

Dear Hydrographer,

The Bureau thanks the following 41 Member States who responded to CL 75/2004, all supporting the proposed new Part A of M-11 - *Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes* : Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia-Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, UK and USA.

Some Member States provided comments which have been summarized in Annex A. Amongst the comments, there were two suggestions for changes to the text of Part A, by Greece and UK, which were forwarded to the Chairman of the IHO Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) for further action. The CSPCWG Chair subsequently reported that these suggestions had been taken into consideration in the final Part A and that Greece and UK had been informed accordingly.

CL 75/2004 also requested MS to update / complete Appendices 1 and 2 of Part A, dealing with "Potential Printer Nations" and "Use of A0 Paper", respectively. The revised appendices have been updated accordingly.

Part A of M-11 is therefore approved and is now available on the IHO website ([www.iho.shom.fr](http://www.iho.shom.fr) > Committees > CSPCWG > Part A of IHO Publication M-11). It will be incorporated in a new edition of M-11 as soon as possible. The CSPCWG will remain responsible for reviewing and updating Part A of M-11, as and when necessary. The IHB will be responsible for maintaining the catalogue of INT charts as Part B.

The IHB thanks the CSPCWG for its valuable work in preparing this document.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR  
Director

Annex A : Summary of MS' comments in response to CL 75/2004

**GUIDANCE FOR THE PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE  
OF INTERNATIONAL CHART SCHEMES**

**Summary of Member States' comments in response to CL 75/2004**

**BRAZIL**

To print INT charts of West African Coast and Antarctic Waters would be in collaboration with other nations, as summarized in 3.11 of M-11 Part A.

**CHILE**

Use of A0 Paper. Defining A0 as the maximum printing format will allow Member States to standardize their international paper chart schemes. We suggest that the A1 and A2 standards be considered as models for the smaller format charts.

**COLOMBIA**

Use of A0 Paper. Concerning the size, the international charts already edited and published by Colombia are within the two mentioned limits and we can print any format. We suggest that the charts at a larger scale be adapted to the national catalogue, following the proposal of each national Hydrographic Office. No third state must cover this scale without the agreement of two nations

**ECUADOR**

Use of A0 Paper. To encourage the use of A0 format for printing, it would be useful if IHO Member States could report on their own experiences with this format via the IHB.

**FRANCE**

From experience, SHOM has been able to observe that the way of drawing up and managing the INT Charts portfolio varies from one regional commission to another. This is quite normal, as the navigational constraints, the capacities of the various bordering countries, the type of maritime traffic, etc. are all parameters which are specific to each navigational basin. The revised version leaves sufficient room for procedures to be adapted.

Potential printer Nations of INT Charts. France is a potential printer worldwide and a potential producer in all areas except the Pacific Ocean (outside French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis & Futuna, and Clipperton) and the Indian Ocean.

**GREECE**

In general Greece is in agreement with the proposed text. Some small changes that, according to our view, could help Member States to cooperate for the production of charts covering more than one nation, concern paragraph 3.11.2, the wording of which we propose to amend as follows:

3.11.2           Where a chart covers the waters of more than one nation, a single Producer Nation should be agreed. Nations may collaborate in the production *of the chart following the steps mentioned below:*

- *Each nation will compile the section including its national waters up to the median line between the nations.*
- *The Producer Nation joining the sections will produce the final draft, which will be forwarded to the other nation for quality control of its section and final approval.*
- *The resulting chart, carrying the seals of both nations, will be printed by the Producer Nation (on behalf of both nations).*

**NEW ZEALAND**

Potential Printer Nations of INT Charts. New Zealand has taken responsibility for the printing of the charts of Tonga.

Use of A0 Paper. This may need to be arranged through Contractors in Australia or SE Asia if A0 printing facilities are not available in New Zealand.

#### **OMAN**

Potential Printer Nations of INT Charts. We operate a plot on demand system; at present we have no spare capacity.

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

Use of A0 Paper. A0 size will be used only in extreme or special cases. The chart sizes used by South Africa is generally B1.

#### **SWEDEN**

Use of A0 Paper. Swedish charts schemes are based upon A0 format.

#### **TURKEY**

The final draft of the scheme should only be formally approved if the neighbouring Hydrographic Offices which are to produce or print in the region have approved it.

#### **UK**

Use of A0 Paper. UK proposes the addition of the following at A-3.7.11 : *Charts with the longer side running east-west are in "landscape" format. They are convenient for use on chart plotting tables and are therefore the preferred format in scheming decisions.*

#### **USA**

Use of A0 Paper. Some NOAA national series charts exceed A0 paper size, but they are not INT series charts.

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