



IHB File No. S1/1900/A

CIRCULAR LETTER 76/2005  
4 August 2005

### WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY (WHD)

Dear Hydrographer,

Decision 10 of the XV<sup>th</sup> International Hydrographic Conference called on the International Hydrographic Bureau to seek recognition for a "World Hydrography Day" (WHD) through the United Nations (UN).

After a lengthy period of investigation, the procedures to seek this recognition have been clarified by the UN and the initiative is moving forward.

In discussing this initiative with the UN Missions of various Member States, we discovered a general reluctance to support such initiatives because they take time away from an already busy General Assembly (GA) agenda and they frequently include new programs that require resources to implement. The path we are taking to gain recognition of WHD should not increase the deliberation of the GA and there are no new programs that have budget implications associated with WHD. The intent is to include WHD recognition in the Oceans and Law of the Sea Resolution to be presented to the 60<sup>th</sup> session of the UNGA in November 2005.

The Monaco Mission to the UN, as the host nation of the IHO, has graciously agreed to coordinate the integration of this recognition into the Oceans and Law of the Sea Resolution. This integration is expected to commence about 6 October 2005.

You are requested to contact the appropriate offices within your government's ministry or department with cognizance over the UN, to inform them of the proposed plan of action to seek WHD recognition, noting that there are no budget implications associated with its enactment, to request your mission to the UN to assist, if desired, in the integration of this recognition in the Oceans and Law of the Sea Resolution and to request active support of the resolution when it is presented before the 60<sup>th</sup> session of the UNGA in November 2005.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Barbor', is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR  
Director