

INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

IHB File N° S3/3070

CIRCULAR LETTER 92/2005
16 September 2005

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO)
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILE SATELLITE ORGANIZATION (IMSO)

Reference: IHO Work Programme 2003-2007

Dear Hydrographer,

As part of the implementation process of the IHO Work Programme 2003-2007 **Element 1.2 - Cooperation with International Organizations**, a Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed with the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO). IMSO is an Intergovernmental Organization that oversees the public interest in the provision of maritime mobile satellite services for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). IMSO participates in the work of the IHO Commission for the Promulgation of Radio Navigational Warnings (CPRNW).

A copy of the Agreement is attached at Annex A. Member States are requested to provide comments, if any, on the MoU by 1 November 2005. If no negative comments are received it is intended that the President of the IHB and the Director of IMSO will sign the MoU either during the IMO Assembly in November 2005 or IMO COMSAR in March 2006.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to be 'A. Maratos', is written over a horizontal line.

Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos
President

Annex A: MoU between IHO and IMSO

**AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE
INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO)
AND THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILE SATELLITE ORGANIZATION (IMSO)**
(date)

This document constitutes a Memorandum of Understanding between the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO).

The IMSO and IHO each recognizes that the other is an international organization with many complementary activities serving the broadest interests of safety of life at sea, safe navigation and the promotion of safe and efficient maritime transport.

IMSO is the intergovernmental organization, established by its Convention, with 89 Member States responsible, *inter alia*, for overseeing the public interests in the provision of maritime mobile satellite services for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS). IMSO therefore has an essential interest in the provision of all satellite-based communication services affecting the safety of life and property at sea.

IHO is an intergovernmental organization of a consultative and technical nature comprising over 75 Member States represented by their respective national hydrographic offices. IHO objectives include the coordination of national hydrographic offices activities, standardization of nautical charts and publications and the adoption of reliable and efficient methods to conduct hydrographic surveys, all aiming to contribute to safety of navigation and the protection of the marine environment.

The International Hydrographic Organization and the International Mobile Satellite Organization,

- A **HAVING REGARD** to Article VIII(h) of the Convention on the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and to Article 8(c) of the Convention on the International Mobile Satellite Organization, as amended;
- B **RECOGNIZING** the purview of both Organizations in the fields of maritime communications, maritime safety and efficiency of navigation;
- C **DESIRING** to facilitate the attainment of their respective objectives in these fields through the maximum possible co-ordination of their efforts

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1. IHO and IMSO agree to establish and maintain cooperation relative to matters of common interest to both Organizations.
2. IHO and IMSO agree to exchange information and documentation and to keep each other fully informed of their activities and programmes of work in the field of maritime communications for maritime safety and efficiency of navigation, subject always to such arrangements as may be necessary for safeguarding or withholding of information of a confidential nature.

3. With a view to facilitating attainment of their respective objectives as set forth in their constituent instruments, IHO and IMSO agree to establish and maintain regular consultation in regard to matters of common interest in the field of maritime communications for maritime safety and efficiency of navigation.

Accordingly, when either Organization proposes to initiate a programme or activity on a subject in which the other Organization has or may have substantial interest, it should consult the latter Organization taking into account the respective objectives of both Organizations.

4. IHO may propose matters for consideration by the organs of IMSO. Such proposals will be submitted by the President of the Directing Committee of IHO to the Director of IMSO for appropriate action. Similarly, IMSO may propose subjects for consideration by the organs of IHO. Such suggestions will be submitted by the Director to the President of the Directing Committee of IHO for appropriate action.
5.
 - (i) IHO may be invited to be represented in meetings of IMSO organs or their subsidiary bodies or conferences convened by IMSO. Such participation shall be in accordance with the applicable Rules of Procedure.
 - (ii) IMSO may be invited to be represented in meetings of IHO organs or their subsidiary bodies or conferences convened by IHO. Such participation shall be in accordance with the applicable Rules of Procedure.
6. It is understood that neither organisation can commit the other to any expenditure, save that from administering this MoU, without the specific written consent of both organisations.
7. This Agreement may be revised by agreement between IHO and IMSO.
8. IHO and IMSO may at any time denounce this Agreement by giving six months' prior written notice to the other Party.
9. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature on behalf of IHO and IMSO.

DONE at [London] this ____ day of _____2005.

Signature

Signature

President of the Directing Committee
For International Hydrographic
Organization
(IHO)

Director
For International Mobile Satellite
Organization (IMSO)