



IHB File No. S1/0900

CIRCULAR LETTER 68/2006  
19 October 2006

### DISTRIBUTION OF IHO PUBLICATIONS

Ref: IHB CL 56/2006 dated 28 July 2006.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHB is pleased to inform you that 41 Member States responded to the above-referenced CL and all are in favour of amending the Resolution 4.1.2 concerning the distribution of IHO Publications in digital format. Certain Member States made some comments which are reproduced in Annex A for your information.

2. France, as well as Denmark, suggested slightly improved wording for the Resolution 4.1.2 in order to make it quite clear that, although the systematic annual distribution of publications on CD-ROM will discontinue, the IHB will, of course, provide IHO publications on CD-ROM upon request from a Member State. The IHB agrees with the proposed wording and the final text reads as follows:

#### 4.1.2. PUBLICATIONS IN DIGITAL FORMAT

1. *Access to publications on the IHO INTERNET Web site is free for Hydrographic Offices of the IHO Member States. Publications are available on CD-ROM, exclusively upon request.*

3. The IHO publication – **M-3: Resolutions of the International Hydrographic Organization** - will be amended to include this new text.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA  
Director

Annex A – Member States' Comments.

**MEMBER STATES' COMMENTS  
IN RESPONSE TO CL 56/2006**

---

**CUBA**

The IHO Web site development has enormously facilitated and accelerated access to IHO publications in digital format but, nevertheless, we consider that the distribution of this information on CD-ROM is necessary as an alternative, as it guarantees 100% availability of the publications in electronic format to hydrographic offices.

In addition, Cuba supports the option proposed by the IHB whereby publications will be provided on CD-ROM to Member States exclusively on request.

**DENMARK**

In order to make it clear to Member States that CD-ROMs will only be distributed "on request", Denmark proposes to amend the text as follows:

*«Distribution of publications on CD-ROM – exclusively on request from a Member State – and subscription to the IHO INTERNET Web site will be free for Hydrographic Offices of the IHO Member States.»*

**FRANCE**

SHOM agrees with the idea of amending IHO Resolution R 4.1.2 and suggests slightly different wording: it is proposed to use the present tense and to specify as indicated in CL 56/2006 that CD-ROMs can always be supplied upon request. Therefore the following wording is proposed:

*«Access to publications on the IHO Internet Web site is free for Hydrographic Offices of the IHO Member States. Publications are available on CD-ROM, exclusively upon request.»*

**GERMANY**

The IHB should inform the Hydrographic Offices of Member States by email when new or updated publications have been posted on the IHO web site.

**JAPAN**

All publications should be made available for Hydrographic Offices of the IHO Member States on the IHO web site as soon as possible.

New editions of IHO publications should be announced to Member States on the IHO web site or by email.

**KOREA, Republic of**

NORI fully agrees with the amendment to IHO Resolution R 4.1.2. NORI also thinks that it is unnecessary for all IHO Members to receive publications by post, as it is possible to download the publications whenever they want.

**MOROCCO**

Agrees, but in view of the very frequent disruptions and blocking of the Internet network, the usual distribution of the CD-ROM would be highly desirable.

---

**IHB Note:** we agree with Denmark and France and have modified the final wording accordingly. We understand that Morocco would accept «upon request».