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**IHO TECHNICAL RESOLUTION A6.2 - ADVANCE SUPPLY OF TIDAL  
PREDICTIONS**

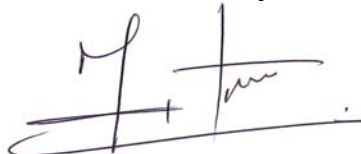
Reference: IHB CL 51/2006 dated 13 July 2006

Dear Hydrographer,

The IHB would like to thank the following 44 Member States who replied to the Reference: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, IR of Iran, Italy, Japan, Korea Rep of, Latvia, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tunisia, United Kingdom and the USA. 40 Member States voted in favour of the amended resolution and 4 voted against (Malaysia, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia). 8 Member States made comments and these are included at Annex A.

The amended resolution A6.2, as shown in Annex B, has therefore been adopted and will be included in the next revision of IHO Publication M-3.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,



Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS  
President

Comments by Member States

**France:** France has proposed a minor editorial change to the French text of A6.2 which will be incorporated into the French version.

**Korea Rep of:** As you mentioned in the CL51, NORI also thinks that the tidal constituents should be supplied to the producer nation upon request together with the national tidal prediction. In conclusion, we have any objection on revision of TR A6.2

**Malaysia:** The tidal constituents are the exclusive right of the producing nation. To have a compelling 'upon demand' clause is binding to any State to submit its constituents with no reservations. This office objects to surrendering of all constituents with the exception of the four main constituents of  $M_2$ ,  $S_2$ ,  $K_1$  and  $O_1$ .

**Mexico:** We believe that the amendment will enable MS sharing information on tidal prediction, to ensure the user the consistency of data and a better reliability of calculations.

**Netherlands:** Data delivery may be subject to data owner's conditions of the owner and will be decided on a case by case basis. NLHO will intermediate with data owner when request are received.

**Portugal:** The Harmonic Constants are the property of the institutions who originated them, usually the Hydrographic Offices of the different countries. Although some of them have recently published a limited number of their harmonic constants (which is the case of our Hydrographic Office Who publishes the four main constituents of the main tide stations), the harmonic constants have a great commercial value and the institutions who own them usually decide not to publish the whole set of the harmonic constituents.

In fact, the Harmonic Constants are a potential economical resource for the creation of new products, so its supply to other similar institutions does not seem a good option. It could originate situations of potential dominance, abuse that could violate the rules of free market.

On the other hand, for practical purposes, it is the tidal predictions that really matter, and not the harmonic constants, so, the public service, in particular navigation safety, is completely safeguarded.

**Spain:** In accordance with our policy of data protection, tidal data can only be released as predicted high and low tides, but not as harmonic constants.

**Tunisia:** The Tunisian Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service believes that providing annual tidal predictions would be more than sufficient for any Member State to explore and use its own tide tables. Thus, providing tidal constituents or values of harmonic constants in addition to the predictions would be superfluous.

## A6.2 ADVANCE SUPPLY OF TIDAL PREDICTIONS

- 1.- It is resolved that advance copies of tidal predictions shall be supplied on request to those Member States who require them for inclusion in their own published tables.
2. - It is strongly recommended that these advance copies be supplied in sufficient time to be in the hands of the publishing authority not later than twelve months before 1 January of the year of predictions.
- 3.- It is recommended that when tidal constituents or values of harmonic constants are changed from those used for tidal predictions for the previous year, the tidal constituents should also be supplied to the producer nation upon request together with the national tidal predictions.
- 4.- It is recommended that tidal predictions supplied to other countries be in the form of the times and heights of high and low waters, unless these values are not normally predicted or are requested in another form.