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CIRCULAR LETTER 88/2006
22 December 2006

SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE (SDI) EVENTS

- **GEOMATICA 2007 “Geomatics for the development”, Havana, Cuba, 12-17 February 2007**
- **IHO Marine SDI Workshop, Havana, Cuba, 12 February 2007**
- **Workshop on Land and Marine information Integration, Dublin, Ireland, 21-23 March 2007**

Reference: a) IHO Circular Letter 44/2006, dated 24 May 2006.
b) IHO Circular Letter 119/2005, dated 30 November 2005

Dear Hydrographer,

As announced in the Circular Letter in reference a), the 5th International Congress **GEOMATICA 2007** (www.informaticahabana.com) will take place from 12 to 17 February 2007 in La Habana, Cuba, under the general theme “*Geomatics for the development*”, with the IHO as co-sponsoring international organization. Of particular note, the IHB will present a nautical charting related paper on 13 February.

In the frame of GEOMATICA 2007, the IHB is also organizing an **IHO Workshop on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI)** on 12 February 2007, jointly with the Cuban HO (National Office of Hydrography and Geodesy), as a follow up of the IHO Seminar on “The Role of Hydrographic Services with Regard to Geospatial Data and Planning Infrastructure” which was held in Rostock, Germany, on 8-9 November 2005 (reference b). It is intended to address all marine-related aspects of Spatial Data Infrastructures, with focus on America’s concerns. The IHO Workshop will be chaired by Mr. Horst Hecht, BSH, Germany. In addition, a 60 minutes round-table on Marine SDI will take place on 13 February, as part of GEOMATICA 2007, where the outcome and recommendations from the IHO Workshop will be drawn up.

As stated in the Circular Letter in reference a), both the Congress and Workshop will benefit from English and Spanish interpretation, and it is hoped that as many representatives as possible from Member States will be able to attend these events, in particular from those Hydrographic Offices in the region.

The IHB is grateful to the Cuban Hydrographic Office and Geocuba for their support in preparing the IHO Workshop, as well as to all those who have accepted to contribute as speakers to the Workshop. Additional speakers are welcome and Member States are invited to consider providing experts on the matter to give presentations.

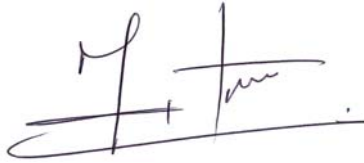
A Workshop on “Land and Marine information Integration” is also being organized in Malahide, near Dublin, Ireland, on 21-23 March 2007, by EuroSDR (European Spatial Data Research)

(www.oepe.org/2002/index.htm). The INSPIRE (INfrastructure for SPatial InfoRmation in Europe - www.ec-gis.org/inspire) Directive has now been adopted and will become EU Law mid 2007 with Hydrography and Topography being the first data themes to comply with the Directive in terms of interoperability. This workshop is therefore considered important to explore how land/ sea data can support NSDI's and INSPIRE. As a result, the IHB has accepted to co-sponsor this event. Member States are invited to send representatives to this workshop, in particular those Member States of the European Union.

The Preliminary Programmes and documents of these 3 events have been posted on the IHO web site under Committees>CHRIS>Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Member States and CHRIS will be informed on the outcome of these events.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

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

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President

Annex: Preliminary Programme

GEOMATICA 2007

**Workshop on
MARINE / HYDROGRAPHIC SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURES
La Havana, Cuba, 12 February 2007**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM (Draft 20 Dec. 06)

Chair: Mr. Horst Hecht, Germany

0900 **OPENING (VAdm Alexandros Maratos, IHO President)**

0910 **PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP, AIM AND EXPECTATIONS (Chair)**

0930 **SDI IN MARINE CONTEXT WORLDWIDE: BEST PRACTICES**

- **Dr. Abbas Rajabifard, University of Melbourne, Australia**
 Marine SDI to facilitate Spatially Enabled Government and Society
- **Mr. John Pepper, UKHO, and Mr. Mike Osborne, SeaZone**
 SDI: Policy, Process and Presentation
- **VAdm Alexandros Maratos, IHB, Monaco**
 The IHO responding to MSDI requirements

1030 **Coffee Break**

- 1100
- **Mr. Barrie Greenslade, UKHO, United Kingdom**
 S-100 : The IHO Geospatial Standard for Hydrographic Data
 - **Dr. Tatiana Delgado, Geocuba, Cuba**
 Title to be determined
 - **Speaker to be identified**

1200 ▪ open discussion / conclusion / recommendations

1230 **Lunch**

1345 **SDI AT REGIONAL (AMERICAS) / INTERNATIONAL LEVEL: EXPERIENCES
AND READINESS**

- **Dr. Tatiana Delgado, Geocuba, Cuba**
 SDI in Latin America and the Caribbean
- **Dr. Jarmo Ratia, Finland, President of GSDI**
 *From SDI to GSDI with special focus on Regional SDI in Europe
(INSPIRE)*
- **Representative from Canadian Hydrographic Service (to be confirmed)**
 Title to be determined
- **Speaker to be identified**

1505 ▪ open discussion / conclusion / recommendations

1540 **CLOSING REMARKS (Chair)**