



IHB File No. S3/3055

**CIRCULAR LETTER 47/2007
23 May 2007**

Reference: a) IHB CL4/2007 dated 11 January
b) IMO CL No. 2773 dated 25 January

**IHO ONLINE CHART CATALOGUE -
COASTAL STATES' RECOMMENDED PAPER CHARTS**

Dear Hydrographer,

1 As set out in Reference a, the IHB requested Member States, in conjunction with their maritime authorities, to forward to the IHB the following information regarding their recommendations on paper chart carriage:

- a. Member State Name;
- b. Names of States (if any) that produce "derived" charts;
- c. For each clearly defined section of coastline the following information regarding the recommended charts: National Chart No.; INT Chart No if appropriate; Scale; Whether the geodetic reference of the chart is WGS84 (Yes or No); and Chart Title for:
 - i. ECDIS when used in RCDS mode (APC); and
 - ii. As back-up for a single ECDIS using ENC's
- d. Similar information for other States / dependent territories for which there is a charting responsibility.

At Reference b a similar request was sent to all IMO Member States, requesting maritime safety agencies to forward the same information in liaison with their respective hydrographic services.

2 The information was requested by 16 April in order to assist in the work of preparing the "Comprehensive online catalogue of available official charts" and the report on the progress with this catalogue to the 53rd session of the IMO Sub-Committee on safety of Navigation (NAV53). The IHB has received replies from the following 25 IHO Member States and 1 IMO/non IHO Member State: Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Colombia; Cyprus; Denmark; Ecuador; Finland; France; Greece; India; Japan; Korea Rep of; Lithuania; Netherlands; Norway; Peru; Poland; Portugal; Russian Federation; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; Ukraine; United Kingdom and the USA .

3 The IHB notes that the 26 replies received so far show a wide range of interpretations of the requirements of SOLAS V/2/1/4 footnote, as adopted by MSC 81:

"Paper nautical charts sufficient to meet the requirements of sub paragraph 4 and regulation 27 may be used as a backup for ECDIS".

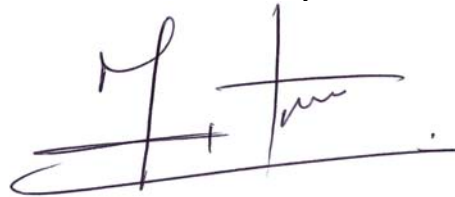
and the ECDIS Performance Standards (Resolution MSC.232(82)) Appendix 7 (RCDS mode of operation) paragraph 3.7:

"Appropriate Portfolio of up-to-date paper charts (APC) means a suite of paper charts of a scale to show sufficient detail of topography, depths, navigational hazards, aids to navigation, charted routes, and routing measures to provide the mariner with information on the overall navigational environment. The APC should provide adequate look-ahead capability."

Recommendations received so far range from a full outfit of the coastal State's paper charts to a selection of charts and finally to a reference to the usage bands required (overview, general, coastal, approach, harbour and berthing) for selected navigational requirements, without listing individual chart numbers.

4 **Those Member States who have not yet responded to CL 04/2007 are requested to do so as soon as possible.** The IHO will present its paper to NAV53 in the week commencing 23 July 2007 and will be able to provide a verbal update on the number of replies received. It is planned to have the online catalogue operational by early 2008. Those coastal States who have not provided recommendations for the APC and paper charts required as backup for a single ECDIS when the catalogue goes online will be shown as "No information available".

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical line, with a flourish underneath.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President