



IHB File N° S1/1900/A

**CIRCULAR LETTER 95/2007
29 October 2007**

WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The Directing Committee has been coordinating the future themes to be considered in the celebrations for the World Hydrography Day (WHD) in 2008 and 2009, respectively.

2 The Directing Committee received a proposal from the Capacity Building Committee (CBC) suggesting that capacity building could be an appropriate subject for 2008, due to its strategic nature. The CBC identified the following theme "CAPACITY BUILDING, A VITAL TOOL TO ASSIST THE IHO IN ACHIEVING ITS MISSION AND OBJECTIVES". The Directing Committee supports this proposal. The Directing Committee is discussing with the International Maritime Organization, the possibility of a common theme for both organizations in 2009, the outcome of this will be reported at a later date.

3 The CBC has offered to prepare a Media Release on the proposed theme for 2008 and submit it to the IHB by February 2008. The CBC will also prepare eight illustrations that would represent the IHO CB efforts. The IHB can then prepare these as posters for use during the 2008 WHD.

4 As over the past years the Bureau will organize the following events to celebrate WHD:

.1 A special page on the IHO web where papers and other material appropriate for the celebration will be posted for the use and reference of Member States;

.2 A Media Release for use in Monaco, which Member States may also use in support of their own celebrations;

.3 A Media Conference and interviews with local television on the importance of the celebrations highlighting how the theme supports safety at sea and the protection of the marine environment;

.4 A reception to which His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco, Members of the Government and other officials and representatives from diplomatic missions, other organizations, the local maritime industry will be invited

5 Member States are requested to take this opportunity, taking into account the theme of 2008 WHD, to bring to the attention of their national governmental and non governmental structures the significance of the IHO and its Member States' Hydrographic Offices for the safety of navigation, protection of the marine environment, sustainable development and security. The Bureau will endeavour, as resources permit, to support Member States as they develop their plans to commemorate WHD.

6 Member States are requested to provide any comments/observations that may have on this matter.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexandros Maratos", is written over a horizontal line.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President