



IHB File No.S3/2620

CIRCULAR LETTER 59/2008
09 July 2008

**GEBCO GUIDING COMMITTEE AND ITS SUB COMMITTEES
FINAL APPROVAL OF NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Reference: CL 24/2008 dated 05 March

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The IHB would like to inform you that the XLIst Executive Council (EC) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) that met in Paris, France from 24 June to 01 July 2008, considered the new Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures for the GEBCO Guiding Committee and its two Sub-Committees.

2 The Chairman of the GEBCO GC, Mr. David Monahan, introduced this item and the IHO representative (Captain Gorziglia, IHB Director) explained the procedure followed to obtain the final texts and informed the IOC EC that the IHO Member States approved these texts in March 2008. Captain Gorziglia stressed that, despite these modern and updated texts, the effectiveness and efficiency of GEBCO would continue to depend on the support provided by the two co-sponsoring organizations - IOC and IHO.

3 Several IOC Member States highlighted the importance of the joint IHO/IOC GEBCO Project and made positive comments on the new Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure and the Executive Council decided to approve the revised texts for the GEBCO Guiding Committee and its two Sub-Committees. The IHB is coordinating with the Chairmen of the Committee and Sub-Committees in order to implement the new structure.

4 As indicated in the reference, the approved texts will be included in Section K of the IHO Repertory of Technical and Administrative Resolutions (M-3) in the next update; in the mean time they are already available on the IHO website www.iho.int under Committees>>GEBCO.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Hugo Gorziglia", is written over a light blue circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA
Director