



IHB File N° S3/3084

**CIRCULAR LETTER 81/2008
8 October 2008**

**10th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON PROMULGATION
OF RADIO NAVIGATIONAL WARNINGS (CPRNW)**

Reference: IHB CL 39/08 dated 25 April 2008

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 10th meeting of CPRNW was held at the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation, Niteroi, Brazil, from 25 – 29 August 2008. The meeting was attended by 30 representatives from the following 15 Member States: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Greece, India, Norway, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States of America. These included 13 NAVAREA Co-ordinators and 1 Sub-area Co-ordinator. Observers from WMO and Inmarsat and a representative from the IHB also attended.

2 The full report of the meeting and all meeting documents are available from the IHO web site www.iho.int >Committees>CPRNW. The following is a brief summary of the major issues discussed at the meeting.

WWNWS Documentation

3 Following the approval by COMSAR 12 of the amendments to resolutions A.705(17) as amended and A.706(17) as amended, CPRNW considered in detail the draft revisions to the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information and IHO Publications S-53 and S-53 Appendix 1 prepared by the WWNWS Document Review WG. The work on these publications was finalised and the draft texts have subsequently been sent out to IHO Member States (CL 70/08 dated 12 September) and to WMO for approval prior to submission to COMSAR 13. CPRNW10 also gave some preliminary consideration to the work undertaken on revising the International SafetyNET Manual. This task will be considered further by the WWNWS documentation WG during the week following COMSAR 13. It is then intended that the revision will be finalised at CPRNW11 prior to submission to IHO Member States for approval and subsequent submission to COMSAR 14 in 2010.

Expansion of the WWNWS to cover Arctic Waters

4 CPRNW considered the decisions taken by COMSAR 12, as reported at the reference, on the extension of the WWNWS into Arctic waters and the revised ToR given to the joint IMO/IHO/WMO CG on Arctic MSI Services. Consideration was given to the specification of overlap areas to go into the Inmarsat System Definition Manual, in order to ensure that ships receive messages in advance of their entering a particular NAVAREA. The proposals have subsequently been forwarded to the Arctic NAVAREA Co-ordinators for agreement prior to inclusion in the CG report to COMSAR 13.

5 Following reports from the new Arctic NAVAREA Co-ordinators, CPRNW was of the view that test transmissions could commence in 2009 / 2010 with all NAVAREAs being declared “operational” on a common date probably in 2011. CPRNW was also of the view that this declaration

of operational status for the Arctic, being a milestone in the delivery of MSI, merited a major celebration by the IMO, IHO and WMO. The chairman will investigate this matter further.

GMDSS / MSI Briefing

6 The Commission received MSI self assessments from nineteen of the twenty one NAVAREAs; only NAVAREAs XIV (New Zealand) and XVI (Peru) did not submit Self Assessments. Reports were also received from the Chairman of the IMO NAVTEX Panel, the IMO SafetyNET Panel and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) all of whom attended the meeting.

Establishment of Sub-areas for the Black and Caspian Seas within NAVAREA III

7 The Commission briefly discussed the possibility of establishing sub-areas for the dissemination of MSI to cover the Black and Caspian Seas; however this matter remains for discussion within NAVAREA III. Information received from the IMO indicated that whilst the SOLAS Convention probably did not apply to the Caspian Sea at present, a co-ordinated service might be established if all coastal States agreed.

MSI Capacity Building Training Course

8 The Chairman reported on the successful completion of the third MSI training course which representatives from Spain, UK and USA had delivered to the Mediterranean and Black Seas Regional Hydrographic Commission. Further courses are planned for the Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commission, the North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission and the ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission in 2009.

Reorganisation of the IHO Committee Structure

9 The meeting considered and approved draft ToR and RoP required in order to take into account the revised IHO Committee Structure which will come into force on 1 January 2009. The Commission endorsed the decision it took at CPRNW9 that it would recommend that its name should become the World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS). The Chairman will present the draft ToR and RoP to the meeting of the Inter-Regional Co-ordination Committee (IRCC) which will hold its first meeting in June 2009. CPRNW decided to postpone the election of a Vice-chair, as will be required under the new RoP, until its 2009 meeting

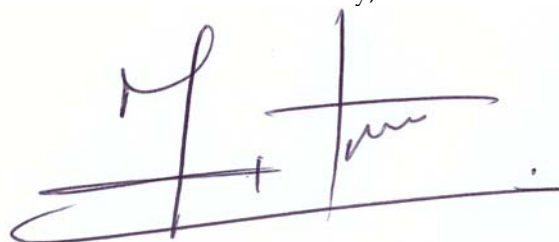
Submission to IMO COMSAR 12

10 It is intended that the IHB and CPRNW Chairman prepare a brief report on the outcome of CPRNW10, based on this CL, for submission to COMSAR 13.

Next Meeting

11 CPRNW11 (WWNWS1) will take place at the IHB in Monaco from 24 - 28 August 2009. Meeting information will be made available from the IHO web site in due course.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

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

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President