



IHB File No. TA-6

**CIRCULAR LETTER 88/2008
10 November 2008**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF IMSSEA
the
“International Maritime Safety, Security and Environment Academy”
in Genoa, Italy.**

Reference: IHB CL 40/2007

Dear Hydrographer,

1 In the Circular Letter referenced above, the IHB informed Member States that the former International Maritime Academy (IMA), Trieste, Italy, was closed down and that a new legal entity, which had received the formal approval of the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs was under consideration. In the referred Circular Letter the IHB indicated that it would remain in contact with the authorities responsible for the future structure in order to contribute to its prompt establishment.

2 On the 12th September 2008, the Chairman of the “Accademia Italiana della Marina Mercantile” (Italian Shipping Academy), informed the IHB about the formation of the “International Maritime Safety, Security and Environment Academy” (IMSSEA) affiliated to the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

3 The IHB reacted immediately by expressing its appreciation of such good news and its confidence that with the partnership of the Italian Navy Hydrographic Institute (IIM), the reactivation of international hydrographic and cartographic programs could be achieved in the short to medium term. In order to progress with the required coordination, the IHB invited the IIM to a meeting at the IHB premises to discuss the details for cooperation under this new scenario. The meeting took place on the 28th October 2008.

4 After having had a very fruitful discussion, the following actions were agreed:

.1 The Academy will study a Draft Cooperation Arrangement proposed by the IHB to formalize the relationship between IMSSEA, IMO and IHO. As soon as the text is finalized the IHB shall provide it to IMO for consideration.

.2 The IHB to explore the convenience and viability of delivering a short course at IMSSEA in 2009 that could be used to verify the procedures the Academy is developing with regard to announcement, application and selection of participants.

.3 The Academy to develop the procedures required to prepare, evaluate and confirm an annual program containing the course to be delivered, and the procedures for announcement, application and selection of participants.

.4 The IHB to identify in conjunction with the Academy, the courses that could be suggested to IMO to be included in the Technical Cooperation Committee Work Program for the period 2010/2011.

.5 The IHB to provide support to the IIM, as and if required, for the preparation of the submission to the IAB of hydrographic surveying and nautical cartographic programmes.

5 Finally the IHB would like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of Italy and particularly the Italian Hydrographic Institute and the Italian Shipping Academy for having established IMSSEA. The IHB will continue to work with the IMSSEA and the IIM in order to contribute to this new training facility offering hydro-cartographic training programmes as soon as possible. IHO Member States will be kept informed on the development of this relationship.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. Gorziglia', written in a cursive style.

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA
Director