

**INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION**



**ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONALE**

IHB File No. S1/1001-FO/595/08

**CIRCULAR LETTER 52/2009
30 July 2009**

**P-7: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IHO FOR 2008
PART 1 - GENERAL & PART 2 - FINANCES
IHO WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2009 (updated)**

Reference: CL 28/2009 dated 24 April 2009.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHB would like to thank the following Member States : Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Latvia, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Turkey, UK, Uruguay and Venezuela, for having responded to the above-referenced CL, and particularly those who provided comments: Chile, Denmark, France, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea and Portugal.
2. Since 53 replies have been received all approving the 2008 Finance Report, with no objections having been raised, the Directing Committee considers that the 2008 Finance Report has been approved.
3. The Directing Committee will bear in mind the comments received, which are reproduced in Annex A, together with IHB comments.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Hugo GorziGLIA', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA
Director

Annex A: Member States' and IHB comments.

MEMBER STATES' AND IHB COMMENTS

CHILE

SHOA has no major observations. Nevertheless has suggested to review the "International Presentation" of the Finance Report as there is some mismatch on the addition of some figures and on page 10 a couple of values need to be added to the column Totals.

IHB Comment: The mismatch of the additions of the gross figures is just a result of the approximation procedure, but does not have any effect on the full quantities. Page 10 has been completed with the two missing numbers.

DENMARK

In view of the substantial surplus, it could be considered to review the Member States' contribution to the IHO.

IHB Comment: This will be considered when preparing the IHO Budget for 2011 and later the 2012 Budget. Both these years, based on the 5-year budget approved by the Conference in 2007, forecast an increase in the value of the share. If the conditions so recommend, the DC might suggest a reduced increase in the share value or no increase at all for 2011 and later for 2012, if appropriate.

FRANCE

Congratulates the Directing Committee for its rigorous management of the Organization's finances. However, France notes that the Capacity Building Funds have been under exploited with only a third of the forecasted budget used, even though this appears to be an essential priority for the IHO. France notes that the paragraph pertaining to the Conference budget proposal implies that the new Assembly / Council structure will not be in force before 2017 at the earliest. France suggests modifying this paragraph as follow: " 100,000 Euros to the Conference Fund, to meet the future sessions of the International Hydrographic Conference (IHC or EIHC every 2 or 3 years) or for the future Assembly (every 3 years)".

IHB Comment: The IHB thanks France for their comments and for their suggestions to improve the French version of the Annual Report. The rewording proposed is correct but as it was felt to have the same meaning as the original text, it was decided not to make any change, but to consider it for the future.

IRAN (Islamic Rep. of)

Request that the Statement of Contributions in the Finance Report be updated as contributions for the years 2007 and 2008 have already been paid.

IHB Comment: The Finance Report for 2008 represents the situation as of 31 December 2008 and contributions paid after that date will be reflected in the 2009 Finance Report.

JAMAICA

The National Hydrographic Committee (NHC) of Jamaica would like to congratulate the IHB for producing an excellent set of accounts and commend the IHB for the diligence with which they have maintained the finance affairs of the Organization. We approve the 2008 Finance Report.

IHB Comment: Thanks Jamaica for their encouraging words.

NIGERIA

The Financial Report is impressive and reflects efficiency in the administration of funds, with general increment in revenue generated compared with previous years. The effort of the Finance Committee is also highly commendable and has shown exemplary accountability.

IHB Comment: Thanks Nigeria for their encouraging words.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Please send the quarterly reminder for us to pass it to the Accounts for processing. Sometimes it takes too long to get through the system.

IHB Comment: We will consider this request.

PORTUGAL

Our opinion is positive to approve the Annual Report of the IHO 2008 Finances. The accounts and the surplus show a stable financial situation to support the activities. This good situation will probably create conditions for keeping the amount of the contributions from Member States.

IHB Comment: Agree. When preparing the IHO Budget for 2011 and later the 2012 Budget, the situation will be considered.

=====