



IHB File No. S1/0015

**CIRCULAR LETTER 69/2009
19 October 2009**

PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE IHO CONVENTION

Reference: a) CL 02/2009 dated 12 January
b) CL 18/2009 dated 12 March
c) Decision 16 of the 4th EIHC (pages 84 and 113 of the Conference Report)

Dear Hydrographer,

1 Considering the above references that refer to the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO, and after communicating with the Chair of the Legal Advisory Committee (LAC), the Directing Committee would like to bring to your attention the following clarification on certain issues:

- Member States eligible to vote on the Protocol of Amendments in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article XXI of the Convention, as recommended by LAC, approved by Member States and inserted in the Repertory of the IHO Resolutions (M-3) as Administration Resolution T.6.1, are those "entitled to vote at the time of the approval by the Conference". Consequently the effective date is 14th April 2005, being the date when the 3rd Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC) approved the final text of the Protocol of Amendments;
- Member States joining the Organization after 14th April 2005 are not eligible to vote on the matter;
- The IHB, in accordance with reference c), will inform all States seeking membership of the IHO after 14th April 2005 of the existence of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention of the IHO, the status of its approval and the mechanism by which the Protocol comes into effect pursuant to Administrative Resolution T.6.1.

2 The Directing Committee will inform the Department of External Relations of the Government of Monaco of this clarification in order that the table indicating the status of approval of Member States published in the IHO web site is correct.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President