



THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE

IHB File S3/8151/HSSC

CIRCULAR LETTER 70/2009
26 October 2009

RECOMMENDATION BY HSSC FOR IHO TO ADOPT S-100 AS AN ACTIVE STANDARD

- References:
- a) CL69/2006 dated 10 October – *Progress report on the development of S-100 and S-101.*
 - b) CONF.EX4/INFODOC.1 – *Status report on S-100 – IHO Geospatial Standard for Marine Data and Information*
 - c) ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/TSMAD/TSMAD_Misc/S-100_InfoPaper_Mar09.pdf
– *S-100 Information Paper (March 2009)*

Dear Hydrographer,

1 S-100 describes a contemporary geospatial data model for hydrographic and related information. S-100 will enable the future development of advanced navigation products and services, and will be an important underpinning component of the e-Navigation Concept envisaged and now under consideration by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Most importantly, S-100 provides the platform that will enable and encourage the widest possible use and integration of hydrographic data with other geospatial data – a key objective of the IHO.

2 The development of S-100 was introduced into the IHO Work Programme in 2001 as an action for the Transfer Standards Maintenance and Applications Development (TSMAD) Working Group. Member States have been informed of the progress of S-100 and its potential impact through a number of Circular Letters (see Reference A) and most recently through a briefing at the 4th Extraordinary Hydrographic Conference in June 2009 (see Reference B). An extensive overview paper has been posted on the IHO website (see Reference C).

3 The first edition of S-100 has now been completed and was circulated for formal stakeholder feedback in May 2009, in accordance with the process described in Resolution A1.21 – *Principles and Procedures for Making Changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications*. No adverse feedback was received from stakeholders. As a result, the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee considered the formal introduction of S-100 as an IHO standard at its meeting in October 2009.

4 The HSSC took into account the fact that stakeholders have been widely consulted and that an agreed management and governance framework for the maintenance and further development of S-100 has been identified and can be put in place. Furthermore, the introduction of S-100 will not have any adverse impact on the production of ENCs and ECDIS that rely on the S-57 standard. As a result, the HSSC agreed to recommend to Member States that S-100 becomes an effective IHO standard with effect from 1 January 2010. A pre-release copy of S-100 is available on the IHO website.

5 Member States are therefore requested to consider the recommendation of the HSSC to adopt S-100 as an IHO standard to enter force on 1 January 2010 and to indicate their support using the Voting Paper, provided in Annex A, **by 30 November 2009**. A simple majority of all Member States is required to agree to the adoption of S-100 as an IHO standard. This majority is currently 40 Member States.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', with a period at the end.

Robert WARD
Director, IHB

Annex A: Voting Form

VOTING FORM
(to be returned to the IHB by 30 November 2009
E-mail: info@ihb.mc - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

Member State:

Contact:.....

E-mail:.....

ADOPTION OF S-100 AS AN IHO STANDARD

1. Do you agree that S-100 should enter into force as an IHO Standard from 1 January 2010

YES

NO

Comments (if required)

Name/Signature:Date: