



THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE

IHB File No. S3/8151/DIPWG

CIRCULAR LETTER 87/2009
15 December 2009

**S-52 - SPECIFICATIONS FOR CHART CONTENT AND DISPLAY ASPECTS OF ECDIS
Draft Edition 6.0, January 2010**

Reference: Circular Letter 34/2009 dated 19 May - S-52 - *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS - Draft 6th Edition - Request for Stakeholder Feedback*

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The reference requested stakeholder feedback on a draft 6th edition of IHO publication S-52 *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS*. Responses were received from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Italy, Norway and IEC/TC80. All Member States' responses were supportive of the new edition. Additionally, suggestions for change were expressed by Australia, Chile, France and Italy. They have been taken into account in the production of an improved draft by the Chairman of the Digital Information Portrayal Working Group (DIPWG). The changes proposed and the corresponding actions taken can be consulted on the IHO website (see para. 3).

2 The IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) considered the revised draft 6th edition of S-52 at its first meeting (Singapore, 22-24 October) and endorsed the new edition for adoption by IHO Member States. HSSC1 further acknowledged that the differences between the 5th and 6th editions of S-52 were primarily in changes to the format of the document and updating of references and that these changes should therefore not affect ECDIS type-approval certification.

3 The revised new edition of S-52 is available for inspection on the IHO website (www.iho.int → Committees & WGs → DIPWG/New Edition of S-52). In accordance with the current practice of numbering IHO publications, it is proposed to refer to this new edition as *edition 6.0* rather than *6th edition*.

Actions Requested

- 1 **Member States** are invited to review the draft Edition 6.0 of S-52 and to vote **by 31 January 2010** on its adoption, using the Voting Paper at Annex A.
- 2 **Member States** are also invited to take note of the work completed by the DIPWG and in particular its new and past Chairmen, Mr. Colby Harmon (USA-NOAA) and Dr. Mathias Jonas (BSH), respectively.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', is positioned above the printed name.

Robert WARD
Director

VOTING FORM
(to be returned to the IHB by 31 January 2010
E-mail: info@ihb.mc - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

Member State:

Contact:..... **E-mail:**

APPROVAL OF EDITION 6.0 OF S-52

1. Do you approve Edition 6.0 of S-52 *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS*, as provided on the IHO website (www.iho.int → Committees & WGs → DIPWG/New Edition of S-52) and with effect from 1 March 2010?

YES

NO

Comments (if required)

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Name/Signature: Date: