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IHB File No. S3/3061

CIRCULAR LETTER 18/2010
9 February 2010

NEW EDITION OF IHO PUBLICATION S-49

Standardization of Mariners' Routeing Guides

Dear Hydrographer,

1 IHO Publication No. 49 - *Recommendations Concerning Mariners' Routeing Guides* was published in 1985 to help standardize the special routeing guides, known as Mariners' Routeing Guides (MRG), that were then being published. MRGs provide a single document containing information on all aspects of complex routeing systems, such as those comprising several related routeing measures, lengthy special provisions and associated recommendations on navigation. S-49 has not been updated since its first publication.

2 At its 19th Meeting (November 2007), the IHO Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems (CHRIS, now HSSC) reviewed the status of S-49 in the light of new developments such as the increasing numbers and complexity of routeing measures and VTS systems and also a request from the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission that MRG should be accorded INT-chart status. Consequently, the CHRIS requested its Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) to revise S-49.

3 The CSPCWG appointed a sub-WG, led by Germany, to produce an initial revised version. This has subsequently been reviewed by all the members of the CSPCWG and the resultant draft is now offered for approval by IHO Member States. The proposed new edition 2.0 of S-49 has been re-titled *Standardization of Mariners' Routeing Guides*. This new edition contains guidance on such matters as layout, symbology and content (essential and useful) for MRG. It also includes a list of currently published MRG, which may be referenced as examples.

4 The draft new edition of S-49 is available for inspection on the IHO website at: www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CSPCWG/CSPCWG_MISC/S-49/S-49_e2.0_Draft.pdf. Member States are invited to review the draft Edition 2.0 of S-49 and to vote **by 15 April 2010** on its adoption, using the Voting Form at Annex A.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Captain Robert WARD
Director

VOTING FORM

*(to be returned to the IHB by 15 April 2010
E-mail: info@ihb.mc - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)*

Member State :

Contact :

E-mail :

**APPROVAL OF EDITION 2.0 OF S-49
STANDARDIZATION OF MARINERS' ROUTEING GUIDES**

Do you approve Edition 2.0 of S-49 *Standardization of Mariners' Routeing Guides*, as provided on the IHO website at: www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CSPCWG/CSPCWG_MISC/S-49/S-49_e2.0_Draft.pdf ?

YES

NO

Comments (if required):

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Signature :

Date :
