



IHB File No. S3/8151/CSPCWG

CIRCULAR LETTER 23/2010  
03 March 2010

APPROVAL OF EDITION 2.003 OF S-11 PART A

*- Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes*

Reference: IHB CL 86/2009 dated 14 December

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The Directing Committee would like to thank the following 42 Member States who replied to CL 86/2009 proposing the adoption of Edition 2.003 of IHO Publication S-11 Part A *Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes*: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, UK and USA.

2 All responses supported the proposal with three Member States providing comments which are included at Annex A, together with explanatory responses by the IHB as appropriate. There are currently 80 Member States of the IHO, two of whom have been suspended. Therefore in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article VI of the Convention on the IHO, the majority required on "questions concerning the technical functioning of the Organization" is 40. As a result of the 42 positive responses received, Edition 2.003 of IHO Publication S-11 Part A *Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes* has been adopted.

3 Edition 2.003 of S-11 Part A is now available for downloading from the IHO website at: [www.iho-ohi.net/mtg\\_docs/com\\_wg/CSPCWG/CSPCWG\\_MISC/S-11/S11\\_PartA\\_Guidance\\_e2.003.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/CSPCWG/CSPCWG_MISC/S-11/S11_PartA_Guidance_e2.003.pdf).

4. **Chairs of Regional Hydrographic Commissions** are invited to consider using the generic TOR/ROP contained in Annex C to S-11 Part A, to continue or to establish International Charting Coordination Working Groups (ICCWG) in their regions.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD  
Director

Annex A: Member States' comments

**MEMBER STATES' COMMENTS**

**Australia**

The efforts of Mr Peter Jones (Chair, CSPCWG) of the UKHO should be applauded.

However, of note is the fundamental difference between the reproduction philosophies applicable to ENC's, as laid down in the WEND principles, and those laid down for INT charts. The former severely restricts reproduction of small scale ENC's applicable to international voyages, while the latter strongly encourages reproduction as INT charts.

**France**

France suggested a number of editorial improvements to the draft new edition.

**Comment by the IHB:**

*France's editorial improvements have been incorporated in the final version of S-11 Part A.*

**Turkey**

**A.** Turkey agrees with the changes in PART A of S-11 Edition 2.003.

**B.** Region F in PART B of S-11 Edition 2.003 does not reflect the last official version of the MEDINTCHART Catalogue. The last official version of the Catalogue issued by the MEDINTCHART Coordinator is the March 2002, as stated in MEDINTCHART CL 38, dated 15 January 2008 (N°6 SHOM/DSPRE/NP) which was also addressed to the IHB.

Additionally, there exists a footnote on page F.25 of PART B of S-11 Edition 2.003 which reads:

*"Charts proposed by Greece and adopted during the 13<sup>th</sup> MBSHC Conference (2003), with a reserve from Turkey"*

There is no such a decision taken by MBSHC during that conference (see report of the 13<sup>th</sup> MBSHC Conference) and that footnote is also in contradiction with article A-203.1 d. of IHO S-4 that reads:

*"Where two or more bordering Member States cannot agree on which should produce an international chart of their waters, the limits and scale of which they have agreed, then that international chart should not be prepared until such agreement can be reached"*

As a result, IHB is requested to amend the relevant pages of Region F in PART B of S-11 Edition 2.003 to reflect the last official version of MEDINTCHART Catalogue (March 2002) as stated in MEDINTCHART CL 38, dated 15 January 2008 which was sent to the IHB by the MEDINTCHART Coordinator.

**Comment by the IHB:**

*This was discussed further at a MEDINTCHART working group meeting which took place in Paris, France, on 16-17 February 2010, where the IHB provided an explanation of its updating process. As stated in IHB CL 86/2009, the IHB maintains and updates S-11 Part B from information it receives from INT chart coordinators. In the case of Region 'F' this information is provided by France as coordinator, via MEDINTCHART CLs. The current version of the INT chart scheme for Region 'F', as contained in Edition 2.003 of S-11 Part B, is based on the catalogue attached to MEDINTCHART CL 33 (13 August 2004). Since then, despite the issuing of MEDINTCHART CL 38, the IHB has not received clear guidance from the coordinator that has indicated the need for further substantive updates to S-11 Part B.*

**C.** The reference of the updates forwarded to the IHB by the INT Chart Coordinators for the relevant INT regions should be indicated in PART B of S-11.

**Comment by the IHB:**

*The IHB will include a "Record of Updates" page at the beginning of each regional chapter of S-11 Part B.*