

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (ARHC)**

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The Directing Committee would like to inform you that the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC) was established on 6th October 2010, during a meeting that took place from 4-6 October in Ottawa, Canada. The inaugural meeting of the Commission was hosted by the Canadian Hydrographic Service. Representatives from the five States bordering the Arctic region, Canada, Denmark, Norway, The Russian Federation and USA, participated in the meeting and signed the statutes in a special ceremony thereby becoming members of the Commission.

2 The establishment of the ARHC covers an important part of the world that was not previously covered by a Regional Hydrographic Commission. The Commission will greatly assist the coordination of hydrographic, cartographic and navigational support in a very environmentally sensitive and important region of the world.

3 Dr Savithri NARAYANAN the Dominion Hydrographer, was elected as the first Chair-person of the ARHC. The Directing Committee wishes the Chair and the members of the ARHC every success in its important work, and in particular for its expected contribution to safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President