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ICC 2011 - 25th INTERNATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC CONFERENCE
(Paris, France, 3-8 July 2011)

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 25th Conference of the International Cartographic Association (ICA), ICC'2011, will take place at the Palais des Congrès, Paris, France, from 3 to 8 July 2011. ICC'2011 will be organized by the French Committee on Cartography, with participation from the French Hydrographic Office (SHOM). It has now become a tradition that the IHO participates in these biennial ICA conferences both through attendance by HO representatives and/or through HOs' chart exhibitions. This has contributed to maintaining high visibility of the IHO to the world's cartographers.

2 The general theme of the ICC'2011 Conference will be "*Enlightened View on Cartography and GIS*". Topics addressed by the Conference will include "Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI), Standards, Ontologies, Integration" and "Marine, Military and Topographic Cartography", all of which are relevant to the work of the IHO and its activities. About 500 oral presentations will be given at the Conference in parallel sessions. More details may be found on the ICC'2011 website (www.icc2011.fr).

3 Alongside the conference, there will be an International exhibition of maps which will provide each national committee with the opportunity to exhibit cartographic products from their country over the last two years. Those Members States' Hydrographic Offices that wish to display cartographic products in the frame of the ICC'2011 Map Exhibition should liaise with their national ICA committee. The deadline for notification of participation in the Map Exhibition is **31st December 2010**.

4 As part of the conference, the chairs of the 33 ICA commissions and working groups will present the ongoing activities of their groups through open meeting sessions. These will include the ICA Commission of Geospatial Data Standards (Chair: Mr. Antony Cooper, South Africa) and the ICA Commission on Marine Cartography (Chair: Capt. Patricio Carrasco, SHOA, Chile).

5 Member States are once again encouraged to participate in this biennial event to represent the marine side of cartography and to help further the reputation and awareness of the world's hydrographic offices and the IHO among the ICA community.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD
Director