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CIRCULAR LETTER 22/2011  
9 March 2011

**ADOPTION OF REVISED EDITION OF IHO PUBLICATION C-17**  
*“Spatial Data Infrastructures: ‘The Marine Dimension’ - Guidance for Hydrographic Offices”*

Reference: IHO CL 88/2010 dated 13 December - *Adoption of Edition 1.1 of C-17*

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The Directing Committee would like to thank the following 40 Member States who replied to the Reference: Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Iran, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, and Venezuela. All 40 Member States support the proposed revised edition 1.1.0 of C-17 *Spatial Data Infrastructures: ‘The Marine Dimension’ - Guidance for Hydrographic Offices* with three States providing specific comments. These comments, together with explanatory responses where appropriate, are provided in Annex A.

2 There are currently 80 IHO Member States with two States suspended. Therefore in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article VI of the Convention on the IHO, the majority required for adoption of the revised edition of C-17 is 40. Consequently, edition 1.1.0 of C-17 is adopted and will be posted in the IHO publications download section of the IHO website shortly.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD  
Director

Annex A: Comments by Member States

COMMENTS BY MEMBER STATES  
IN RESPONSE TO CL 88/2010

**Belgium:** Page 25:

1. "Priority one", "Priority 2", "Priority 3"  
INSPIRE uses as subtitles: "ANNEX I THEMES", "ANNEX II THEMES",  
"ANNEX III THEMES"
2. The link to webpage [www.inspire.ec.gis.eu](http://www.inspire.ec.gis.eu) is not correct; the correct website is <http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu>.

*Comment by IHB: The changes have been made to edition 1.1.0 of C-17.*

**Finland:** As a minor update, please replace on page 22:

The link: <http://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi/paikkatiedot/default.asp?id=866>  
With a link: <http://www.paikkatietoikkuna.fi/web/en/>

*Comment by IHB: The change has been made to edition 1.1.0 of C-17.*

**France:** France very much supports HSSC's recommendation to annex the associated documents to the existing C-17, in order to increase visibility on various issues relating to geospatial infrastructures (policy on hydrographic surveys, FAQ, stakeholders, capacity building).

On this occasion, one may wonder if it would not be desirable to associate in some way this proposal with the issue raised by IRCC (see IRCC2 minutes, Annex B, Action IRCC2/5, item a "RHCs to report to IRCC3 on the methodology used for assessing and displaying survey status, taking into account navigational and MSDI requirements"), even though this action is for RHCs. The mechanism between C-17 and the work undertaken by RHCs to establish a methodology allowing reporting on the status of hydrographic surveys remains to be determined; however this issue could be raised at the next IRCC meeting.

France also appreciates the fact that a link to the European INSPIRE directive has been included in C-17.

*Comment by IHB: The need to harmonize reporting of hydrographic survey status by RHCs is acknowledged. It is suggested that any proposal by IRCC on this matter which may relate to C-17 be forwarded to HSSC for possible further action by MSDIWG.*