



IHB File No. S1/1900/A

CIRCULAR LETTER 43/2011  
21 July 2011

**WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY (WHD) 2011 & THEME FOR WHD 2012**

Reference: CL 06/2011 dated 18 January 2011

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The theme for World Hydrography Day (WHD) 2011 was "*Human resources – The important element to the success of Hydrography*". The IHB celebrated WHD in Monaco on Monday 20 June, so as not to clash with other celebrations that were taking place in Monaco the following day. The Bureau prepared a media release that was distributed to the local Press. This media release and various displays that were prepared were posted on the IHO web site for use by Member States as they considered appropriate.

2 The following events took place in Monaco for the celebration of WHD as follows:

- The Bureau hosted a reception at the Monaco Yacht Club where various posters were displayed illustrating hydrographic activities with special emphasis on the theme of this year's celebration. HSH Prince Albert II was unable to be present due to the preparations for his marriage. He was represented by Mr Jacques Boisson, Secretary of State. Ministers, diplomatic authorities, representatives from the maritime industry and other local officials were present. Commander Paolo Lusiani represented the Italian Hydrographic Service. The IHO President, in welcoming the guests, delivered a brief speech on the significance of WHD highlighting the importance of human resources as an important element to the success of hydrography. The guests showed particular interest in the posters that were displayed asking various questions concerning the benefits of hydrography.
- In order to educate and inform the younger generation about hydrography and its importance, the IHB hosted two visits by senior students from the International School of Monaco and another local school.

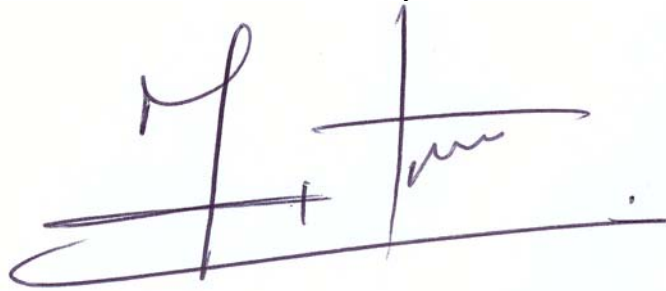
3 The Directing Committee has since received various reports and material on how WHD was celebrated by various Member States, including exhibitions, seminars, receptions, visits of surveying ships and hydrographic offices and other events. This information has been posted on the IHO web site.

4 **Proposed theme for 2012.** International Cooperation on hydrographic issues is significant in supporting safety at sea, protection of the marine environment and enhancing the hydrographic and maritime capabilities of coastal States. The cooperation of international

organizations is also a major contributing factor to safety at sea. The Directing Committee recognizing the importance of international cooperation, proposes that the theme for the celebration of WHD in 2012 be: *International Hydrographic Cooperation - supporting safe navigation*". This theme is intended to provide Member States with the opportunity to promote their involvement in international activities at the bilateral, multinational, regional and global levels, covering such things as bi-lateral support, data exchange, chart coverage, standards development and regional cooperation.

5 The Directing Committee welcomes any comments and suggestions aimed at improving the impact of the annual WHD celebrations. The Directing Committee would also welcome comments on the proposed theme for WHD 2012 in order to inform Member States accordingly.

On behalf of the Directing Committee  
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'M' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical line, with a smaller signature to the right.

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS  
President