



IHB File S1/5000

CIRCULAR LETTER 2/2012
6 January 2012

**PROPOSED ACCREDITATION OF
THE BALTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MARITIME COUNCIL (BIMCO)
AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

Reference: IHO Administrative Resolution 5/1957 as amended

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) has applied to the IHO for accreditation as a non-governmental international organization (NGIO). The Directing Committee has examined this application and is satisfied that BIMCO meets the requirements for accreditation of an NGIO as described in Resolution 5/1957 as amended.
2. BIMCO is the largest of the international shipping associations with direct membership of ship-owners controlling around 65% of the world's tonnage. BIMCO has members in more than 120 countries drawn from a broad range of stakeholders with interest in the shipping industry, including managers, brokers and agents. BIMCO's main objective is to look after its global membership through the provision of quality information and advice, and while promoting fair business practices, facilitate harmonization and standardization of commercial shipping practices and contracts. In support of its commitment to promote the development and application of global regulatory instruments and guidelines, BIMCO is accredited as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with all relevant United Nations organs. The Marine Department guides and assists BIMCO members in technical aspects of shipping and is the contact point for other international shipping organizations and the shipbuilding industry, classification societies, etc. as well as maritime administrations. It is in a technical context that BIMCO would be able to contribute to the work of the IHO by giving advice on the technical work programme as a representative of the user community.
3. The Directing Committee is confident that BIMCO will positively contribute to the work of the IHO, noting in particular that the BIMCO membership represents a significant IHO stakeholder community including a very wide range of primary users of hydrographic and nautical charting products and services.
4. More information on BIMCO may be found at www.bimco.org.
5. Member States are kindly invited to consider BIMCO's application for accreditation as an NGIO and to submit any objections or comments that they might have **by 29 February 2012**. Subsequently, the Directing Committee will notify BIMCO of the outcome of its consultation with IHO Member States.

On behalf of the Directing Committee,
Yours sincerely,



Robert WARD
Director