



IHB File No. S1/3040

CIRCULAR LETTER 19/2013
1 March 2013

**REPUBLIC OF SERBIA - SUSPENSION OF RIGHTS
OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE IHO**

- References:
- A. Financial Regulations of the IHO - Article 16 - *Suspension of rights of a Member*
 - B. Convention on the IHO - Article XV

Dear Hydrographer,

1. I am writing to inform you that, despite repeated attempts to make contact with the nominated representative of the now land-locked Republic of Serbia and, most recently, with the Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia in Paris, the Directing Committee has been unable to establish communications or obtain payment of the annual contributions to the IHO. The last payment of contributions from the Republic of Serbia was for the year 2009. This means that the Republic of Serbia is now three years in arrears with its payments.

2. According to Article 16 of the Financial Regulations of the IHO - "*If the contribution amount in arrears accumulates such that the amount is 2 years and 6 months or more and the Member State has been advised of the arrears without payment or agreeing to a schedule of payments, the Member State shall be suspended effective 1 January of the year in which the 3rd annual contribution becomes payable, i.e., approximately 2-1/2 years in arrears.*"

3. In the circumstances, the Republic of Serbia must now be considered as suspended from membership of the IHO from 1 January 2013. According to Article XV of the Convention on the IHO this means that the Republic of Serbia "*shall be denied all rights and benefits conferred on Member States by the Convention and the Regulations until such time as the outstanding contributions have been paid.*"

4. The Directing Committee has informed the Government of Monaco as the depositary and Host State of the IHO and has asked that the Government of the Republic of Serbia be formally informed of the situation and the fact that it has been suspended as a Member State of the IHO.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD
President