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WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY – PROPOSED THEME FOR 2014

References:

- A. IHO CL 69/2012 dated 11 July - *World Hydrography Day (WHD) 2012 and Theme for WHD 2013*
- B. IHO CL 13/2013 dated 14 February - *World Hydrography Day 2013 – Preparations*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. As announced in Reference A, this year's World Hydrography Day (WHD) took as its theme "*Hydrography - underpinning the Blue Economy*". A number of WHD events have been held during the year using the information in Reference B.

2. The Bureau hosted a reception on the IHB terrace where various posters were displayed illustrating hydrographic activities, with special emphasis on the theme of this year's WHD celebration. Guests from the Government of Monaco, local dignitaries, maritime industry, and current and retired IHB staff attended the evening reception. His Serene Highness the Prince of Monaco was represented by His Excellency Jacques Boisson, Secretary of State.

3. The Italian Navy Survey Vessel ITS Galatea was berthed close to the Bureau and was open to visitors during the WHD celebrations. During the week of WHD the IHB hosted a meeting of the Black and Azov Seas Working Group (BASWG) which enabled the Hydrographers of Georgia, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine to be present during the WHD reception. The Hydrographer of Italy, Rear Admiral Andrea Liaci, attended also. The IHO Bulletin report on WHD celebrations is available at:

http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/WHD/2013/WHDBulletin_Final.pdf.

4. The following IHO Member States have reported hosting events in connection with WHD: Bangladesh, Chile, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, United Kingdom, USA. Reports of these events can be found at:

http://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=380&Itemid=296

5. Noting that this year's WHD theme allowed stakeholders to emphasise the widespread benefits of hydrographic data, especially in economic terms, the Directing Committee suggests to continue to promote hydrography and its multiple uses and benefits in 2014 by adopting a WHD theme of "*Hydrography - more than just charts*". This theme would allow stakeholders from both the public and the private sector to promote hydrography, hydrographic data, and the provision of

related services across the many sectors that benefit from hydrography. For example, in addition to the obvious benefits to safety of navigation, other beneficiaries of hydrography include those that depend upon such things as Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI), coastal zone management, defence and security, tourism, aquaculture, biomedicine, boats and shipbuilding, cables and pipelines, desalination and water treatment, marine recreation, ocean energy and minerals, ocean science and observation, port operations, robotics and submarines, shoreline development, telecommunications, very large floating platforms, and weather and climate science.

6. The Directing Committee invites Member States to comment on the proposed theme for WHD 2014 in order to confirm it and inform Member States accordingly. The Directing Committee also welcomes any comments and suggestions aimed at improving the impact and the organization of annual WHD celebrations.

7. IHO Member States are kindly requested to review the proposed theme for 2014 of *“Hydrography - more than just charts”* and to provide their comments, if any, to the IHB **before 16 December 2013.**

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,



Mustafa IPTES
Director