



IHB File No S1/1001

CIRCULAR LETTER 60/2013
30 October 2013

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IHO FOR 2012
PARTS 1 & 2

Reference: IHO CL 49/2013 dated 12 August – *Draft Annual Report of the IHO for 2012 and Approval of the Recommendations in the Finance Report*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Annual Report of the IHO for 2012 - Parts 1 and 2 - has now been finalised. The comments provided by Member States in response to IHO CL49/2013 have been taken into account. Furthermore, the Directing Committee's recommendations regarding the allocation of the audited budget surplus for 2012 have been approved by the required two-thirds majority of the Member States as required by Article 19 of the Financial Regulations of the IHO (54 approvals have been registered).
2. The finalised version of the 2012 Annual Report is now being printed. Copies will be sent to all Member States as soon as possible in English, French or Spanish, as appropriate. In the meantime the final version of the Report can be downloaded from the IHO web site.
3. The comments made by Member States are reproduced in Annex A to this Circular Letter for information.

On behalf of the Directing Committee,
Yours sincerely,

Robert WARD
President

Annex A – Member States' Comments in response to IHO CL 49/2013

**MEMBER STATES' COMMENTS IN REPLY
TO CL 49/2013 – Draft Annual Report of the IHO for 2012**

AUSTRALIA: Very good format. Easy to follow Table of Contents that maps very well to tasks. The document is also a very easy read and very informative.

CANADA: Annual Report is informative and well done. On page 45 there is repetitive text re MACHC.

PI's are an interesting addition but consideration may be given to narrative explanation when required such as Appendix V (4/7) 17% of annual work plan achieved; Appendix V (4/7) Number of ENC distributed.

IHB Comments: *We note this comment and refer to the explanation provided in section 1.4.3 on p. 28 of the Annual Report that reads: "Results for Programmes 1, 2 and 3, where available, have been included in the tables in Appendix V to this report. As this is the first year that the tables have been compiled, there is limited historical data available from which to derive trend statistics or to draw conclusions with regard to progress in most cases."*

The Report for 2013 will include a comparison between the values at the end of 2013 and those available for 2012.

CHILE:

- a) The Table of Contents should include and make reference to the Appendices.
- b) The layout of the Annual Report considers "two columns" which is very appropriate for a printed version, but not as friendly in a digital version when the reading takes place on a screen. Also, in some pages the columns are too close one to another, such as pages 33 to 39, as an example.
- c) In page 14, third paragraph, reference is made to Annex V and should be Appendix V.
- d) In page 29, Task 1.6.1 reference is made to a "Commercial Exhibition" and it should be made to a "Hydrographic Industry Exhibition".

IHB Comments: *We thank Chile for pointing out the errors which have been corrected. The difficulty in reading a two column format on-line is acknowledged. The IHB will investigate ways of presenting on-line versions of IHO publications that use an appropriate digital publishing software application, such as those used for on-line newspapers.*

CROATIA: Apart from a slight delay in the publication of the report, Croatia has no specific objections on the IHO Annual Report. On the contrary, the report is well-structured and rich with the content enabling a good insight into the work of the IHO.

FRANCE: congratulates both the IHB and the Finance Committee not only for the quality of the management in 2012 but also for the quality of the 2012 Annual Report.

France also approves the proposed allocation of the audited budget surplus for 2012 to the Internal Retirement Fund and to the Capacity Building Fund.

For the future, France suggests looking into the possibility of using any budget surplus to support the part of the budget that may be used to conduct studies as decided by the Member States within the various IHO bodies and which could be managed by the IHB.

IHB Comments: *this possibility will be considered when appropriate.*

GUATEMALA: is pleased to inform you that it has no objections as regards the Directing Committee's recommendations concerning the use of the funds as proposed in the three bullets. (*See para. 14 of the Foreword to the Finance Report for 2012*)

JAPAN: In the list of INT chart series (Table 3.6.4, Part 1, p. 56), the numbers of “Published in 2012” and “Published Total” in Region K are incorrect. Correct numbers are as below:

Published in 2012: 5, Published Total: 239.

***IHB Comments:** We thank Japan for providing these updated figures and a correction has been made accordingly.*

MOZAMBIQUE: The Republic of Mozambique has no comments with regard to the Annual Report 2012 and should apologize for the delay in returning this Voting Form.

NORWAY: Only two typing errors in the Contents Table: Task 3.1.1 (p.9) Arctic and Task 3.1.12 – Southern Africa and Islands.

***IHB Comments:** We thank Norway for pointing out these typing errors which have been corrected.*
