



THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE

IHB File AB-4/S-5, S-8

CIRCULAR LETTER 67/2014

19 September 2014

**APPROVAL OF NEW EDITIONS OF IHO PUBLICATIONS:
S-5 Ed. 11.1.0 - *Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors*
S-8 Ed. 3.1.0 - *Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers***

References:

- A. IHO Publication S-5 - *Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors*
- B. IHO Publication S-8 - *Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers*
- C. IHO Circular Letter 57/2014 dated 12 August - *Outcome of the Sixth Meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC6)*
- D. IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended - *Principles and Procedures for Making Changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications*
- E. IHO Circular Letter 11/2014 dated 3 February - *IHO Publications S-5 Ed. 11.1.0 & S-8 Ed. 3.1.0 "Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors" and "Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers"*
- F. IHO Circular Letter 15/2014 dated 10 February - *Capacity Building and Standards of Competence Stakeholders' Seminars*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In accordance with its Terms of Reference and Work Programme, the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) has reviewed and revised the IHO Publications S-5 (Reference A) and S-8 (Reference B). The revised publications were endorsed by the 6th meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (Reference C).

2. The process of revision has followed the consultation procedure with Member States and stakeholders as set out in Reference D, using Circular Letter and the Capacity Building and Standards of Competence Stakeholders' Seminars (References E and F refer). The comments received and outcome of the seminars were considered by the IBSC at its 37th meeting in April in Tokyo (Japan). A considerable number of the comments were beyond the scope of the current revision and will be considered in the next revision of the Standards, which is already underway.

3. The current revision deals mainly with the introductory part and the appendices of both S-5 and S-8, in order to include necessary clarifications and to improve the following aspects, in order to better assist the organization of the programmes:

- Procedure for Programme recognition
- Onsite review process
- Description of field work and practical exercises
- Acknowledgement of distance and blended learning as methods of delivering programmes
- Time frames:
 - Time frame over which a programme is delivered

- Minimum duration of a programme
- Time frame for the recognition
- Correction of references, typographical errors and some duplication or inconsistencies
- Updating of the models of certificates and the annual assessment template.

4. The current revision has not changed the core of the Standards (the Syllabus).

5. Noting the endorsement of the IRCC, Member States are invited to consider and approve the updated draft S-5 (Edition 11.1.0) and S-8 (Edition 3.1.0), which are available on the IHO website at: www.iho.int > Standards & Publications > Download > Draft Publications Awaiting Approval by Member States. The texts are available in English only.

6. Member States are requested to indicate their decision by returning the Voting Form, provided in the Annex to this letter, **no later than 15 November 2014**. If approved, the effective adoption date of the revised Standards will be 1 December 2014. This will allow institutions seeking recognition or re-recognition of their courses in the 2015 review cycle to submit their programmes to the IBSC using the revised version of the relevant Standards.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,



Mustafa IPTES
Director

Annex: Voting Form

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S-5 Ed. 11.1.0 - *Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors*
S-8 Ed. 3.1.0 - *Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers***

**VOTING FORM
(to be returned to the IHB by 15 November 2014
E-mail: info@iho.int - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)**

Member State:

Contact: **E-mail:**

ADOPTION OF EDITION 11.1.0 OF S-5

1. Do you approve the adoption of Edition 11.1.0 of S-5 – *Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors*?

YES NO

ADOPTION OF EDITION 3.1.0 OF S-8

2. Do you approve the adoption of Edition 3.1.0 of S-8 – *Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers*?

YES NO

Comments (if required)