



**IHB Files No. S1/1001/WP
FO/592/16**

**CIRCULAR LETTER 87/2015/ Rev.1
15 December 2015**

APPROVAL OF IHO WORK PROGRAMME & BUDGET FOR 2016

Reference: IHO Circular Letter 74/2015 dated 1 October 2015 - *Proposed IHO Work Programme and Budget for 2016*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The Reference invited Member States to consider and approve the proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2016.
2. The Directing Committee thanks those 61 Member States that responded (Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela). All responses approved the proposed Work Programme for 2016. All responses but one approved the proposed Budget.
3. A two-thirds majority of IHO Member States entitled to vote is required to approve the Budget and its associated Work Programme. There are currently 85 Members States of the IHO, with three States being suspended and not entitled to vote. Therefore the two thirds majority approval required is 55. As a result the proposed IHO Work Programme and Budget for 2016 have been approved.
4. Chile, Colombia, Croatia, France, Indonesia, Italy, Nigeria, Spain, UK and USA provided comments which are reproduced in the Annex to this letter together with remarks from the Directing Committee as appropriate. Consideration of the comments by the Directing Committee has resulted in some minor adjustments to the Work Programme, as indicated in the Annex.

5. The Work Programme, as adjusted, and the Budget for 2016 will be implemented on 1 January 2016. Copies of the approved Work Programme will be posted on the IHO website: www.iho.int → *About IHO* → *IHO Work Program*. Copies of the approved Budget will be posted on the IHO website: www.iho.int → *Letters & Documents* → *Finance Information*.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert WARD

President

Annex A: Member States' responses to IHO CL 74/2015 and comments by the Directing Committee

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO IHO CL 74/2015 AND COMMENTS BY THE
DIRECTING COMMITTEE**

Proposed IHO Work Programme and Budget for 2016

CHILE

Task 1.6.1 considers the organization of the IHC-19 / Assembly 1 (in case the Protocol has entered in force). That means that the IHB is considering to start with N° 1. In our opinion and for reasons of consistency and to better preserve the history of the IHO, we are of the idea not to break the numbering system, so despite the name Conference → Assembly, the event should keep the numbering without change. That is to say that we will have the XIXth IH Conference or the XIX IH Assembly.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

Using the title "Assembly-1" to indicate a new body of the Organization will follow the practice used in the IHO previously and the practice followed in other intergovernmental organizations.

b) Task 3.1.18 assigns a Director and a AD of the respective RHCs, the responsibility of industry participation in RHCs meetings. In our opinion this is the responsibility of the Chair of the RHCs. Industry participation at RHCs meetings is coordinated and authorized by RHCs Chairs.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

In all cases in the Work Programme, the designation of a Director and Assistant Director is primarily for IHB management purposes to indicate the principal members of Staff in the secretariat with oversight of the work programme item and points of contact.

c) There is no sense in keeping Tasks 3.2.8 and 3.2.8.1 considering that the only four countries in the region of influence of the SEPRHC are active members of the IHO and that Panama, due to its geographic position, is better associated to MACHC of which is an Associated Member, while it is just an Observer to the SEPRHC. Despite invitations, Panama has not participated in SEPRHC meetings but it has participated in MACHC meetings. Therefore, these two tasks seem to be of no relevance.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

The Directing Committee notes the three other members of the SEPRHC did not object to the continuation of these tasks included in the approved 5-year Work Programme and considers that all coastal States should continue being encouraged to participate in the Regional Hydrographic Commissions covering areas in which they should provide hydrographic services in accordance with the SOLAS Convention.

COLOMBIA

We agree with the proposed budget and we do not have any reservations on the document.

We approve the proposed work programme and we do not have any reservations on the document.

CROATIA

Croatia expresses concern about the Capacity Building Fund (IHO Funds, 5.12. CB Fund) by observing that nearly two thirds of endorsed projects are not currently covered with funds and will need additional 385 000 euros in order to be executed (ref.: IHO CL 76/2015 issued 26 October 2015). Therefore Croatia

proposes to consider the relocation of funds from the proposed IHO Budget for 2016 rather than wait for the needed funds to be available from other sources during 2016.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

The Directing Committee notes the concern expressed by Croatia but notes also that no proposals are being made on what reductions should be made in the funding of other parts of the IHO Work Programme in order to increase the funding for Capacity Building.

FRANCE

Hydrographic Dictionary (page B11):

In order to be consistent with the (HDWG) Work Programme as presented in its report to HSSC-7, France proposed to modify the 8 columns of the 2016 Work Programme as follows:

- Paragraphs 2.11.1 and 2.11.2 unchanged

- Add paragraph 2.11.3 as follows:

Col 1: (blank)

Col 2: 2.11.3

Col 3: Reform of the statutes of the working group (ToRs and Business Rules)

Col 4: DTech

Col 5: ADSO

Col 6: Adoption of the new statutes by summer 2016

Col 7 (risks): termination of the activities of the working group

Col 8: (blank)

Comment by the Directing Committee:

This new work item is not warranted. Ordinarily, WGs should review their ToRs as part of normal business. In the case of the HDWG, HSSC7 has initiated consideration on options for the future of the hydrographic dictionary. Accordingly, a review of the future of the HDWG and its ToRs will be determined at HSSC8.

Tides and water level (pages B10, B11)

- line 2.7.1, last column, amend the date to read “Niteroi, Brazil, 25-29 April”

- line 2.7.5, last column, insert the remark “Involve some industry experts in the development of product specifications related to tides and currents”

Comment by the Directing Committee:

Task 2.7.1 has been amended accordingly in the approved Work Programme. After further discussion with France concerning its comments on task 2.7.5, it was agreed that there was no requirement to include any specific risks associated with tasks 2.7.3; 2.7.4 and 2.7.5 in the Work Programme.

INDONESIA

Indonesia agrees that the entire budget will be for development of IHO and delivering required assistances for all Member States.

IHO Work Programme should represent the readiness of IHO and all MS to anticipate the challenge of technology, especially in maritime geospatial information and the requirement of IMO to the IHO MS as a key part of maritime transportation.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

The concerns expressed by Indonesia are reflected in the IHO Strategic Plan which guides the five-year work programme and the derived annual work programmes.

ITALY (Does not approve the proposed Budget)

Italy's opinion is that the shares should remain unchanged at least until 2017, in view of the global economic recession which is only beginning to show signs of improvement and due to the expected increase in the number of shares. If the share remained unchanged, the income would be only 29,362 euro lower, but the decision would have a tremendous political impact on the community.

NIGERIA

NNHO has no objection to the submission on specific aspects of the proposed budget.

NNHO has no objection to the submission on specific aspects of the proposed WP

SPAIN

As expressed in the response to CL 25-2015, Spain strongly supports activating the Hydrographic Surveys Working Group with the objective to organize a meeting in 2016, as a forum to exchange experience and knowledge in this domain of hydrographic surveys

Comment by the Directing Committee:

HSSC7 has addressed the issue and agreed on a way forward as reported in IHO CL 83/2015 dated 7 Dec. The approved version of the Work Programme has been amended accordingly.

UK

The 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference introduced a six-monthly reporting regime to help assess the progress of the IHO Work Programme. IHO Circular Letters 17/2015 - *Report on the overall status of the IHO Work Programme - end of 2014* and 66/2015 - *Report on the overall status of the IHO Work Programme - mid-year 2015* noted that 25 of the 42 IHO bodies and inter-organizational bodies involving the IHO provided a report for 2014 and 26 of 43 Chairs provided a report for the period January to June 2015.

The UK would like to highlight the requirement for improved feedback from chairs of IHO bodies on the status of their contribution to the on-going IHO Work Programme.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

The Directing Committee notes the concern expressed by UK which will be included in the compilation of the responses to IHO CL 66/2015.

USA

Element/task 2.2.2.2 describes the key deliverable in 2016 as "Edition 2.0 approved by MS." We believe CL 39/2015 notified Member States that edition 2.0 was approved in June 2015.

Comment by the Directing Committee:

The approved version of the Work Programme has been amended accordingly.