



IHB File N° S1/0910

CIRCULAR LETTER 17/2016
31 March 2016

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO UPDATE THE IHO STRATEGIC PLAN

References:

- A. IHO Resolution 12/2002, as amended – *Planning Cycle*
- B. IHO CL 16/2016 dated 29 March - *Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO - 47 of 48 Approvals achieved*
- C. EIHC-5 - Decision No. 2 - *Technical Capacity of the International Hydrographic Bureau*

Dear Hydrographer,
Dear Chair of IRCC,
Dear Chair of HSSC,

1. IHO Resolution 12/2002 (Reference A) sets out the timetable for the review of the IHO Strategic Plan. According to the Resolution, twelve months prior to the next Ordinary International Hydrographic Conference (which is anticipated to be held as the first session of the Assembly subject to the entry into force of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO – see Reference B), Member States and the two programme committees – Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) and Hydrographic Standards and Services Committee (HSSC), should be invited to submit any proposals to update the Strategic Plan.
2. In accordance with the Resolution, Member States and the Chairs of IRCC and HSSC are therefore invited to submit to the Directing Committee any proposals to update the Strategic Plan **no later than 1 July 2016**, so that any such proposals can be compiled and circulated in accordance with the review timetable.
3. It should be noted that the current Strategic Plan, which has been in force since 2009, includes comprehensive guidance on progress monitoring and risk management, both of which have been difficult to implement successfully given the limited resources available to both Member States and to the Secretariat. In the light of experience gained and of the Decision at Reference C, the Directing Committee invites addressees to consider this aspect of the Strategic Plan in particular.
4. A copy of the current Strategic Plan (2009) is available from the IHO website at: www.iho.int > *Letters & Documents* > *Basic Documents*.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ward'.

Robert WARD
President