



**THIS CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE**

IHB File No. AB-4/S-5

**CIRCULAR LETTER 30/2016**  
**01 July 2016**

**CALL FOR APPROVAL OF EDITION 1.0.0 OF IHO PUBLICATION S-5A –  
STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR CATEGORY "A" HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS**

- References:
- A. IHO Circular Letter 07/2016 dated 10 February - *Draft New Edition 1.0.0 of the IHO Publication S-5A - Standards of Competence for Category "A" Hydrographic Surveyors*
  - B. IHO Circular Letter 90/2015 dated 17 December - *Adoption of the New Publication S-5B Edition 1.0.0 Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors, Category B*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) completed a proposed new edition 1.0.0 of S-5A - *Standards of Competence for Category "A" Hydrographic Surveyors*, following the feedback received in response to Reference A. The comments and suggestions received together with the responses from the IBSC are available at: [www.iho.int](http://www.iho.int) → Committees & WG → IRCC → IRCC8 Documents → doc. IRCC8-07H2 (English version only).
2. The Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) endorsed the proposed new edition 1.0.0 of S-5A at its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting in May 2016 and tasked the IHO Secretariat to circulate it to the IHO Member States for their consideration and approval.
3. The proposed new edition 1.0.0 of S-5A (English version only) is now available on the IHO website at: [www.iho.int](http://www.iho.int) → Standards & Publications → Download → Draft Publications Awaiting Approval by Member States → S-5A.
4. Taking in to account the recent endorsement of the proposed edition 1.0.0 of S5-A by the IRCC, Member States are now requested to consider approving the publication by providing their response on the Voting Form, provided in Annex A, at their earliest convenience and **no later than 31 August 2016**.
5. Edition 1.0.0 of S5-A is complementary to the adoption of Edition 1.0.0 of the IHO Publication S-5B that entered into force on 1 January 2016 (Reference B). Subject to the adoption of S5-A, IHO Publications S-5A and S-5B will supersede IHO Publication S-5 Edition 11.1.0 - *Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors*.

6. As indicated in Reference A, the proposed edition 1.0.0 of S-5A should be considered together with the companion document - *Guidelines for the Implementation of the Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors* (English version only), as was the case for the adoption of Edition 1.0.0 of S-5B. The companion document is intended to assist educational and training organizations in the preparation of submissions to the IBSC in relation to both the S-5A and S-5B Standards.

7. Subject to the adoption of edition 1.0.0 of S5-A, by the Member States, institutions seeking recognition of their hydrographic programmes by the IBSC in 2017 (at the 40th meeting of the IBSC) will be expected to submit their programmes based on the new Standards S-5A and S-5B.

On behalf of the Directing Committee

Yours sincerely,



Mustafa IPTES  
Director

Annex: Voting Form

Copy: Chair, IBSC  
Chair, CBSC

**IHO PUBLICATION S-5A – STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR  
CATEGORY "A" HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS  
Approval of edition 1.0.0**

**Voting Form**

*(to be returned to the IHB by 31 August 2016)*

*E-mail: [info@iho.int](mailto:info@iho.int) - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)*

Note: The boxes will expand as you type your answers.

**Member State:**

**Contact:**

**E-mail:**


Do you approve the adoption of edition 1.0.0 of S-5A?

Please tick ✓ the appropriate box.

YES

NO

If you answer 'No', please explain your reasons in the comment section below.

**Comments:**

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**Signature:**

**Date:**
