

**REPORT OF FIRST MEETING OF ADVISORY BOARD ON  
LAW OF THE SEA OF IHO AND IAG**

**Date and venue:** The meeting was held at the University of Hannover, Germany on 20 September 1994.

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| 1. <u>Present:</u> | Professor P. VANICEK<br>Mr. B. HARSSON<br>Professor C. RIZOS<br>Mr. J. A. WEIGHTMAN<br>Commodore N.R. GUY<br>Cdr. C.M. CARLETON<br>Mr. A.J. KERR<br><br>Dr. T. KATSURA<br>RADM. J. BROUSSET BARRIOS<br>Captain II. SOLDI SOLDI<br><br>Professor TORGE | Member representing IAG<br>" " " " " " " "<br>" " " " " " " "<br>" " " " " " " "<br>Member representing IHO<br>" " " " " " " "<br>" " " " " " " "<br><br>Observer ( <i>Hydrographic Dept., Japan</i> )<br>Observer ( <i>Hydrographic Directorate, Peru</i> )<br>Observer (" " " " " " " ")<br><br>President, IAG |
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2. Introductions

Following an introduction of all present, Professor TORGE welcomed the Board and stated the support of the IAG for its formation and future work. Mr. KERR, representing the IHO, also noted the support of his organization for the work and noted that now ~~that~~ the IHO/IAG Board was formed, the TALOS Group should be terminated.

Selection of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

Following an exchange of views it was unanimously decided that a representative of IHO be the first Chairman. Commodore N. GUY was nominated by the IHO representatives and unanimously elected by the Board. In a similar procedure Professor P. VANICEK was unanimously elected as the Vice-Chairman.

3. Approval of the Agenda

It was decided that the review of the Terms of Reference should be the first item to be addressed and also to add the following items to the draft agenda: Relationship with Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); Geodetic appendix to TALOS Manual; Publicity. The amended agenda is attached as Annex A.

4. Review of Terms of Reference

The Draft Terms of Reference (noted as Annex A to IHB Circular Letter 5/1994) were reviewed. In addition to comments from the Board members and observers, written comments provided by IHO Member States were considered. Following a recommendation by the Norwegian H.O. the first three sub-paragraphs of para.8 were moved to paragraph 2 and titled Objectives and the remaining four sub-paragraphs left as Activities. A new final paragraph Amendments was added. The Observer from Chile proposed that in paragraph 2 (b) of the revised TOR, the word "monitor" should be inserted\*. All other changes to the draft that were agreed by the Board may be seen in the Final Terms of Reference that are attached as Annex B.

\* It is proposed by Mr. A.J. KERR that this inclusion may need re-examination at the next meeting.

5. Establishment of Secretariat

The IHO agreed to provide the Secretariat as required by the Terms of Reference. Mr. KERR stated that he would initially serve as both Board Member and Secretary for approximately the first year of the Advisory Board existence. he would then pass his Board membership to another representative of the IHO and appoint a Secretary from the staff of the IHB.

6. Development of Future Working Programme

In view of the limited time it was decided not to address specific matters of the work programme but to decide upon a modus operandi through which a work programme could develop. It was therefore decided that the IAG Members and IHO Members will collectively identify problems to be addressed by the Board. These problems, comprehensively stated, will be sent to the Secretariat, which will circulate them to the Members of the Board. The problems will then be researched by members and their findings reported to the Secretariat by 1 April 1994. If the Chairman and the Secretariat find there is consensus, these findings will be collated and re-circulated to Board members for further action. If there is no consensus then the matter will be held over to the next meeting.

7. Elaborate future programme of business and technical meetings

It was agreed to take note of GALOS plans in this respect but no further technical meetings would be arranged until the work programme has been established. For future business meetings of the Board see paragraph 12.

8. Relationship with IOC and other Organizations

It was agreed that the IHB would continue to maintain liaison with IOC and monitor the ongoing relationships with the UN Office of Legal Affairs. The IHB (Secretariat) will keep Board Members advised of developments.

9. Geodetic Appendix

The draft "geodetic appendix" to the TALOS Manual was discussed. It was noted that GALOS had been asked to prepare an appendix of approximately 15 pages, but it was now understood that Mr. CARRERA, who had volunteered to provide the appendix, had produced a document of about 300 pages. IHO Members of the Board had reviewed an earlier draft and were of the opinion that although the author should be commended on his work it was not acceptable as an appendix. The Chairman of GALOS agreed to discuss the matter with his study group and propose a solution to meet the requirement.

10. Publicity

It was agreed that there was a need to publicize the formation and proposed objectives of the Board. Mr. KERR agreed to draft a statement suitable for publicity that would be circulated to Board Members. Both IAG and IHO Members agreed that the activities of the Board be publicized in their respective house bulletins. It was further agreed that the IHO Members would identify suitable legal journals to approach in order to promulgate the publicity and that IAG Members would do likewise for scientific journals.

11. Other business

Mr. KERR discussed a letter he had received from the U.N. Office requesting the IHO to provide a paper discussing the hydrographic and scientific requirements arising from the LOS Convention. A copy of this letter is attached as Annex C. Members agreed to provide the Secretariat with material that may be incorporated in a response. They were advised that they should do this as soon as possible.

12. Choice of Acronym

It was proposed that a suitable acronym might be ABLOS\* (Advisory Board on Law of the Sea). Members were asked to consider this acronym and either approve it or provide some further suggestion.

[Following the meeting various proposals were made : TABLOS, DIABLOS and retain ABLOS. It is proposed by the Secretariat to retain ABLOS until the next meeting when the matter can be aimed].

13. Date and Place of Next Meeting

Monaco, 10-11 October 1995.

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\* *Japan - like acronym ABLOS as simpler than HAGLOS.*

AGENDA - INAUGURAL MEETING OF HAGLOS (ABLOS)

1. Introduction of members and observers.
2. Selection of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
3. Review draft Terms of Reference.
4. Establishment of Secretariat.
5. Development of Future Working Program.

The following items are offered for consideration:

- (a) Review and amend TALOS Manual as considered necessary.
  - (b) Consider requirements arising from UNCLOS coming into force in November 1994 and consequent liaison with UN Division on Law of the Sea.
  - (c) Identify Special Study Areas.
6. Elaborate future program of business and technical meetings.
  7. Elaborate system of reporting to parent organizations. (IAG and IHO)
  8. Establish date and venue of next meeting.
  9. Relationship with Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).
  10. Geodetic Appendix to TALOS Manual.
  11. Publicity.
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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE IHO/IAG ADVISORY BOARD  
ON HYDROGRAPHIC AND GEODETIC ASPECTS OF LAW OF THE SEA  
(Amended 20 September 1994)**

1. NAME

The IHO/IAG Advisory Board on Hydrographic and Geodetic Aspects of the Law of the Sea.

2. OBJECTIVES

- a) To provide advice and guidance and, where applicable, offer expert interpretation of the hydrographic, geodetic and other technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to the parent organizations, their member states or to other organizations on request.
- b) To (monitor and) review state practice and jurisprudence on Law of the Sea matters with respect to their relevance to the work of the Board in order that it may be in a position to provide expert advice when needed.
- c) To study, promote and encourage the development of appropriate techniques in the application of the technical provisions contained within the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

3. CONSTITUTION

The Advisory Board shall be composed of nine full members, preferably chosen with wide geographic distribution. Each of the parent organizations (IHO and the IAG) shall appoint four members. One member shall be appointed by the UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea Office of Legal Affairs in an ex-officio capacity.

There may be any number of corresponding members appointed by the parent organizations. These corresponding members may attend meetings as observers with voice but no vote.

4. FULL MEMBERSHIP

The term of office of a full member is four years, after which he/she may be replaced or re-appointed.

Members are expected to attend every meeting of the Board, which will normally take place once a year and to conduct business by correspondence between meetings. In the event of a member's absence from two consecutive business meetings, that member's status on the Board will be considered to have lapsed and a call made for a new appointment.

Although appointments are made by the parent organizations and the appointees accountable to their own international organizations, they are expected to serve as individual experts in their own right. However no statements or publications may be issued in the name of the Advisory Board without its approval.

5. CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be members of the Board from alternate parent organizations. They will serve for two years, after which the Vice-Chairman becomes Chairman and a new Vice-Chairman is elected by the Board. Should a Chairman be unable to complete his term of office the Vice-Chairman shall act in this capacity until the next meeting. Should the Vice-Chairman not be available to take office as Chairman when required, a new Chairman and a new Vice-Chairman should be elected.

6. SECRETARIAT

The Secretary and Secretariat offices will be provided and financed by the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB).

7. MEETINGS

Business meetings of the Board shall normally be held once each year at a venue and time that minimizes cost. Seminars and Technical Conferences\* held in conjunction either with those of GALOS or other similar organizations or with the business meetings may be held at intervals no more frequently than every two years. These meetings shall be open to all corresponding members, invited specialists and other interested individuals.

8. REPORTING

The Advisory Board shall report to both the International Hydrographic Organization and the International Association of Geodesy at least once each year and at Conferences/General Assemblies of each Organization.

9. ACTIVITIES

- a) To maintain close contact with the UN Office of the Law of the Sea.
- b) To review and update, as necessary, the I.H. Bureau's Special Publication S 51 - A Manual of Technical Aspects of the United Nations' Convention on the Law of the Sea -1982.
- c) To convene meetings as described in paragraph 7 above.
- d) To publish the proceedings of seminars and technical conferences and selected reports of Board meetings where desirable.

10. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Terms of Reference may be proposed and considered by the Advisory Board at any time. A review of the Terms of Reference shall be carried out at least every four years. Proposed amendments, recommended by the Board, must be approved by both the parent organizations.

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\* *Technical Conferences will normally cover a broader range of subjects than Seminars.*