



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION  
CAPACITY BUILDING SUB COMMITTEE (CBSC)

Date: 21<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Members of the CBSC

**CBSC letter 2012**

Dear colleagues,

2012 was again a busy year in terms of capacity building – and probably in many other respects for all of you, I send you this letter to inform you about some major issues since our last meeting in Singapore.

At first I would to apologize for providing the minutes of the meeting that late and thus for the delay of the action items. It is clearly visible that we are in need of improved administrative methods and resources.

For the year 2013 Work Programme we are facing the difficult situation of lacking funds for the first time. This is bad, as some essential projects are still waiting for funding, but the need for prioritization has a positive side as well. The submissions have to be well founded and sound. And they have to be provided timely to us. The time limit for submissions of 1 April is as important as the processing according to the procedures well in advance of the meeting. I will therefore have a preparatory meeting at the IHB in early May 2013.

I think it is very important not to lose the momentum of the growing visibility of the CB within the IHO. The discussions at the IH Conference in April showed how important this strategic issue for the hydrographic community. Let us all use our means in promoting this issue to an even wider audience. A closer look reveals some drawbacks where we will have to put more focus on. Not all RHCs are providing submissions at the same level. Some even don't provide them at all. They obviously need more assistance. The involvement of the industry is still in an initial phase. Let us find ways to upgrade this cooperation.



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The Programme Management Board (PMB) of the IHO-ROK-CB-Programme had its second meeting in November in Seoul. The practical work and the cooperation with the CB Work Programme have been further developed. A third meeting is scheduled one day before the next CBSC meeting.

In December the joint CB meeting of IHO, IMO, IOC, WMO, IALA, IAEA and FIG was held at the IODE in Ostende. Director Mustafa Iptes, Alberto Neves and me joined the meeting and found it very helpful to exchange experiences, to develop common projects and to foster the visibility of CB.

I would like to thank you for your most valuable participation in the IHO capacity building initiative and I am looking forward to seeing you all in good health at the next CBSC meeting in Wollongong!

Let me finally send you warm seasonal greetings and the best wishes for a happy new year 2013.

Best personal regards,

Thomas Dehling

Chairman IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee