

18th CHRIS MEETING
Cairns, Australia, 25-29 September 2006

Extract from IHO Publication M-3 “Repertory of IHO Resolutions”

T1.1 FORMATION OF INTERSESSIONARY SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE IHO

1.- Recognizing that the Convention, Article VI, paragraph 7, provides that the Conference shall constitute its own Committees and, further recognizing that Rules 21 and 22 of the Rules of Procedure for International Hydrographic Conferences outline the procedures for establishing subsidiary bodies deemed necessary for the performance of the functions of the Conference,

2.- Further recognizing the need to establish subsidiary bodies to carry out work of an ongoing nature in the intersessionary period between Conferences,

3.- Further recognizing the advantages to the IHO of making use of the special knowledge and experience that exists within Member States, in the hydrographic and associated fields,

4.- Resolves to establish intersessionary subsidiary bodies, additional to those that may be formed under Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure for Hydrographic Conferences, to contribute to the work of the IHO and to the Bureau in particular. Such bodies may be established by the Conference or in the interim period between Conferences at the request of the Directing Committee, a Member State or another body of the IHO following the general principles outlined in the Convention, Article VI, paragraphs 5 and 6.

5.- The following types of subsidiary bodies may be established in accordance with the procedures specified:

5.1 Committee (French: Comité): a body, whose life expectancy is longer than the time period between two consecutive ordinary sessions of the Conference and the membership of which is open to participation of all Member States of the IHO.

5.2 Board (French: Comité restreint): a body, whose life expectancy is longer than the time period between two consecutive ordinary sessions of the Conference and the composition of which is restricted.

5.3 Working Group (French: Groupe de Travail): a body formed for a limited time, normally no longer than the period between two consecutive Conferences to examine a particular subject. A Working Group may take one of two forms:

(a) A body formed for a limited time but otherwise similar in constitution and activities to a Committee.

(b) A body established by a Committee or Board to carry out a specific task and whose duties and membership will be established by the parent body.

6.- Procedures governing intersessionary subsidiary bodies

6.1 Terms of Reference: every subsidiary body shall be governed by Terms of Reference (TOR) clearly stating the Objectives of the body. TOR shall be approved by the Member States, reconfirmed during each relevant session of the Conference and deposited with the IHB, with the exception of Working Groups formed under 5.3(b) above which shall be approved by the establishing Committee or Board. Approved TOR for Committees and Boards shall be posted on the IHO WEB site in the MS -only section.

- 6.2 Composition: the composition of each subsidiary body shall be stated in the TOR.
- 6.3 Chair: the TOR shall establish the method of determining the Chair and Vice-Chair of each body. The TOR may provide that the Chair and the Vice-Chair be determined by vote of the Member States participating in the body or by appointment by the Directing Committee in consultation with the Member States. For bodies that meet, the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be appointed at the first meeting of each body following each ordinary International Hydrographic Conference and their term of office shall normally be until the first meeting after the next ordinary International Hydrographic Conference. For those bodies that progress business by correspondence in lieu of meetings, the initial Chair and Vice-Chair will be determined by correspondence within six months of the end of an ordinary International Hydrographic Conference. Alternatively, the Chair and vice-Chair may be selected at the Conference. Their term of office shall normally be until six months after the end of the next ordinary International Hydrographic Conference
- 6.4 Reporting: every subsidiary body is to provide an annual report and a report to each relevant session of the Conference, summarizing its activities, accomplishments and recommendations. Such reports should be in one of the official languages of the IHO and should be submitted to the Bureau for inclusion in the Bureau's Annual Report, or as individual reports to the Conference. The exception to this rule is that Working Groups formed under 5.3 (b) should submit their reports to the parent body, which will make a copy available to the IHB for distribution to all interested Member States.