

**4th IHO-HSSC Meeting
Taunton, UK, 25-28 September 2012**

Report of the Advisory Board on Law of the Sea (ABLOS)

ABLOS is a joint board established by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Association of Geodesy (IAG)

Submitted by:	Chair, ABLOS
Related Documents:	None
Related Projects:	None

Chair:	Chris Carleton, UK (IHO Member)
Vice-Chair:	Sunil Bisnath (IAG Member)
Secretary:	David Wyatt, IHB
Members IHO:	Croatia, Japan, Pakistan, and United Kingdom
Members IAG:	Australia (Indonesia from 1/1/2012), Canada, New Zealand and Sweden (Denmark from 1/1/2012)
Ex Officio:	UN DOALOS and IHB
Observers:	Brazil, Canada, India, Japan and UK

see Annex A for full details

Meetings Held During Reporting Period

ABLOS 18	8 – 10 November 2011	Valparaiso, Chile
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Future Meetings

ABLOS 19 and 7 th ABLOS Conference	1 – 6 October 2012	Monaco
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Work Program

The 7th ABLOS Conference will be held at the Princess Grace Theatre, Salle du Ponant, Monaco and there is a full programme with 30 papers being delivered across 12 sessions in 3 days. Professor Robert Beckman from Singapore, Director of the Centre for International Law and Associate Professor Faculty of Law at the National University of Singapore will give the Keynote Address.

Under Work Plan Item C1 and as part of the IHO CB programme, a LoS seminar is programmed to be conducted in Vietnam in November for the East Asia Regional Hydrographic Commission. A request has also been received from the Sultanate of Oman for a similar seminar for the ROPME Sea Area Regional Hydrographic Commission.

The drafting of the 5th Edition of the TALOS Manual (C-51) has been undertaken as Work Item B2 with the final draft anticipated to be presented to the ABLOS19 Business Meeting being held at the IHB 1 and 6 October. It is expected the draft manual will be forwarded to IHO MS for approval shortly after the meeting.

Progress on HSSC Action Items

N/A

Problems Encountered

N/A

Any Other Items of Note

Professor Sunil Bisnath, Canada, will assume the position of Chair of ABLOS following the closure of the 7th ABLOS Conference in October 2012 and a new Vice Chair will be elected. Both positions are for a 2 year period expiring at the closure of the 8th ABLOS Conference in 2014.

Conclusions and Recommended Actions

N/A

Justification and Impacts

N/A

Action Required of HSSC

The HSSC is invited to:

- a. note this report
- b. endorse the continuation of ABLOS to pursue its work under its existing Terms of Reference
- c. review and endorse the work program at Annex B

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1.1. ABLOS Work Plan

1.1 ABLOS Tasks

- A Maintain IHO Publication C-51 "Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea (TALOS) Manual" (IHO Task 3.6.2)
- B Organise the 7th ABLOS Conference in 2012 (IHO Task 3.6.1)
- C Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea to relevant organizations, bodies and Member States. (IHO Task 3.1.16)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Milestones	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs/Standard
A1	Prepare draft 5 th Edition of C-51 (TALOS Manual) for adoption by Member States	H		2011	2012	O	Chris Rizos, Sunil Bisnath, John Brown, Chris Carleton, Shin Tani, Ron Macnab, Graeme Blick, Steve Shipman. I Made Andi Arsana, and Clive Schofield	IHO Publication C-51
B1	Organise the 7 th ABLOS Conference	H		2011	2012	P	Decision at ABLOS 18	
C1	Provide advice and guidance on the technical aspect of the Law of the Sea	H		Continuous		O	All members of ABLOS through the Chair	

1.2 ABLOS Meetings (IHO Tasks 3.1.16 and 3.6.1 refer)

Date	Location	Activity
October 2012	IHB, Monaco	19 th Business Meeting and 7 th ABLOS Conference
tbc	tba	20 th Business Meeting

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