

1ST SESSION
OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY
Monaco, 24-28 April 2017



List of Decisions

DECISIONS OF 1st SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY	
Decision N^o	Description
1	<p>The Assembly approved the revisions to IHO Resolution 12/2002:</p> <p>The Organization shall prepare three plans to guide its work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Strategic Plan that shall be for a rolling 6-year period, and shall be reviewed at each ordinary session of the Assembly. 2. The 3-year Work Programme that shall commence in the year following an ordinary session of the Assembly and be reviewed and revised annually by the Council. 3. The 3-year Budget that shall commence in the year following an ordinary session of the Assembly and be reviewed and revised annually by the Council. <p>Planning Cycle for the Strategic Plan</p> <p><i>“A” means the date of the ordinary session of the Assembly; the numbers are months before (-) or after (+) that date.</i></p> <p>A+6 (Oct): The Council considers the instruction given by the Assembly and agrees on the implementation plan.</p> <p>A+30 (Oct.): The Council submits its report and proposals for the consideration of the Assembly</p> <p>A+36 (Apr): The Assembly discusses and decides in Plenary upon the report and proposals, endorses the Strategic Plan for the next 6 years and instructs the Council for the next cycle.</p> <p>A+03 (July) The Secretary-General circulates the updated Strategic Plan as part of the <i>Proceedings</i> of the Assembly.</p> <p>Planning Cycle for the 3-year Work Programme and Budget</p> <p>Planning Cycle for Assembly Years</p> <p><i>“A” means the date of the ordinary session of the Assembly; the numbers are months before (-) or after (+) that date.</i></p> <p>April (A-12) The Council evaluates by correspondence the accomplishment of the preceding year’s Work Programme and Budget presented by the Secretary-General, and reports to Member States (MS), through the <i>IHO Annual Report</i>, reviews the Work Programme upcoming years, inviting the Secretary-General, the HSSC and IRCC to consider changes (if needed) to the Programme in force and budgetary adjustments issuing from those changes, within the limits of the approved 3-year Budget.</p> <p>by June (A-10) MS, HSSC and IRCC submit proposals to develop the next 3-year Work Programme and 3-year Budget.</p> <p>HSSC and IRCC provide the Secretary-General with comments and proposals, if any, for the next annual Work Programme and Budget.</p>

August	(A-08)	The Secretary-General takes in to account the input from MS, HSSC and IRCC and submits a proposed 3-year Work Programme and 3-year Budget to the Council and to the Finance Committee.
September	(A-07)	The Finance Committee provides any comments on the proposed 3-year Work Programme and the 3-year Budget to the Secretary-General for consideration by the Council.
October	(A-06)	The Council: - reviews the proposals on proposed 3-year Work Programme and Budget and drafts proposals for the Assembly; and - approves the forthcoming annual Work Programme and Budget.
By December	(A-04)	The Secretary-General provides a report of the preceding Council meeting to MS.
By February	(A-02)	The Council evaluates by correspondence the accomplishment of the preceding year's Work Programme and Budget presented by the Secretary-General, and agrees on amendments, if and as required, to the proposed 3-year Work Programme and Budget and to its proposals for the Assembly.
April	(A)	The Secretary-General provides the <i>IHO Annual Report</i> for the preceding year to the MS. At the Assembly, the proposals from the Council are discussed, amended and decided upon in Plenary.
July	(A+03)	The Secretary-General circulates the 3-year Work Programme and 3-year Budget to MS as part of the <i>Proceedings</i> of the Assembly.
January	(A+09)	The 3-year Work Programme and 3-year Budget enter into force.
<i>Planning Cycle for non-Assembly Years</i>		
January		The annual Work Programme and Budget enter into force.
April		The Council evaluates by correspondence the accomplishment of the preceding year's Work Programme and Budget presented by the Secretary-General, and reports to MS, through the <i>IHO Annual Report</i> , reviews the Work Programme upcoming years, inviting the Secretary-General, the HSSC and IRCC to consider changes (if needed) to the Programme in force and budgetary adjustments issuing from those changes, within the limits of the approved 3-year Budget.
By June		HSSC and IRCC provide the Secretary-General with comments and proposals, if any, for the next annual Work Programme and Budget.
August		The Secretary-General takes in to account the input from HSSC and IRCC and the results of the audited accounts for the previous year and submits a draft Work Programme and Budget for the following year to the Finance Committee for information and to the Council for approval.

	<p>October The Council approves the forthcoming annual Work Programme and Budget.</p> <p>By December The Secretary-General provides a report of the preceding Council meeting to MS.</p> <p>January The annual Programme and Budget enters into force, and the cycle is repeated.</p>
2	The Assembly approved the proposed revisions to the IHO Strategic Plan (A.1/WP1/03).
3	PRO-4: The Assembly tasked the Council to conduct a comprehensive review of the Strategic Plan and to provide a draft revised Plan, as appropriate, in time for the consideration of the 2 nd ordinary session of the Assembly (A-2). The Council is empowered to establish a working group for this discrete purpose.
4	PRO-1/PRO-13: The Assembly tasked the Secretary-General to facilitate an informal consultation process regarding the future of S-23 among interested Member States, including determining mutually agreed modalities of work and to report the result of the consultations to the Assembly at the next ordinary session (A-2).
5	<p>PRO-9: The Assembly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approved the editorial amendments to IHO Publication M-3 - <i>Resolutions of the IHO</i>, 2nd Edition - 2010, Updated to July 2015, as set out in Annex A to PRO-9. b) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 5/1957 as amended (<i>IHO Relations With Other Organizations</i>) and to submit it to the first session of the Council. c) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 1/1969 as amended (<i>Questions Dealt With By The Bureau By Correspondence</i>) or a proposal for revocation and to submit it to the first meeting of the Council. d) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 9/1967 as amended (<i>Procedure For Election Of A Director By Correspondence</i>) and to submit it to the first meeting of the Council. e) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 5/1972 as amended (<i>Tonnage Figures</i>) and to submit it to the first meeting of the Council. f) revoked IHO Resolution 9/1937 as amended (<i>Historic Record Of The Value Of A Share Of IHO Contributions</i>), noting that the record of the value of the share is provided in the Finance Report to the Assembly. g) revoked IHO Resolution 3/2004 (<i>External Audit – Reports</i>) noting that the provisions are superseded by article 19 d of the new Financial Regulations. h) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 1/2014 as amended (<i>Guiding Principles For IHO Funds</i>) and to submit it to the first meeting of the Council. i) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 4/1957 as amended (<i>Preparations For International Hydrographic Conferences</i>) and to submit it to the first meeting of the Council. j) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 8/1967 as amended (<i>Checking Of Proposals Submitted By Member States</i>) and to submit it to the first meeting of the Council.

	<p>k) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 1/1965 as amended (<i>Adoption Of The Concluding Procedure</i>) and to submit to the first meeting of the Council.</p> <p>l) tasked the Secretary-General to draft a revised IHO Resolution 2/1965 as amended (<i>Possibility Of Considering A Withdrawn Proposal</i>) and to submit to the first meeting of the Council.</p> <p>m) revoked IHO Resolution 2/1982 as amended (<i>Regional Scheming Of INT Charts</i>) noting that the provisions of this resolution are superseded by Part A of IHO Publication S-11 - <i>Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes and Catalogue of International (INT) Charts</i>.</p> <p>n) tasked the HSSC to include a revision of IHO Resolution 8/1932 as amended (<i>Geographical Sequence Of Stations</i>) in its Work Plan and report to the Council.</p> <p>o) tasked the IRCC to include a revision of IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended (<i>Establishment Of Regional Hydrographic Commissions - RHC</i>) in its Work Plan and report to the Council.</p>
6	The Assembly approved the continued existence of the HSSC under its amended Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure set out in Annex C of document A.1/WP2/01.
7	<p>The Assembly expressed its gratitude to the Chairs of subordinate organs and subsidiary bodies who retired from the hydrographic community during the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Chris CARLETON, United Kingdom - Mr Stephen GILL, United States - Mr Barrie GREENSLADE, United Kingdom - Mr Chris HOWLETT, United Kingdom - Dr Peter JONES, United Kingdom - Mr Jerry MILLS, United States
8	The Assembly urged Member States to contribute more actively to the implementation of Programme 2 and to maintain the relevant expertise.
9	The Assembly acknowledged the significant contribution of expert contributors from industry and academia and encouraged their continuing involvement in the activities of the Organization.
10	The Assembly urged Member States to ensure consistency between their paper and digital charts and publications through the provision of the appropriate updates.
11	The Assembly urged Member States to ensure that the information on national arrangements related to the use of ECDIS are kept current.
12	PRO-6: The Assembly tasked the HSSC to review IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended taking into account PRO-6 and related comments and submit a draft revision to the Council.

13	The Assembly approved the revisions to IHO Resolution 4/1967 (<i>Submarine Cables</i>) as amended during the session.		
	SUBMARINE CABLES	4/1967 as amended	IHC 16 <u>IHO A-1</u> C3.10
<p>Considering the provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of Submarine Telegraph Cables as amended, Hydrographic Offices should use the following text as the basis upon which to provide mariners with appropriate information in publications such as Mariners' Handbooks or annual Notice to Mariners:</p> <p>Certain submarine cables are used for telecommunications functions while others are used for power transmission. All power cables and most telecommunications cables carry dangerous high voltages. Damaging or severing a submarine cable, whether a telecommunications cable or a power cable, may, in some circumstances be considered as a national disaster and very severe criminal penalties may apply. Electrocution, with injury or loss of life, could occur if any cables carrying high voltage are breached. Depending on whether the cable is primarily for power or telecommunications, damage may result in power cuts, loss of voice, data transfer or internet connectivity. In these circumstances cables are considered to be critical infrastructure.</p> <p>In view of the serious consequences resulting from damage to submarine cables, vessel operators should take special care when anchoring, fishing, mining, dredging, or engaging in underwater operations near areas where these cables may exist or have been reported to exist. In order to minimize the risk of such damage as much as possible, vessels should avoid any such activity at a minimum distance of 0.25-nautical mile¹ on either side of submarine cables.</p> <p>Mariners are also warned that the seafloor where cables were originally buried may have changed and cables become exposed; therefore particular caution should be taken when operating vessels in areas where submarine cables exist especially where the depth of water means that there is a limited under-keel clearance.</p> <p>Vessels fouling a submarine cable should not attempt to clear or raise the cable due to the high possibility of damaging the cable. No attempt should be made to cut a cable and anchors or gear that cannot be cleared should be slipped. Before any attempt to slip or cut gear from the cable is made, the cable should first be lowered to the seafloor. Note that there is a risk of capsizing smaller vessels (primarily fishing vessels) if they attempt to bring a cable to the surface. Following an incident of fouling a cable, a vessel should immediately notify the local responsible authority of the position, type, and amount of gear remaining on the seafloor. In inland areas or along the coast, warning signs or marker beacons are often erected to warn the mariner of the existence of submarine cables.</p> <p>Incidents involving the fouling of submarine cables should be reported at the shortest possible notice to the responsible authorities² who should be advised as to the nature of the problem and the position of the vessel.</p> <p>Notes :</p> <p>¹. Each responsible authority can set this distance to a value that they feel is appropriate.</p> <p>². The responsible authorities can be listed here, as well as contact methods (telephone, facsimile, VHF, e-mail, internet, etc.) and required information.</p>			

14	The Assembly approved the continued existence of the IRCC under its current Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure presented in Annex D of document A.1/WP3/01.
15	The Assembly tasked the IRCC to directly seek approval of the proposed new editions of IHO Publications S-8B and S-8A by Member States through Circular Letter voting rather than via submission to the Council.
16	PRO-2: The Assembly directed the IRCC to take into account e-learning in the IHO Capacity Building Strategy and to consider using e-learning in its Capacity Building activities.
17	PRO-8: The Assembly invited Italy to present PRO-8 to the IBSC for further consideration.
18	PRO-5: The Assembly tasked the IRCC to encourage the Regional Hydrographic Commissions to consider using satellite derived bathymetry and risk assessment methodologies in uncharted or poorly charted areas in their respective regions as a way of developing survey priority areas as part of attracting donor funding.
19	PRO-3: The Assembly tasked the IRCC to review and redraft IHO Resolution 1/2005 – <i>IHO Response to Disasters</i> , as amended taking into consideration PRO-3 and related comments and submit a draft revision to the Council.
20	<p>The Assembly agreed the following procedure for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the IHO Council for the period 2017-2020:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Assembly agreed to waive Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council in respect of the first meeting of the Council by authorizing the Council to elect its Chair and Vice-Chair in advance of the first meeting by correspondence. 2. The Assembly instructed the Secretary-General to implement the following process: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Call for nominations from the Members of the Council before 5 May 2017. b. Nominations to close on 5 June 2017. c. Circulate the names of candidates for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council on 8 June 2017 and invite the Members of the Council to submit their votes not later than 9 July 2017. d. Inform all IHO Member States of the results of the election by 15 July 2017. 3. The Assembly instructed the Council to consider whether Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council requires permanent amendment and to make proposals accordingly and if required for consideration by the Assembly at its next session (A-2).

21	<p>PRO-11: The Assembly endorsed the following IHO Resolution:</p> <p>Improving the Availability of Bathymetric Data Worldwide</p> <p>Noting that the depth of a significant percentage of the world’s seas, oceans and waterways has yet to be measured directly;</p> <p>Noting that bathymetric knowledge underpins the safe, sustainable, cost effective execution of almost every human activity in, on or under the sea;</p> <p>Recognizing the relevance of bathymetry in the maritime aspects of the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;</p> <p>Noting that significant amounts of bathymetric data is collected by the scientific and commercial sector for purposes other than chart improvement, but is not easily made discoverable or available for secondary purposes;</p> <p>Noting that in the absence of any data, bathymetric data that may not support precise navigation may nevertheless still be useful for many potential users of the world’s seas, oceans and waterways;</p> <p>1. Member States resolve that, in addition to fulfilling their international obligations to provide hydrographic information in support of safety of navigation, they should also consider implementing mechanisms that encourage the widest possible availability of all hydrographic and particularly bathymetric data, so as to support the sustainable development, management and governance of the marine environment. This may be achieved in several ways, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. active participation in and contribution to the marine element of national Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI); b. continued support for the IHO-IOC GEBCO project and the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry; c. encouraging the scientific and the commercial sector to identify and wherever possible make available for secondary use, data collected or being collected for a specific scientific or commercial purpose; d. supporting systems and infrastructures, such as MSDI and the IHO DCDB, that facilitate data discovery, thereby avoiding unnecessary duplication in bathymetric data collection; e. encouraging supplementary methods for collecting bathymetric data, including, but not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Crowd-Sourced Bathymetry, (2) Satellite Derived Bathymetry, (3) The use of autonomous vehicles for the collection of environmental data including bathymetry.
22	<p>PRO-7: The Assembly endorsed the Proposal and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) noted the Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management and tasked the IRCC and its subsidiary bodies, to identify and recommend whatever actions may be required to incorporate the Principles in their work programmes. b) encouraged Member States to incorporate the Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management into institutional frameworks

	<p>and to liaise with their national representatives in the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) to help ensure that ocean and coastal geospatial data is considered as an integral part of national Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) initiatives.</p> <p>c) supported the continued engagement of the Secretariat of the IHO with the UN-GGIM.</p> <p>d) encouraged Member States and RHCs to engage with the UN-GGIM and its regional entities to raise awareness of the marine domain, any of its unique needs, and the value of the domain within any geospatial information management effort.</p>
23	<p>IHO Work Programme 2018-2020</p> <p>The Conference approved the proposed IHO Work Programme 2018-2020 as set out in document A.1/WP1/02.</p>
24	<p>The Assembly:</p> <p>a) approved the financial report for the five-year intersessional period 2012-2016.</p> <p>b) approved the financial report for 2016 and its recommendation, which is that the budget surplus for 2016 of 241,000 Euros be distributed as follows:</p> <p>(1) 191,000 Euros to the Capacity Building Fund,</p> <p>(2) 50,000 Euros to the Internal Retirement Fund.</p> <p>c) confirmed that the Council is empowered to approve the financial statements and any recommendations for the previous year and the budget estimates and the associated annual work programme for each forthcoming year.</p> <p>d) directed the Council at its first meeting to consider an appropriate methodology and timetable to deal with each year's subsequent financial statements and to propose any adjustments to the relevant basic documents if required.</p> <p>e) deleted Article 13(c) of the IHO Financial Regulations.</p> <p>f) decided that any interest paid by Member States on contributions in arrears after 1st January 2012 be deducted from their contribution due in 2018.</p> <p>g) instructed the Secretariat to include an appropriate provision in the budget for 2017.</p> <p>h) appointed Price Waterhouse Coopers Monaco as the external auditor for the accounts of the period 2018-2020.</p> <p>i) amended Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Finance Committee as follows: "The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected at regular meetings of the Finance Committee. Member States represented at such meetings may participate in such elections. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected for a period of three years and hold office until the end of the next ordinary session of the Assembly".</p> <p>j) adopted the proposed budget for 2018-2020 as submitted in document A.1/F/02.</p> <p>k) adopted the proposed Table of Tonnages as submitted in document A.1/G/03/Rev.1.</p>