

IHO File No. S1/6100/2020

ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER  
N° 7/Rev1  
29 August 2019

**THIS ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER REQUIRES YOU TO VOTE**

**2<sup>nd</sup> SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY (A-2)**

**Monaco, 21-24 April 2020**

**INVITED OBSERVERS**

**Submission of Final Lists for Approval**

References:

- A. ACL No. 4 dated 8 May 2019 - *Invited Observers*.
- B. General Regulations of the IHO
- C. Assembly Circular Letter No.1 dated 29 April 2019 - *Announcement and General Arrangements*
- D. IHO Resolution 5/1957, as amended, *IHO Relations with Other Organizations*
- E. IHO Circular Letter 20/2019, dated 28 March - *The IHO Online Form System for Responses to Circular Letters and Input to IHO Publications (P-5 and C-55)*

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO Secretariat thanks the following Member States that replied to ACL 4 (Reference A) concerning the preparation of the lists of Observers to be invited to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IHO Assembly (A-2): Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Japan and Republic of Korea. Their comments and the responses by the IHO Secretariat are provided in Annex A to this Circular Letter.

2. The responses received from Member States have been considered by the IHO Secretariat and the proposed lists of Observer States and Organizations to be invited to A-2 are attached in Annexes B, C and D. These lists are now submitted for approval and comment, as required by Article 4 of the General Regulations (Reference B) and in accordance with the timeline for the preparation of the session (Reference C).

3. In relation to invitations for States that are not Parties to the IHO Convention, paragraph (a) of Article 4 of Reference B specifies "*one or two observers each, if proposed by a Member State, the Council or the Secretary-General and subject to approval by two thirds of the Member States*". In the absence of any comment on the proposed list circulated with Reference A, the IHO Secretariat proposes that the Secretary-General will invite all States listed in Annex B, subject to the required approval of Member States. **Member States should note that a two-thirds majority of IHO Member States is required.**

4. In accordance with paragraph (b) of Article 4 of Reference B, the Secretary-General will invite Member States with rights suspended that are listed in Annex C.

5. In accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of Article 4 of Reference B, the Secretary-General

proposes to invite those inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental international organizations, listed in Annex D, with which an agreement or special arrangement has been made in accordance with Reference D, if there are no further comments from Member States.

6. Member States are requested to provide further comments and consider approving the lists in Annexes B, C and D.

7. Responses are requested **no later than 31 October 2019**, by email (cl-lc@iho.int) or by fax (+377 93 10 81 40) when using the Response Form in Annex E, but preferably using the IHO Online Form System (see Reference E) by accessing the following link:

[https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/acl07\\_2019](https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/acl07_2019)

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General

Annexes:

- Annex A: Member States' responses to ACL 4 and comments from the IHO Secretariat.
- Annex B: List of non-IHO Member States,
- Annex C: List of suspended IHO Member States,
- Annex D: List of inter-governmental organizations, and non-governmental international organizations.
- Annex E: Response Form.

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO ACL 4  
AND COMMENTS FROM THE IHO SECRETARIAT**

**Invited Observers to A-2**

**BELGIUM**

The Flemish Hydrography can agree with the proposed list of Observers who will be invited for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IHO Assembly in Monaco during 21 till 24 April 2020.

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

*The IHO Secretariat thanks Belgium for the agreement.*

**BRAZIL**

Brazil fully supports the list of governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental international organizations listed in the Annex of the ACL 04/2019 and the number of Observers for each one of them.

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

*The IHO Secretariat thanks Brazil for the support.*

**CHILE**

We have given close study to the List of States and Organizations which might be invited to the Assembly as Observers and we do not have any observation to the different Lists.

Nevertheless we would propose to invite the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, considering the close relationship the IHO has with it, particularly through the Antarctic Hydrographic Commission and the joint efforts in progress, to increase the priority of hydrography in Antarctic.

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

*The IHO Secretariat thanks Chile for the proposal. However, there is currently no agreement or special arrangement made with the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat to support its inclusion.*

**JAPAN**

We would like the Secretariat to send an invitation letter for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Assembly to Nippon Foundation and Japan Hydrographic Association. However, we could not find a list in which they can be categorized in the ACL 04. In the previous ACL for inviting observers (ACL 03/2016), we find a list of "other organizations that could be invited to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the IHO Assembly", in which they are listed.

Do you plan to send another ACL to request the MSs to review a list of "other organizations"? If so, we will wait for it. If not, we would appreciate it if you could tell us a procedure to ask the Secretariat to send the official invitation letters for the next Assembly to the two organizations.

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

*The IHO Secretariat thanks Japan for the comments. The IHO Secretariat acknowledges the contribution from the Nippon Foundation and from the Japan Hydrographic Association to Hydrography. However, both institutions do not belong to any of the categories provided in Article 4 of*

*the IHO General Regulations. They may, however, be part of the national delegation. The Executive Director of the Nippon Foundation will also be invited to the Opening Ceremony of the A-2.***Republic of Korea**

The Republic of Korea would like to recommend the Korea Hydrography and Research Association (KHRA) and the Hydrographic Society of Korea (HySK) as permanent Observers to the Assembly. The two organizations are partner organizations for the achievement of IHO's vision and goals and they conduct research and development of hydrographic technology, distribute nautical charts and publications and deliver capacity building activities.

*Comment from the IHO Secretariat:*

*The IHO Secretariat thanks the Republic of Korea for the comments. The IHO Secretariat acknowledges the contribution from the Korea Hydrography and Research Association (KHRA) and from the Hydrographic Society of Korea (HySK) to Hydrography. However, both institutions do not belong to any of the categories provided in Article 4 of the IHO General Regulations. They may, however, be part of the national delegation.*

**LIST OF GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE NOT PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE IHO**

Afghanistan	Gambia	North Macedonia
Albania	Grenada	Palau
Andorra	Guinea	Panama
Angola	Guinea-Bissau	Paraguay
Antigua and Barbuda	Haiti	Republic of Moldova
Armenia	Holy See	Rwanda
Austria	Honduras	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Azerbaijan	Hungary	Saint Lucia
Bahamas	Iraq	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Barbados	Israel	Samoa
Belarus	Jordan	San Marino
Belize	Kazakhstan	Sao Tome and Principe
Benin	Kenya	Senegal
Bhutan	Kiribati	Sierra Leone
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Kyrgyzstan	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Somalia
Botswana	Lebanon	South Sudan
Burkina Faso	Lesotho	State of Palestine
Burundi	Liberia	Sudan
Cabo Verde	Libya	Switzerland
Cambodia	Liechtenstein	Tajikistan
Central African Republic	Lithuania	Timor-Leste
Chad	Luxembourg	Togo
Comoros	Madagascar	Turkmenistan
Congo	Malawi	Tuvalu
Cook Islands	Maldives	Uganda
Costa Rica	Mali	United Republic of Tanzania
Côte d'Ivoire	Marshall Islands	Uzbekistan

Czech Republic	Mauritania	Yemen
Djibouti	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Zambia
Dominica	Mongolia	Zimbabwe
El Salvador	Namibia	
Equatorial Guinea	Nauru	
Eritrea	Nepal	
Eswatini	Nicaragua	
Ethiopia	Niger	
Gabon	Niue	

*Note: this list is based on the list of UN Member States, UN Observer States and the two non-UN members (Niue and Cook Islands).*

**LIST OF SUSPENDED MEMBER STATES OF THE IHO**

Democratic Republic of the Congo	Serbia	Syrian Arab Republic
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**LIST OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH AN AGREEMENT OR SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN MADE WITH IHO**

Organization
Association of Caribbean States (ACS)
European Commission (EC) (Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE))
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)
International Seabed Authority (ISA)
Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)
Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa (MOWCA)
Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
Pacific Community (SPC)
Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH)
Port Management Association of Western and Central Africa (PMAWCA)
United Nations Organization (UN) - DOALOS - UNGGIM
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

**LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH THE ORGANIZATION HAS ESTABLISHED APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS**  
(IN ACCORDANCE WITH IHO RESOLUTION 5/1957)

Organization
Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators (AECO)
Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO)
Chart & Nautical Instrument Trade Association (CNITA)
Comité International Radio Maritime (CIRM)
Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)
Defence Geospatial Information Working Group (DGIWG)
East Asia Regional ENC Coordination Centre (EA-RECC)
Inland ENC Harmonization Group (IEHG)



Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)
International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators (IAATO)
International Association of Geodesy (IAG)
International Association of Institutes of Navigation (IAIN)
International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)
International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH)
International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC)
International Cartographic Association (ICA)
International Centre for ENC's (IC - ENC)
International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS)
International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)
International Geographical Union (IGU)
International Harbour Masters' Association (IHMA)
International Maritime Pilots' Association (IMPA)
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)
International Association of Tank Owners (INTERTANKO)
Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)
PRIMAR
Professional Yachting Association (PYA)
Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM) Aeronautics
Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA)
Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
The Hydrographic Society of America (THSOA)
World Ocean Council (WOC)

**RESPONSE FORM**

(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat **by 31 October 2019**)

e-mail: [cl-lc@iho.int](mailto:cl-lc@iho.int) - Fax: +377 93 10 81 40)

**Approval of the Lists of Observers to be invited to A-2**

Member State:	
Point of Contact:	
Contact e-mail:	

1. Do you agree that the States listed in Annex B to ACL 7 be invited as Observers to A-2?

Please tick ✓ the appropriate box:

YES

NO

If you answer 'No', please explain your reasons in the comment section below:

**Comments:**

2. Do you have any comments or proposals to make regarding invitations to Observer Organizations listed in Annex D to ACL 7?

Please tick ✓ the appropriate box:

YES

NO

If you answer 'Yes', please provide your comments or proposals in the comment section below:

**Comments:**

Name/Signature:	Date:
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