



JUL 26 2017

Dear Colleagues of the IHO Council,

I first want to thank you for electing me as the first IHO Council Chair. I am honored by your support and look forward to working with all of you, and to using the Council to improve the functioning of the IHO. To that end, I would like to invite each member to share their thoughts and expectations for the Council in advance of the October meeting.

While you are welcome to offer any thoughts you think are important, I offer the following questions to inspire your thinking.

- For the Council to be a resounding success, what will we have accomplished at the end of the first meeting?
- What will we have accomplished by the end of our third meeting before the Second IHO Assembly?
- How do you hope the new Council will improve the functioning of the IHO?

Please see the attached template offered to organize your responses, which will be synthesized and made available in advance of the meeting. I believe this will be a good way to stimulate thinking on substantive outcomes and be a valuable contribution to our discussions. Responses should be sent directly to me by September 15, so that the summary can be done and distributed back to the members by October 2, two weeks before the Council meeting.

In closing, I want to underscore my pleasure in having this tremendous opportunity and to working with you closely and collaboratively in this new role. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions or comments at any time. My personal e-mail address is: Shep.Smith@noaa.gov. I do look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rear Admiral Shepard M. Smith
U.S. National Hydrographer
Director, Office of Coast Survey
NOAA

cc: Secretary General Ward
Secretary General-elect Jonas



