



IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)

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HCA Letter No. 01/2018

IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA) 15th Conference, Niterói, Brazil, 26 – 28 June 2018

To: [HCA Members, Observers](#)

Ref: Email from HCA Secretary dated 13 January 2018 – *HCA-15 and Seminar at ATCM-41*

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. 15th Conference of the HCA

As announced by email in January (See Reference), the 15th Conference of the IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA-15) will be hosted by the *Diretoria de Hidrografia e Navegação* (DHN) and will take place in Niterói, Brazil, from 26 to 28 June 2018.

a) Agenda:

A preliminary agenda and timetable for the Conference is proposed in Annex A. You are kindly requested to review this draft agenda and timetable and to provide your inputs, comments and suggestions for changes or improvements **not later than 25 March 2018**. A provisional agenda will then be made available **by 25 April 2018** (HCA Statutes, Art. 6.3 refers).

b) Venue and Accommodation:

The Conference will take place in Niterói. General and logistics information, such as the location of the venue and available hotels, have been posted on the IHO website www.iho.int > Committees and WGs > HCA > HCA-15. Attendees should book their chosen hotel at their earliest convenience.

c) Registration:

Those who intend to participate in HCA-15 are requested to complete the Registration Form, which can be downloaded from the IHO website > Committees and WGs > HCA-15 and send it via e-mail to: DHN – Ms Larissa Tito (int.rel@marinha.mil.br) copy to the HCA Secretary (adcs@iho.int), at their earliest opportunity and **not later than 25 April 2018** to keep our hosts in Brazil and the IHO Secretariat well informed of the anticipated number of participants. In accordance with the Statutes of the HCA (Art. 4.5 refers), it is reminded that the presence of a third of the Members of the HCA (currently 24) shall constitute a quorum at all conferences.

2. Actions from HCA-14

The minutes of the 14th HCA Conference are available from the IHO website. An updated version of the Actions List from HCA-14 providing the current status of the actions is also given at Annex B.

HCA Members are also informed that the IHO HCA website has been updated with the inclusion of the Tide Tables for Antarctica - October 2017 to December 2018, with the kind permission of the *Servicio de Hidrografico Naval*, Argentina (See www.iho.int > Committees and WGs> HCA > Miscellaneous > Tide Tables...Argentina). The IHO Secretariat is also currently investigating the possibility of connecting the IHO GIS for Antarctica to Quantarctica (See: <http://quantarctica.npolar.no/>).

3. HCA Hydrography Priorities Working Group (HPWG)

HCA-12 decided to transfer the responsibility for coordinating the INT chart and ENC scheming in Region M from the IHB to the Hydrography Priorities Working Group (HPWG). Accordingly, HPWG is now the INT chart & ENC coordinator, in addition to monitoring survey priorities in Antarctic waters. As a result, a half-day has been set aside during the Conference period to discuss specific HPWG issues. This is indicated in the draft conference agenda and timetable.

The Catalogue of INT Charts for Region M (S-11 Part B, Region M) is available as part of the INTtoGIS web services. Thanks to the outstanding support provided by KHOA, the IHO Secretariat is also pleased to inform you that INTtoGIS Phase II is underway. Phase II (See Doc. HSSC9-11A-INF1 for preliminary information). Since the publication of Ed. 3.1.0 of S-11 Part A, INTtoGIS Phase II aims to provide a very useful scheming tool, putting together ENC and INT charts, including the possibility of using polar projections.

4. National Reports to HCA-15

4.1 HCA Members are reminded that they should provide the HCA Secretary with their national reports at least one month in advance of HCA conferences. This means that national reports should reach the IHO Secretariat **not later than 25 May 2018**.

4.2 **Format and content for national reports.** As the experimentation made at HCA-14 was successful, and in order to encourage an efficient meeting and at the same time reduce the preparation workload for participants, no written national reports are required. Instead, all Member States (whether attending the meeting or not) are invited to provide their national reports as Microsoft PowerPoint presentations using the template which is available as Doc. HCA15-07.2A on the IHO website www.iho.int > Committees and WGS > HCA > HCA-15. The template is intended to cover all the key points that should be of mutual interest to all participants at the Conference.

4.3 National representatives are furthermore requested to ensure that they are appropriately briefed on all relevant aspects of their Antarctic programmes in order to contribute actively to the HCA Hydrographic Priorities Working Group that will meet and provide recommendations as part of the Conference.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General
Chair, HCA

Enclosures: Annex A – Draft Agenda / Timetable for HCA-15
Annex B – Actions from HCA-14: Status as of February 2018

**Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA)
15th Conference, Niterói, Brazil, 26 – 28 June 2018**

DRAFT AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

*[Please provide any comments to the HCA Secretary (adcs@iho.int)
not later than 25 March 2018]*

Tuesday 26 June	HCA-15
0830	Registration
0900	1. Opening – Welcome Address <i>Docs: HCA15-01A List of Documents HCA15-01B List of Participants HCA15-01C HCA Chair Report</i>
0920	2.- Approval of Agenda and Timetable <i>Docs: HCA15-02A Agenda & Timetable</i>
0930	3.- HCA Membership Status <i>Docs: HCA15-03A HCA Membership and Observers List HCA15-03B HCA Statutes – Proposed Amendments (if any)</i>
0945	4.- Election of Vice-Chair
1000	5.- Review of Status of List of Actions resulting from HCA-14 <i>Docs: HCA15-05A Status of Actions List from the 14th HCA Conference HCA15-05B Minutes of the 14th HCA Conference</i>
1030	Group Photo followed by Coffee Break
1100	6.- Reports from International Organizations 6.1 ATCM <i>Docs: HCA15-06.1A ATCM Activities affecting HCA – Outcome of ATCM XLI - Seminar postponed to ATCM XLII?</i>
1130	6.2 COMNAP <i>Docs: HCA15-06.2A COMNAP Activities affecting HCA</i>
1200	Lunch
1330	6.3 IAATO <i>Docs: HCA15-06.3A IAATO Activities affecting HCA</i>
1430	6.4 SCAR <i>Docs: HCA15-06.4A SCAR activities affecting HCA</i>

1445	6.5 IALA <i>Docs: HCA15-06.5A IALA activities affecting HCA</i>
1500	Adjourn HCA-14 Coffee Break
1530	HCA Hydrography Priorities Working Group meeting
1700	END OF DAY ONE
Wednesday 27 June	HCA-15 (continues)
0900	7. HCA activities in relation to the IHO Work Programme 7.1 Interaction with IOC GEBCO /IBCSO <i>Docs: HCA15-07.1A GEBCO/IBCSO Project Report</i>
0920	7.2 Presentation of National Reports <i>Docs: HCA15-07.2A National Reports</i>
1030	Coffee Break
1100	7.2 Presentation of National Reports (cont.) <i>Docs: HCA15-07.2A National Reports</i>
1200	Lunch
1330	7.3 HCA Hydrography Priorities Working Group <i>Docs: HCA15-07.3A HPWG Report HCA15-07.3B Revised Survey Plan and Short List</i>
1430	7.4 INT Charts and ENC Scheming and Production <i>Docs: HCA15-07.4A INT Charts and ENCs Schemes and Production Status for Region M HCA15-07.4B INTtoGIS Phase II Project (HCA Sec.)</i>
1530	7.5 C-55 Database and IHO HCA GIS for Antarctica <i>Docs: HCA15-07.5A Status Report on C-55 Database and GIS for Antarctica – Progress Report (HCA Sec.)</i>
1630	END OF DAY TWO – Break into ad hoc WGs, if required
Thursday 28 June	HCA-15 (continues)
0905	8.- Industry presentations (if not included elsewhere in the agenda) and reports from ad hoc WGs, (if required)
1015	Coffee Break
1045	8.- Industry presentations and reports continue
1100	9.- Any Other Business

1115	10.- Date and Venue of Next Conferences
1130	11.- Review of the Decisions and Actions List
1200	12.- Closure – End of meeting
1230	Lunch

**14th Conference of the Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA)
Guayaquil, Ecuador, 28-30 June 2016**

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Feb. 2018)
	3.	Confirmation of Vice-Chair		
HCA14/01		Mr John Haumann (NGA, USA) was confirmed as HCA Vice-Chair.		
	4.	HCA Membership and Statutes		
HCA14/02	4.1	HCA Members and Observers to provide their updates on the HCA Membership to the HCA Sec. as appropriate.	Permanent	Done for IAATO
HCA14/03	4.2	HCA Sec. to upload an updated version of the HCA Statutes on the IHO website incorporating the amendments discussed and agreed at HCA-14 (incl. ATCM latest Resolutions).	August 2016	Complete
HCA14/04	4.3	Colombia's application for HCA Membership was approved. HCA Sec. to update the IHO HCA webpage.	August 2016	Complete
	6.	Reports from International Organizations		
	6.1	From ATCM		
HCA14/05		HCA Chair to draft and circulate for comment a proposal to HCA Members, IAATO, COMNAP representatives inviting ATCM40 by 30 Aug 2016 to consider including a hydrographic seminar/workshop and discussion of hydrographic issues as part of the ATCM41 programme in 2018	30 Aug 2016	Complete
		HCA Members, IAATO, COMNAP representatives to provide input/comments by 30 Oct.	30 Oct. 2016	
		HCA Chair to incorporate input and comments and to invite HCA Members, IAATO, COMNAP representatives to seek support to formally sponsor the proposal at the ATCM by 1 February 2017.	1 Feb. 2017	
	6.2	From COMNAP		
HCA14/06		COMNAP representative (John Guldahl) invited to bring the matter of collecting hydrographic data as a matter of routine to the attention of the COMNAP membership and for COMNAP to report progress to HCA15.	HCA-15	
	6.3	From IAATO		

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Feb. 2018)
HCA14/07		IAATO to consider the possibility of providing metadata of vessels traffic patterns to the IHO for inclusion as a layer into the IHO HCA GIS.	HCA-15	
	7.	Ocean Mapping		
	7.1	The IHO-IOC GEBCO Project, outcome of the GEBCO Forum for Future of Ocean Mapping, outcome of the GEBCO Arctic-Antarctic Mapping Meeting, IBCSO		
HCA14/08		HCA Members to provide existing survey coverage metadata in Antarctica (south of 50°S, - as shp files if possible - , and point of contact) to IHB and to the GEBCO IBCSO Project Leader (Dr Boris Dorschel, AWI)	30 Sept. 2016	Responses received from Brazil, Italy
HCA14/09		Dr Boris Dorschel invited to provide the bathymetry of the 15 m shoal in the SE of the Antarctic Sound to UKHO (Mr Andy Willett).	Asap ¹	
HCA14/10		HCA Members and Observers to submit contact details of all likely holders of bathymetric data for Antarctica in their country/membership to the IHB and to confirm that they have briefed those contacts on the relevance of making their data discoverable.	30 Sept. 2016	Responses received from Brazil, Italy
	8.	National Reports		
HCA14/11		Region M Coordinator to liaise with AU, RU and the Region L Coordinator (Ms Hilary Thompson, AU) to resolve the ENC overlaps between RU1B0PF0 and RU1A2K00 and AU cells.	By HCA-15	
HCA14/12		HCA Sec. to consider how to provide an example of a data discovery portal by implementing the offer made by CO to display relevant wms, wfs data on the IHO Antarctica GIS, and to liaise with France and Korea (Rep. of) for the same purpose.	Dec. 2016	Work in progress for Quantarctica
HCA14/13		HCA Chair to liaise with the French National Hydrographer on the best way to raise awareness with the relevant French authorities on the benefits of fitting suitable equipment in the Polar Logistic Vessel to be commissioned in 2017, so as to enable the collection of bathymetric data in Antarctic and other waters.	Asap	Done
	9.	Hydrographic Surveying, Nautical Charting, Nautical Publications and Information		
	9.2	Status Report on C-55 Database and HCA GIS for Antarctica		

¹ Asap: As soon as possible.

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Feb. 2018)
HCA14/14		HCA Members to provide updated statistics for C-55 for Antarctica to the IHB	30 Sept. 2016, and on a yearly basis	Responses received from Argentina, Brazil, Italy
HCA14/15		HCA Members and Observers to evaluate the existing data layers available in the IHO HCA GIS database and to propose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - additional layers (and the sources) - any duplicate layers that could be linked from other databases rather than maintained by IHO - any other comments 	30 Sept. 2016	Responses received from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, ROK, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Spain, UK, USA
	9.3	HCA Hydrography Priorities Working Group		
HCA14/16		HCA Sec. to amend the ToRs of HPWG to reflect that all HCA Membership are considered as members of the HPWG.	Dec. 2016	Complete, on the HCA HPWG webpage
HCA14/17		AR, CL, ES, GB to coordinate the production of charting of Deception Island to ensure the consistency of ENC, INT paper, and to avoid duplication of effort.	HCA-15	Survey coverage received from Chile
HCA14/18		KR to liaise with Region M INT chart producers as appropriate before submitting a consolidated proposal for a possible new INT chart covering Jang Bogo Approaches to the Region M Coordinator (Andy Willett, UKHO).	HCA-15	
HCA14/19		New proposals made at HCA-14 by HPWG Chair for Maritime Shipping Routes (MSR) were approved.		Done
HCA14/20		HCA Members to provide the IHB and HPWG Chair (Mr Andy Willett) with their national AIS data in Antarctica and requirements for improving Maritime Shipping Routes (MSR) analysis, and defining survey and charting priorities	Permanent, normally after the end of the austral summer season, and at least 3 months prior to HCA-15	Responses received from Brazil, Italy, Norway
HCA14/21		HPWG Chair to obtain statistics from HCA Membership on status of surveys and charting of the MSR and present to HCA-15.	HCA-15	

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Feb. 2018)
HCA14/22		HCA Chair to engage with CCAMLR ² and other relevant organizations for equivalent action for fishing and other vessels than commercial ships.	Dec. 2016	
HCA14/23		HCA Members to invite their Maritime Administrations and Flag vessels to locate and confirm the existence and status of all aids to navigation in Antarctica and report accordingly.	30 Sept. 2016	Responses received from Brazil, Italy
HCA14/24		IHB to consider the possibility of supplementing C-55 with survey and charting statistics in relation to agreed MSR, and find a way of posting the relevant information within the IHO GIS environment	Dec. 2016	
HCA14/25		HCA Members are reminded to use the HCA/HPWG forms in force for planned surveys, planned charting and request for data.	Permanent	Guidelines and Forms updated in the HCA HPWG webpage
	10.	Research Institutes, Stakeholders and Industry Presentations		
	10.5	Norwegian Polar Institute		
HCA14/26		IHO Sec to consider the offer made by SCAR/SCADM to participate in their meeting in Kuala Lumpur in August 2016, together with Dr Boris Dorschel (GEBSCO/IBCSO) for identifying the ways and means to improve data discovery.	Asap	Complete
	13.	Time and Place of Next Conferences – List of Polar Events		
HCA14/27		Offer from New Zealand to host HCA15 in 2017 was accepted (if possible week starting 19 June, or starting 26 June)	To be confirmed by NZ, 30 Sept. 2016	Overtaken by events

² Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.