



MACHC Letter 20/2015

Date, 15 October 2015

To: MACHC members, Associate members and Observers

**Subject: Offer of the Brazilian Hydrographic Office to host the 17th
MACHC meeting in 2016**

It is my pleasure to forward to you the generous offer of the Brazilian Hydrographic Office (DHN) to host the 17th MACHC meeting in the beautiful city of Belém. The attached proposal looks promising as it is actively supported by both the Naval Area Commander and the Mayor of Belém.

The flanking activities (seminar, demonstration, training) will prove an excellent opportunity for Capacity Building activities in the MACHC region. Also the translation service from English to Spanish and vice versa is an invaluable asset for achieving a successful MACHC meeting.

Belém situated in the estuary of the river Amazon, offers interesting hydrographic challenges as well as cultural sights. The celebration of the 400th anniversary of Belém is certainly a bonus.

I request the MACHC members to consider this offer by the DHN for acceptance during the upcoming MACHC meeting. I also ask the DHN for a short presentation to introduce their offer during the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Captain RNLN Marc C. J. van der Donck
Director Netherlands Hydrographic Office
Hydrographer of the Royal Netherlands Navy
Chairman, Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission



MARINHA DO BRASIL
DIRETORIA DE HIDROGRAFIA E NAVEGAÇÃO
Rua Barão de Jaceguai s/nº, Ponta da Armação – Centro
CEP 24048-900 – Niterói, RJ.
Tel. (+55 21) 2189-3014 – E-mail: int.rel@mar.mil.br

Letter 48/2015/07OHI

Niterói, 8 october 2015.

MARC DONCK
Captain RNLN Marc C.J. van der Donck
Director Netherlands Hydrographic Office
Chairman, Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission
Frederik Barracks, building 32, Van der Laan Burch 31, The Hague
2597 PC Netherlands

Affair: Letter to MACHC offering Belém as headquarters for the meeting in 2016.

Dear Chairman,

1. Location.

The reason for this letter is the offer of the Brazilian Hydrographic Office (DHN) to host the MACHC meeting to be held in 2016, in the City of Belem, at the Delta of the Amazon River. Situated at the Delta of the Amazon River and in the very south of the cartographic area covered by MACHC, the Belém City is within both maritime and fluvial environment and in a challenging hydrographic region, due to the peculiar amplitude of the tides, strong currents, constant variation of depths and dense forests associated with predominately no land elevations in the region.

Belém, with his 1.5 millions inhabitants, is the headquartered Command of the 4th Naval District, who has under its subordination the Center of Survey and Nautical Signaling of the Eastern Amazon (CLSAOR), DHN's operational arm in Eastern Amazon. The CLSAOR is encharged of three hydrographic ships, 2 of them newly built specifically to operate in rivers, and one buoy tender vessel, as well as boat specifically tailored to surveys in the region. Furthermore, the 4th DN has also under his subordination the Belém Naval Base, the Patrol Ships Group, a Naval Hospital, a Centre of Merchant Marine Officer Training and the Port Authority of Eastern Amazonia. Due to the geographical features of the region and the logistics facilities already offered by 4ºDN Command, we understand that Belém would be the ideal place

for the holding in 2016 of a meeting of MACHC which, if approved by the Fore, could be composed of a Seminar for the exchange of information between private and public entities, local and Caribbean region, involved in Safety of Navigation and/or Raising Awareness of Hydrography; Survey training/demonstration on board for students and/or trainees of the Caribbean region as well as local; and the Plenary Meeting itself.

Also it is worth mentioning that in 2016, Belém celebrates its 400th anniversary and the city's mayor has participated to the Commander of 4DN his support to the event, as can be seen in the attached letter addressed to this chairman. Below follow a program, a suggestion of chronology for the event, which can be changed according to the needs of this committee, as well as logistics information and facilities now available.

2. Programming.

The facilities and means available allow us to devise the event, as a whole, consists of:

a) A seminar on "Conscientiouness of the Importance of Hydrography", lasting two or three days, with simultaneous translation, with the audience of local and foreign companies involved in shipping, academia and opinion makers. In this seminar, there will be presentations of IHO, Brazilian Hydrographic Office, Professor of Brazilian University and other local institutions. It will also be open to submissions from private or state-owned enterprises involved in navigation, or any other Stake Holders. There will also be available one contiguous space for the exhibition of equipment and work affects the subject, during the seminar.

b) exhibition of hydrographic equipment by the invited companies, on board of boats made available by the Navy, in river area in front of the Naval Base pier (located about 40 minutes from the city center);

c) the possibility of adding, to the exhibition, a training/demonstration to potential participants invited by the IHO \ MACHC; and

d) MACHC Meeting:
the auditorium will be equipped with simultaneous translation English\Spanish and WI-FI, over the five days.

3. Suggested chronology.

30 November to 4 December: arrival of the delegations;
1 and 2 December: Seminar;
3 and 4 December, Saturday and Sunday: free;
5 and 6 December: training;
5 to 9 December: Meeting MACHC.

4. Available facilities.

To date, the following facilities are ensured at no cost to the IHO or to the delegates:

- availability of accommodation and meals for participants from the Caribbean region invited by the IHO;
- transport between the hosting sites and events;
- transportation of delegates and participants between the airport and place of

accommodation and vice-versa.

- two cocktails as Gathering to be hosted one by the Navy and one by Navy Local League.

5. Other Information.

a) Available flights:

There is availability of flights, direct, from Miami to Belém, as well as from Cayenne and Paramaribo to Belém. There are also the availability of daily flights from/to Belém with a stopover in Manaus.

b) Hosting:

The average prices of the various 4-star hotels in Belém, ranging today between US\$ 80.00 and 120.00, including breakfast. Most hotels are located downtown.

c) Weekend.

Once there is a weekend included during the events, a boat trip to the islands nearby Belém (lunch included) can be programmed. This tour will be in charge of each representative and will be organized by the host, with the approximate cost of US\$ 50.00.

For the weekend various options of visits to tourist sites, restaurants, bars, beaches, museums and tours will be available for the representatives.

6. Presentation.

If the Chairman deems appropriate, the Brazilian delegation will be available to give a presentation about the event at the end of the agenda of the 16th meeting of MACHC, to be held in St John on December.

Kind regards,

ANTONIO REGINALDO PONTES LIMA JUNIOR
Vice Admiral (Brazil)
Brazilian Director of Hydrography and Navigation

BREAF TRANSLATION OF THE MAYOR LETTER

Mr. Marc Donck

I am pleased to congratulate You.

Because of the 17th MACHC Meeting to be held in the 1st half of December 2016, the Brazilian Navy, through the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation, Brazilian State representative to the International Hydrographic Organization, intends to present the candidacy of Brazil, more specifically the city of Belém to host the meeting.

As Amazon Capital manager, I assume the commitment to provide Institutional support to this important event, giving welcome to the participants from Member States and Associated to the IHO, on behalf of the people of Belém.

It notes that the nautical vocation of Belém is unrefutable, since it is virtually fully facing the river, having 32 islands and having navigation as a transport vector, trade and laser.

It is imperative to stands out that the beauty of this city is thriving and that it holds extraordinary biodiversity, excellent hotel infrastructure and transport, culture and regional folklore with strong and world referenced gastronomy roots, and the best of all, warm and hospitable people.

That said, nothing fairer than the city host an event of this stuff.

Being just what features to the opportunity, we put ourselves at your disposal for any clarifications that may be necessary.

Receive our cordial Amazon greetings.

Zenaldo Rodrigues Coutinho Junior



PREFEITURA MUNICIPAL DE BELÉM
GABINETE DO PREFEITO

Ofício nº 218 /2015/GAB-PMB

Belém, 19 de agosto de 2015.

Exmº. Sr.

MARC DONCK

Captain RNLN Marc C. J. van der Donck

Director Netherlands Hydrographic Office

Chairman, Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission

Senhor Marc Donck,

Apraz-me cumprimentá-lo.

Em razão da 17ª Reunião da MACHC (Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission), a ser realizada na 1ª quinzena de 2016, a Marinha do Brasil, por meio da Diretoria de Hidrografia e Navegação, representante do Estado Brasileiro junto à Organização Hidrográfica Internacional (OHI), pretende apresentar a candidatura do Brasil, mais especificamente a da cidade de Belém, para sediar a referida reunião.

Na qualidade de gestor da Capital da Amazônia, assumo o compromisso de prestar apoio institucional a esse importante evento, dando, em nome da população de Belém, as boas vindas aos participantes dos Estados-Membros e Associados da OHI.

Cabe ressaltar que a vocação náutica de Belém é incontestável, uma vez que é praticamente toda voltada para o rio, possuindo 32 ilhas e tendo a navegação como vetor de transporte, comércio e lazer.

É imperioso que se destaque ainda que a beleza deste município é pujante, sendo detentora de extraordinária biodiversidade, excelente estrutura hoteleira e de transporte, cultura e folclore regionais com fortes raízes, gastronomia que é referência mundial e, o que é melhor, um povo acolhedor e hospitaleiro.

Isto posto, nada mais justo do que a cidade receber um evento deste estofa.

Sendo só o que se apresenta para a oportunidade, colocamo-nos a sua inteira disposição para os esclarecimentos que se fizerem necessários.

Receba as nossas cordiais saudações amazônicas.

Zenaldo Rodrigues Coutinho Júnior

Prefeito Municipal de Belém