



MACHC Letter 14/2016

Date, 17 October 2016

To: Mr Francisco Arias-Isaza
General Director of INVEMAR
Director of CMA2 Project

Subject: Invitation to attend the 17th MACHC meeting

Dear Sir,

I hope to find you well. I am writing you this letter in my capacity as chair of the Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission (MACHC). The MACHC is a Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC) which coordinates hydrographic activities, including surveying and production of ENC's in support of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO).

The RHCs are made up of IHO Member States together with other regional States and NGOs that wish to participate and work in close harmony with the IHO to help further its ideals and advance maritime safety and efficiency as well as support the protection and sustainable use of the marine environment. RHCs meet at regular intervals to discuss such things as mutual hydrographic surveying and chart production problems. See for more details: <http://www.iho-machc.org/>.

It would appear that the Caribbean Marine Atlas 2 (CMA2) project and the Marine Economic Infrastructure Program (MEIP) of the MACHC have a common interest, for instance in bathymetric and nautical maps, i.e. in relevant marine data. Both aim to strengthen the capacity of information services for participating marine - coastal countries. Those countries partly overlap. It is therefore my pleasure to invite you as Director of the CMA2 Project to attend the next MACHC meeting in Belém, Brasil, during which we can explore if and how we can complement each other's activities.

The preliminary program is as follows.

- 14th of December 2016, the formal opening will take place after which the MICC, MEIP, MICC and CB working groups will have their meetings. As a follow on from last year's Conference also a (partly parallel) Risk Assessment meeting is planned.
- From the 15th to 17th of December 2015, the MACHC plenary meeting will take place. On the 16th the MEIP and Spatial Data infrastructures (SDIs) are planned as a thematic subsection of the agenda.

I invite you or your representative to contribute to the MACHC meeting with a short presentation that focuses on the CMA2 developments that affect the MACHC region and vice versa how the MACHC might support the aims of the CMA2 project.

Enclosed you will also find the registration form. I kindly ask you to email this form to info@hydro.nl and int.rel@dhn.mar.mil.br.

The venue for the 17th MACHC meeting is the Hotel Princesa Louçã in the city centre of Belém. Please make your reservation directly with the hotel. For favourable rates you can use "MACHC-2016" as reference for your reservation.

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

