

From: **Rear Admiral Tim Lowe CBE**
The UK National Hydrographer
and NIOHC Chair



NIOHC Letter No. 6/2018

12th November 2018

To: Members, Associate Members, and Observers of the IHO North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission (NIOHC)

Subject: **Chair Handover, 19th NIOHC Meeting Dates, Agenda Input and National Report**

Dear NIOHC Colleagues

Chair Handover

UK officially took over chairmanship of the NIOHC from India, on the 9th October 2018.

As Chair of the 19th North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission Conference, I would like to thank Vice Admiral Vinay Badhwar, India, for all his efforts as the NIOHC Chair over the last year. It is my pleasure to convey his thanks to the members of NIOHC for their whole-hearted support in achieving common goals, with the essential support of various organisations and industry.

It is a great honour to serve the NIOHC region as Chair, and I look forward to progressing the goals of the hydrographic commission with the support of Rear Admiral Sisira Jayakody, Vice Chair, and to encourage engagement at the forthcoming NIOHC meeting.

19th NIOHC Meeting Dates

I express my appreciation to the Oman National Hydrographic Office (ONHO), for kindly providing the in-country support for UK, as Chair, to host the 19th North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission Conference in Muscat, Oman, from 25th to 28th March 2019.

The preliminary program proposed for consideration is as follows:

- The NIOHC plenary meeting, from 26th to 28th March 2019.
- The meeting will be preceded by the NIOHC Seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography, and the NIOHC INT Chart Coordination Working Group (NICCWG) on the 25th March 2019.

A formal invitation will be issued, as the venue details are confirmed, along with the logistics information, registration form, draft agenda, and status of actions.

Agenda Input

Please note that proposed agenda items for NIOHC19, should be forwarded to the Chair at least four months prior to the Conference. I would appreciate it if you could send your agenda items by the 30th November 2018 by email to: International.RelationsUKHO@UKHO.gov.uk and to the NIOHC secretariat: su.marks@ukho.gov.uk.

National Report

I would like to encourage all NIOHC Members and Associate Members, even if unable to attend NIOHC, to submit a national report, in order to fully understand the issues within the region and to allow us to discuss and develop ways to resolve them. This will probably be the last opportunity for us to meet as a commission and develop our input to the next IHO Assembly in April 2020 so I would urge you all to consider the key regional issues that we should bring to Assembly attention and come prepared to discuss them.

Thank you again to Admiral O'neill and his team for all their hard work as our best chair. I greatly look forward to seeing you all in Muscat.

Yours truly

~~(no name)~~