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SAIHC Letter No. 2/2012

To: Members and Observers of the IHO Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)

Subject: **9th SAIHC Conference, Mauritius, 18 – 19 September 2012**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The logistic and domestic arrangements of the 9th SAIHC Conference have been finalised and the information document and registration form are enclosed. All delegates are kindly requested to complete the enclosed Registration Form and return it before **18 August 2012.** A provisional agenda for the 9th SAIHC Conference is attached at Annex A. You are requested to review this draft and to provide your comments / suggestions for changes.

The final minutes of the 8th SAIHC Conference is available from the IHO website (www.iho.int) Hyd Commissions > SAIHC). They included a number of actions, the status of which is provided at Annex B.

Yours sincerely

Chairman Southern Africa & Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)

Enclosures: Annex A – Draft Agenda
Annex B – Status of Actions resulting from the 8th SAIHC Conference
Annex C – Logistic Information
Annex D – Registration Form

DRAFT AGENDA

9TH IHO-SAIHC Conference
MAURITIUS: 18 – 19 SEPTEMBER 2012

- 1. Opening and Administrative Arrangements**
Docs: SAIHC9-1A List of Documents
SAIHC9-1B List of Participants
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
Docs: SAIHC9-2A Agenda
- 3. Matters arising from Minutes of 8th SAIHC Conference**
Docs: SAIHC9-3A Minutes of SAIHC8
SAIHC9-3B Status / Review of Actions List
- 4. Feedback from other IHO bodies affecting SAIHC**
 - 4.1 IHB
 - 4.2: IRCC
 - 4.3 CBSC
- 5. SAIHC Activities in the light of the IHO Work Program**
 - 5.1 INT chart scheme for Region H and NAVAREA VII Self Assessment: Progress made since last meeting; actual Charting Status; ENC production status; new requirements and modifications proposed to the scheme.
Docs: SAIHC9-5.1A S-11 Region H (Presentation)
SAIHC9-5.1B NAVAREA VII Self Assessment (Presentation)
SAIHC9-5.1C ENC Production Status (Presentation)
 - 5.2 Bilateral and Regional Cooperation Agreements, Projects and Regional Capacity Building Management Plan. CBSC Technical Visits and Regional Projects
Docs: SAIHC9-5.2A SAIHC Capacity Building Management Plan
SAIHC9-5.2B IHO CBSC: Approvals of Candidate Bids from SAIHC
SAIHC9-5.2C Generic Bi-lateral Agreement for Provision of Hydrographic Services
 - 5.3 Presentation of National Reports: Hydrographic surveying, nautical charting, nautical publications and information status.
Docs: SAIHC9-5.3A National Report: France
SAIHC9-5.3B National Report: South Africa
SAIHC9-5.3C National Report: Portugal
SAIHC9-5.3D National Report: Mauritius
SAIHC9-5.3E National Report: Kenya
SAIHC9-5.3F National Report: Mozambique
SAIHC9-5.3G National Report: Malawi
SAIHC9-5.3H National Report: Norway
SAIHC9-5.3I National Report: Seychelles

SAIHC9-5.3J National Report: Namibia
SAIHC9-5.3K National Report: United Kingdom
SAIHC9-5.3L National Report: Angola
SAIHC9-5.3M National Report: Tanzania
SAIHC9-5.3N National Report: Madagascar
SAIHC9-5.3O National Report: Comoros

5.4 Hydrographic Survey status (C-55)

Doc: SAIHC9-5.4 C-55 INT Region H

5.5 Procedures in response to Marine Disasters

6. Marine / Hydrographic Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI)

7. Feedback on Global Environment Facility and World Bank Funded Western Indian Ocean GEF-Marine Highway and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project (WIOMHCCP)

8. Statutes of SAIHC

Doc: SAIHC9-8A SAIHC Statutes Rev 4

9. Election of chairman and vice-chairman

10. Any other Business

Feedback on the Regional Cooperation Group on Safety of Navigation and Marine Environmental Protection (SAGNEP)

11. Date and venue of next Conference

12. Closure

Annex B to SAIHC Letter 2/2012

8th SAIHC CONFERENCE ACTION ITEMS

Serial No	Subject	Action	Status
1	Signing of the statutes by member countries. Letter to be sent by Chair to responsible authorities explaining the importance of signing the statutes.	Chairman Angola	
2	Latest surveys carried out in Tanzanian waters to be forwarded to UKHO once appropriate administration procedures have been finalised.	Tanzania	
3	Check with Australia the status of charts for Heard and MacDonalld Islands in order to seek clarity on the responsibility for producing chart INT 7746.	UK	Completed
4	Countries in the SAIHC region to provide CB inputs by end of February each year in accordance with CB procedures. (Note: requirements can be forwarded at any time or brought to SAIHC meetings).	Chairman, Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania	Ongoing
5	Response to Marine Disasters. All are to ensure that contact details are provided and kept up to date. Contact list will be placed on the IHO - SAIHC website.	Chairman, Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania.	
6	Implement actions to accelerate the process of ratification of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention in order to meet the end of 2011 deadline.	South Africa/ Mozambique	Ongoing South Africa - complete
7	Encourage the approval of pending applications (Haiti and Montenegro) for IHO membership.	Mozambique/Mauritius	
8	Report to IRCC chair-SAIHC strategies to involve non-IHO MS in RHCs activities.	Chairman	Completed
9	Provide CBSC Chair with proposals to be included in the 2013-2017 IHO Work Programme and Budget.	Chairman	Completed

10	INT Chart Number 2656 for Bouvet Island as a stand alone chart. Approval letter to be forwarded to IHB.	Chairman	Completed
11	International chart numbers 7722 and new chart 7723 (approaches) for Tamatave (Toamasina) Harbour-Madagascar. Approval letter to be forwarded to IHB.	Chairman	Completed
12	Marion and Prince Edward Island stand alone chart INT 7745 - Approval letter to be forwarded to IHB. <i>(Also see Action Item 3).</i>	Chairman	Completed
13	New Harbour and Approach charts for Walvis Bay INT 2612 and 2613. Approval letter to be forwarded to IHB.	Chairman	Completed
14	Completion of Capacity Building Requirements spreadsheet.	UK/ Chairman	Completed
15	Reminder to all states. All survey data to be forwarded to relevant charting authorities.	Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania.	Ongoing
16	USA to investigate and ensure that Kenya and Mozambique receives territorial waters surveys.	USA	
17	Mozambique to supply survey data and charts to Malawi from joint survey project. Malawi to reciprocate. (data exchange).	Mozambique/ Malawi	
18	Capacity Building - Malawi recommended to request a technical expert to assist with getting survey system operational once R.V. TIMBA is operational.	Malawi	
19	Comoros details to be forwarded to IHB for entry into IHO Yearbook.	Chairman	Completed
20	Emergency contact list for Marine Disaster Management. Compile and circulate for comment and approval.	Chairman	
21	SAIHC Statutes to be changed to accommodate annual meetings. Investigate change to be made to the venues of meeting to be held outside the SAIHC region. To be reflected as Amendment 4.	Chairman	Completed

22	Mauritius. Date and Venue of 9 TH SAIHC meeting to be confirmed.	Mauritius/ Chairman	Completed
23	All MS and associate MS within SAIHC region to respond to IALA questionnaire.	ALL. MS & Associate MS	
24	SAGNEP Draft agenda to be created for input, constitution (TOR) and proposed participant list to be forwarded to Chairman to be forwarded to SAIHC members.	SAMSA/ Chairman	Completed
25	Portugal. Date and Venue of 10 th SAIHC meeting in 2013 to be confirmed.	Chairman/ Portugal	

Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)
Conference
Mauritius 18-19 September 2012

Location:

Mauritius, covering just 720 square miles (1,864 sq km), is the archetypal dream destination for an idyllic holiday, equipped with modern resorts that have been carefully developed to preserve the island's beauty and ecology. Most of the tourist resorts in Mauritius are situated along the 205-mile (330km) coastline, with the capital Port Louis, on the west coast, being the centre of operations for most visitors. The bulk of the population, however, reside on the central plateaux around Curepipe, the island's other major town.

The 9th SAIHC Conference is being held at the Pearle Beach Resort & Spa (www.pearle-beach.com) Wolmar, Flic en Flac, Mauritius.



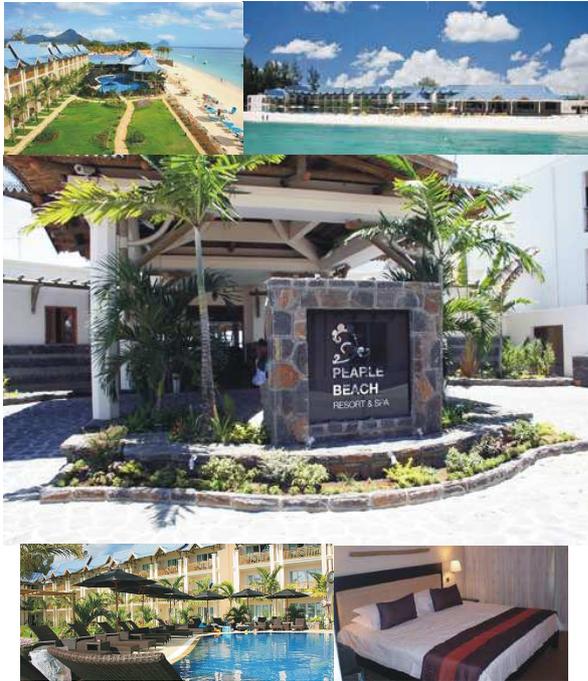
The Pearle Beach Resort and Spa is situated on the long sandy beach of Wolmar, on the sunny west coast, and can be reached in 50 minutes from the airport. The West Coast offers wonderful sunsets as well as warm and stable weather conditions.

How to get to the Pearle Beach Resort and Spa:

A shuttle service has been arranged by the Ministry of Housing and Lands (please ensure that your flight details are correct and provided in the registration form).

The Meeting Venue and Accommodation: PEARLE BEACH RESORT AND SPA

The 9th SAIHC Conference will be held at the conference facilities Pearle Beach Resort and Spa.



The Ministry of Housing and Lands have made a block booking in the name SAIHC from 18-19 September 2012. There are other resorts within walking distance that may also be considered. A detailed list is enclosed as a separate document.

Block Booking rates

En-Suite room Single €92 (US\$ 112.70*) per person / night.

(*Based on an exchange rate of 1.225 Euro to the US Dollar)

NOTES:

The above rate includes

- Bed & Breakfast

but does NOT include

- Extras such as telephone calls, laundry.

Each room features: en-suite bathroom, flat screen TV with satellite channels, mini bar, tea- and coffee maker, safe, shower and toilet, hairdryer, individual air conditioning and direct dial telephone. The very modern bathrooms are separated by charming wooden shutters, thus providing a rustic yet refined atmosphere

To make your reservation please contact the hotel directly on :

To: resapearlebeach@intnet.mu or
pearle@intnet.mu

cc: kappadoo@mail.gov.mu
sdoorgakant@mail.gov.mu

reservations can also be made on line at
www.pearle-beach.com/reservation.php

Extra Information and Frequently Asked Questions:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

It is recommended that you change some money in the airport immediately on arrival as there are areas that do not have Bureau de Changes or your flight has landed outside of banking hours.

On departure an airport tax of 500 rupees per person is payable. This can only be paid in rupees.

You need to re-confirm your return ticket at least 72 hours before departure.

For Air Mauritius (230-208-7171), British Airways (202-8000), Condor (207-3000), and SAS (208-5538).

Health

No vaccination certificates are required for entry into Mauritius, unless travelling from a country infected by yellow fever or where yellow fever is classified as endemic.

Will I require a VISA?

Depending on your nationality, and the purpose and duration of your visit, you may need a visa to visit Mauritius. (<http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/passportSite/>)

What is the weather like?

Mauritius has a sub-tropical climate so it is warm all year round. September is a great time to visit, the temperatures are traditionally between 27 - 30°C [82 - 86 °F] and the humidity is not at it's peak. At night it can cool down considerably 18-20°C [64 - 68 °F] so a lightweight jacket is recommended. It doesn't generally rain that much in September but short, sharp showers might occur.

Will I be understood if I speak English?

Most people in Mauritius are bilingual and are equally fluent in English and French.

What electricity supply is used in Mauritius?

Mauritius uses the same 220/240 volts electricity supply. Most power points are of the British 3 pin, however you may find the 2pin ungrounded power socket in use as well. Adapters can be purchased at the airport and local supermarkets but may be in short supply. US made adapters may require a transformer.



What Tax system is used?

In Mauritius all goods and services are subject to 15% VAT (value added Tax) and this is included in all prices given, so the price you see on a price tag is the price you pay.

Do I have to tip?

Tipping is not compulsory; however the standard practice is to tip hospitality industry staff (waiters, bar staff and hotel porters).

How intense is the sun's UV?

The UV throughout Mauritius is very strong all year round. It is recommended to wear a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 20 or more if you burn easily.

Do I need to worry about Mosquitoes?

As in all tropical countries mosquitoes do exist. It is recommended that you use a mosquito repellent cream.

The 9th SAIHC Conference Registration Form

IMPORTANT Note: All members must please complete the information requested in this form, and forward it to the SAN Hydrographic Office (SANHO) and the Ministry of Housing and Lands by **18 August 2012**.

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SANHO:

Email: hydrosan@iafrica.com

Personal details

First name:
Surname:
Name of partner (if applicable):
Organization:
Nationality:

Accommodation

Arrival date: Departure date:
Room type – En-Suite room Single Y / N
En-Suite room Double Y / N
Smoking / non-smoking smoking/ non-smoking

Travel Information

**Your Arrival at Sir Seewoosagur
Ramgoolam Airport**

**Your Departure from Sir Seewoosagur
Ramgoolam Airport**

Flight No:..... Flight No:.....
Airline:..... Airline.....
Arrival time:..... Departure time:

Comments or additional information:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Signature:

Date: