

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY BOARD ON
THE LAW OF THE SEA
IHB, Monaco, 13 April 1997**

Attendees

Commodore Neil R. Guy	Chairman (IHO)	South Africa
Professor Peter Vanicek	Vice-Chairman (IAG)	Canada
Mr. Bjorn G. Harsson	(IAG)	Norway
Dr. Tadahiko Katsura	(IHO)	Japan
Mr. Jack A. Weightman	(IAG)	UK
LtCdr. Chris M. Carleton	(IHO)	UK
Mr. Adam J. Kerr	(IHO)	IHB

Observers

Mr. J. Spittal	(IHO)	New Zealand
Cdr. Peter Usher	(IHO)	New Zealand
Ms. Paula Sanchez	(IHO)	Portugal
LtCdr. M. Antunes	(IHO)	Portugal
Dr. Dimitri Travin	(IOC)	IOC

Apologies

Prof. Chris Rizos	(IAG)	Australia
-------------------	-------	-----------

1. The Chairman welcomed Board Members and Observers and the meeting accepted Prof. Rizos apology.
2. The Meeting was advised of the arrangements for the meeting and of the time available.
3. The Agenda was approved with the addition of the following items:

New item 15	Six Nation Group on Geodetic Datum Co-ordinate.
New item 16	Report on New Zealand's Continental Shelf Programme.
Item 17	Any other Business
Item 18	Date and Place of next meeting.
4. Matters arising from 3rd ABLOS Meeting (Auckland, New Zealand, 8-9 July 1996)

Optimum Line Spacing	The meeting noted that the article on Optimum Line Spacing for Continental Shelf profiling had been published and distributed. Matter closed.
----------------------	---
- 5.3 Has been followed up.
4. TALOS Manual. Discussion on need for Updates – no plans. Secretary had send information on distribution to Oxford University Press (OUP).

Manual not part of the Continental Shelf book in progress of being produced. OUP will be asked if interested in publishing Manual.

Carrera's original draft – a totally private matter.

Press release. Names provided by Prof. P. Vanicek and release sent to additional names.

Mr. J. Weightman asks for total list of all contributors to go out.

1. E-Topo 5 there is later version. NIMA originally NDGC.
10. Liaison with IOC. tried to arrange meeting.

Cdre N. Guy has tried to see Mr. Kullenberg met with Mr. Dimitri Travine.

10.1 DOALOS

4. Completed.
5. Relations with GALOS

GALOS will remain as constituted.
 ABLOS Conference in 1998 will help to resolve.
 General discussion on multi-disciplinary nature of ABLOS.

6. Errors in Maritime Boundaries

Lans Sjoberg – Bjorn said matter had been discussed and NSHC would support;

Prof. P. Vanicek contacted Mr. Galo Carrera – DELMAR contains error analysis. Comes in two parts. Second part deals with error analysis. Not asked for. Major problem on copyright with ICOD. Mr. Carrera looking for someone to make it more user friendly.

Secretary will follow up to see if funding available from NSHC.

Cdr. P. Usher noted that there was widespread interest in such a programme but unable to contact Carrera. There was a need for a common programme.

Secretary to write to Mr. Galo Carrera expressing concern. Identify why DELMAR II not available.

Also write to NSHC for support.

7. IOC Joining ABLOS

Possibility has been discussed by correspondence.

Discussion on representation of Commission on ABLOS.

French opposed to IOC joining.

Secretary to write to DOALOS proposing that the Commission provide a liaison with ABLOS and other services. (Australia withdrew Member of Commission).

Art. 3 para. 2 Annex II

Terms of Reference

Advisory Board on Maritime Boundaries

To provide advice on scientific and technical aspects of maritime boundaries in Law of the Sea.

Terms of appointment, present Board Members expire 1999 and not 1998.

IHO will reduce to 3 Members in 1998

IAG will reduce to 3 Members in 1999

IOC will join in 1998 with 3 Members.

Changes will need ratification by parent organizations.

Amended ToRs' to IH Conference, to IAG and to IOC.

8. ABLOS '98 Conference

University of Nottingham.

Cdr. Carleton to convene.

Upfront funding £864 deposit.

Per person - 3 days - £ 100

90 person - 1 BRU 90-100

June 1999

Keep Vice-Chairman informed.

9. Book Sovereign Limits

To be produced in Autumn 1998. Outline of authors and what they are to write about was discussed. Copies of outline will be sent out. A full-time editorial assistant from UK Geological Survey could be appointed to assist with the preparation of the publication.

11. Report on LOS Symposium at Durham University

“Boundaries and Energy – Problems and prospect” in 1996
Next one in 1998.

Series of Workshops by invitation.

- First one Maritime Boundaries
 Land Boundaries
 Role of Islands and Maritime Boundaries 9/10 July 1997
 (copy with Minutes)

A MA course was also being offered.

12. Survey situation of 32 Broad Margin States

Problems and solutions?

Letter to be written to UN to establish who these States are and what are their concern.

13. Prof. Peter Vanicek - Elected Chairman (IAG) from closure of Meeting.

Cdr. Chris Carleton - Elected Vice-Chairman (IHO) from closure of Meeting.

14. Notice given that changes may be made on Conference venue.15. Other Business

a) Six Nation Group

It was suggested that similar initiatives be taken for other areas including the Baltic.

Technically it was said to be dangerous to extrapolate an algebraic polynomial formula as the errors became enormous.

b) New Zealand Department Programme

Major changes had taken place in New Zealand land and hydrographic structures as a result of an improved economy. There is greater social awareness in Governmental.

“Land Information New Zealand” is the new department to give effect to this. A ten-year programme for hydrography has been developed.

LOS aspects will also be dealt with by the new development. A contract for seismic surveys of Northern New Zealand could be entered into shortly.

A desk-top study to determine the requirements for a C/S claim could be funded soon and those consultants are being sought during the Conference.

c) Russian Federation

Their HO is also in the process of re-organization and will be transferred from the Department of Defence to a Civilian Department.

d) Japan

Has requested at the last ABLOS meeting in New Zealand Dr. Katsura has prepared a paper on Continental Shelf determination in an active margin. This is intended to assist other States with active margins and could be circulated within IHO (IAG and IOC?)

It was suggested that “Altimetry” and “Bathymetry” could be used in a desk-top study to determine a programme. Japan had considered this but felt unsuitable. New Zealand had also considered this and thought that the costs were low for such methods.

16. Next meeting

It should be held at the University of New Brunswick (Canada) on 28 and 29 September 1998.

It would be a two-day meeting with papers, or a visit to, the Oceans Mapping Group (Ron McNab)
