

Paper for Consideration by HSSC

Recognising the Champions of Hydrography

Submitted by:	UK
Executive Summary:	This paper proposes that a formal award is established to allow recognition of significant contributions to Hydrography within the HSSC and IRCC Committees. It seeks HSSC discussion and proposes submission of a proposal to the Council 7 meeting.
Related Documents:	M-3 Resolutions of the International Hydrographic Organization
Related Projects:	S-100

Introduction / Background

The work programmes of the IHO are dependent on the resources of member states and other stakeholders constructively contributing to the various Working Groups and subordinate Project Teams. As the S-100 standard has been developed over many years the community has benefited from significant contributions from individuals who have worked tirelessly to progress complex technical work. Although the relevant working groups and the HSSC have sought to recognise this paper proposes that a more formal means to recognise those efforts within the IHO community is established.

Analysis/Discussion

The Prince Albert 1st Medal for Hydrography was introduced in 1988 and this evolved at the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference to recognise individuals that have by their actions contributed significantly to achieving the aims and objectives of the IHO. In simple terms, the award of The Prince Albert 1st Medal for Hydrography is a recognition of the IHO's "heroes of hydrography". Resolution 2/2014 as amended refers (M-3). Notably current and former members of the IHO Secretariat are ineligible for this award.

The Prince Albert 1st Medal for Hydrography and other awards made by member states have traditionally been conferred upon those reaching senior positions within hydrography and typically at the level of national hydrographer. Although this recognition is quite appropriate at that level, an example of an existing award where individual contributions are recognised is the "Gardels" award within the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC).

[Gardels Awards - Open Geospatial Consortium \(ogc.org\)](http://ogc.org)

Conclusions

In conclusion, there is a clear need to establish a mechanism to recognise significant contributions to hydrography. The IHO has a large and challenging work programme that relies on active contributions, and it is therefore necessary to recognise these contributions. The mechanism should cater for contributions within both the IRCC and HSSC committees.

Recommendations

The HSSC chair group in liaison with the IRCC chair group should develop a proposal for submission to Council 7 to establish a new award recognising significant contributions to hydrography by individuals to be awarded by the Council.

Justification and Impacts

The current situation does not allow for appropriate formal recognition of contributions to the IHO.

It is necessary to consider this holistically across all IHO organs and subordinate groups hence, the HSSC should propose this to the Council.

The proposed new award would be more inclusive and contribute to the motivation of active contributions within the IHO.

Action Required of HSSC

The HSSC is invited to:

- a. endorse the following recommendation

The HSSC chair group in liaison with the IRCC chair group should develop a proposal for submission to Council 7 to establish a new award to recognise significant contributions to hydrography by individuals to be awarded by the Council.