

**REPORT OF THIRD MEETING OF ADVISORY BOARD OF THE LAW OF THE SEA
Takapuna, Auckland, 8-9 July 1996**

0. A List of attendees is attached as Annex 1.

1. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting and thanked Cdr. USHER, the New Zealand Hydrographer and his staff for the arrangements.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with amendments (see attached Annex 2).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Some minor amendments were agreed and reflected in the Final Minutes of the 2nd Meeting (see attached Annex 3).

In considering matters arising:

Item 12 Professor VANICEK noted that a paper will be published in the International Hydrographic Review. It was agreed to discuss this further under Other Business.

Item 13(b) has been actioned by Dr. KATSURA and a paper prepared to be considered under Agenda # 5 of the Third meeting.

Item 17 Noting that a paper on Seamless Datums has been produced by UNB on behalf of the Canadian Hydrographic Service. The IHB will ask CHS to generally distribute this to all Members of ABLOS. It was also suggested that the paper be distributed to all IHO Member States.

Item 19(a) The Chairman, on a request from Mr. WEIGHTMAN, explained the manner in which the proposed action had been taken to decide on the venue of the Third meeting.

All other matters arising were discussed under the Agenda for the Third meeting.

4. GEODETIC APPENDIX TO TALOS MANUAL

Noted that this had been published as a small booklet by the IHB. Noted that it will be incorporated in a future edition of the TALOS Manual. Appreciation of Prof. VANICEK's work was noted by the meeting. Mr. KERR reported that the Manual had been now published in English, French and Spanish and that the appendix will be so treated.

Cdr. CARLETON proposed that there may be a need for a review of the Manual in view of developments in LOS.

<p>The relationship between the Manual and the book on the Continental Shelf was discussed.</p>	
<p>Mr. HARSSON noted that the European CEN (Centre européen de normalisation) was working on standardization of definitions and this might affect the definitions in the Manual. The IHO Dictionary Group will be asked to provide advice during the amendments to the manual. It was noted that many international groups involved in the development of definitions.</p>	ACTION
<p>Mr. CARRERA's original draft of the appendix which had not been accepted, was discussed in terms of publication by the IHB or elsewhere. Prof. VANICEK will discuss the matter with Mr. CARRERA.</p>	ACTION
<p>It was proposed that Cdr. CARLETON discuss the possible future publication of the Manual by the University Presses, in association with their planned publication of the Continental Shelf book.</p>	ACTION
<p>Members were encouraged to review the Manual in preparation for a detailed examination in the future and consider a revision at the next meeting of ABLOS. The need to develop the format objectives and scope of the amended version was stressed.</p>	
<p>5. IOC/IHO BOOK ON CONTINENTAL SHELF/UN COMMISSION/ACTIVE MARGINS</p>	
<p>5.1 Work to date in preparing this book was discussed by Cdr. CARLETON. Discussed first at 2nd Group of Experts meeting at UN. This followed by a meeting at IOC in Paris and an Editorial Board has been formed, co-chaired by Dr. Peter COOK (IOC) and Cdr. CARLETON (IHO). Decision made to approach publishers. To date only Cambridge University Press has expressed significant interest. Outlined market possibilities and Scope and contents of publications. Noted that next meeting of Editorial Board may have slipped from original March 1997 date. Expectations to publish by spring 1998.</p>	
<p>5.2 Short discussion took place on the formation of the Commission on the Continental Shelf, in particular, how the membership will be selected. It was proposed that the IOC be asked to join the IHO in sending a letter to the Secretary General of the UN expressing concern that the expertise of members of the Commission be fully considered. It was further proposed that the concern of ABLOS also be expressed in the report to DOALOS.</p>	ACTION
<p>5.3 Dr. KATSURA discussed an outline of a Technical Guide for the Active Margin (see attached as Annex 4) noting the difficulties of applying Article 76. Dr. KATSURA's paper will be referred to the Editors of the Continental Shelf book and asked that all matters raised be considered. It was further proposed that Dr. KATSURA provide Japan's views in response to the issues raised.</p>	ACTION

<p>6. ACTION ON PRESS RELEASE ON ABLOS</p> <p>Mr. KERR reported that he had received a list of journals from Cdr. CARLETON and had sent out the Press release to these addresses. (Annex 5) It was noted by Mr. WEIGHTMAN that this list had not been seen by IAG members. It was agreed that Mr. KERR will send the list to all members of ABLOS, who will identify other journals, particularly those concerning geodesy, which may not be listed. A letter received from the Editor of Marine Geodesy asking for a brief write-up of ABLOS was tabled. Mr. KERR agreed to respond in cooperation with Prof. VANICEK.</p>	ACTION
<p>7. REPORT OF GALOS CONFERENCE AT BALI</p> <p>Prof. VANICEK (Chairman GALOS) reported on this event. It was attended by 90 people and 36 papers were presented. The papers will be published in Proceedings. A summary was given of the Resolutions made by the Conference. Discussion took place on specific topics discussed at the Conference, particularly a paper utilizing the bathymetric data base E TOPO 5.</p>	
<p>8. REPORT ON "ERRORS IN MARITIME BOUNDARIES"</p> <p>Prof. VANICEK reported on action taken by GALOS in response to a request by ABLOS for a study of "errors in maritime boundaries." It was noted that this presented funding difficulties for some geodesists who might have offered assistance. Noted by Cdr. USHER that a program for calculating the error propagation would be useful to a number of Member States. Mr. KERR agreed that the Bureau will write to the North Sea Hydrographic Commission to ask if it can financially support this work. Prof. VANICEK agreed to liaise with Dr. L. SJOBERG in carrying out this work.</p>	ACTION
<p>9. LIAISON AND FUTURE PLANNING WITH GALOS</p> <p>Prof. VANICEK provided his views on the historical development of ABLOS. GALOS had decided not to disband although the IHO had decided that TALOS should. Various IHO and IAG members offered their own views on this matter. A distinction was made between geodesy for LOS and marine geodesy. The IAG members accepted the IHO's concern for the difficulties of the present situation, with GALOS reporting directly to IAG. It was asked that IHO express its concern in the form of a proposal, noting that IAG can only make organizational decisions at Assemblies every 4 years. A proposal was made by IHO members and is attached as Annex 6. Prof. VANICEK agreed to present this to the IAG Executive and to respond to ABLOS Members before mid-March 1997. The Chairman expressed his appreciation to all members for their friendly consideration of this matter.</p>	ACTION

<p>10. LIAISON WITH UN DOALOS, IOC, REPORT TO UN</p> <p>10.1 Discussion on linkage between UN DOALOS and governmental and non-governmental organizations. Noted that the IHO and the IOC as governmental organizations were recognized by the UN DOALOS and through them it may be possible to improve the contact of IAG with DOALOS. Comments on this matter in a letter from the Director of DOALOS were noted.</p> <p>10.2 Discussion on expanding ABLOS with IOC. Suggested that representation directly from Industry may be beneficial. Mr. KERR will write to Secretary of IOC asking for their interest in participating in ABLOS.</p> <p>10.3 <u>Report to UN</u></p> <p>Mr. KERR reported on letters received from DOALOS requesting a report to be included in the Annual Report of the Secretary General on the LOS and a report on the impacts of the entry into free of the Convention. It was agreed that these reports be prepared.</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>ACTION</p>
<p>11. REPORT ON ORGANIZATION EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES MEETING</p> <p>Cdr. CARLETON reported on the above meeting which he had attended and participated. There will be a further meeting in two weeks on Resource Management which he will not be able to attend.</p>	
<p>12. RECOMMENDATIONS ON VERTICAL DATUMS OF IHO TIDAL WG</p> <p>Mr. KERR outlined the recommendations of the Tidal Working Group for Chart Datums as Lowest Astronomical Tide and the international Vertical Reference Datum to be WGS 84. Prof. VANICEK then noted that UNB had prepared a research report for the Canadian Hydrographic Service which recommends the use of the International Reference Ellipsoid. Mr. KERR agreed that the IHB will ask the Tidal Working Group to re-visit the recommendation to use the WGS 84 ellipsoid.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>13. CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES RESEARCH UNIT</p> <p>Cdr. CARLETON outlined the work of the International Boundaries Research Unit at Durham University, including the Workshops on Maritime delimitation, which will be held for the first time during the following week. He stressed the considerable value of their publications and the high quality of their work in general. Mr. WEIGHTMAN described the Greenwich Forum and its recent meeting on LOS.</p>	

<p>14. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME</p> <p>Chairman reviewed subjects: error propagation, review of the Manual, geodesists review of use of LAT, manual of the Continental Shelf, future multi-disciplinary symposium. Discussion on options for IAG/Vice-Chairman ABLOS attending Conference. Some discussion took place on commitment to these projects. Prof. VANICEK will investigate means of completing the error propagation study and the Secretary will write to the NSHC to ask about funding possibilities.</p> <p>Discussion followed on the proposed ABLOS multi-disciplinary conference to be planned in 1998. It was agreed that there be two convenors to plan this, with Cdr. CARLETON (IHO) and Bjorn Geir HARSSON (IAG) being identified. To report back with proposed venues and dates by mid September 1996.</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>ACTION</p>
<p>15. APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHAIRMAN</p> <p>Professor VANICEK (IAG) was identified as the next Chairman but offered so as to accommodate timing with the IHO's XVth Conference to delay take over to after that date. It was agreed that the new Chairman will take over at the next meeting of ABLOS, to be scheduled during 1997. At that time the new Vice Chairman from the IHO will be selected. It was agreed that Prof. VANICEK would attend the presentation of the ABLOS Report during the XVth IH Conference.</p> <p>16. OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>16.1 <u>Communications within ABLOS</u></p> <p>General discussion only.</p> <p>16.2 <u>ABLOS Report to XVth IH Conference</u></p> <p>Chairman will draft, check with Secretary and fax/e-mail to Members by 15 August 1996. Members to provide comments by 16 September 1996 to Secretary (IHB).</p> <p>16.3 <u>Optimum line spacing</u></p> <p>Prof. VANICEK explained his work studying this matter. The matter was discussed. The need for desk study as a prelude to field work was emphasized. There was some support for a phased approach both to the government for funds and later to the Commission for its approval. The "lawn mowing" approach was not generally supported except for special areas of very complicated topographical detail.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
<p>17. NEXT MEETING</p> <p>In April in Monaco. Date to be decided by Chairman and Secretary.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS - THIRD ABLOS MEETING
Auckland, New Zealand, 8-9 July 1996

ABLOS MEMBERS

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NEW ZEALAND OBSERVERS

Cdr. Peter USHER		Hydrographer Hydrographic Office RNZN
Dr. Fred SMITS		Business Development Manager National Institute Water & Atmospheric Research Ltd
Dr. Donald GRANT		Geodetic Scientist Land Information New Zealand
Mr. Warren FRASER		Legal Division Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade
Mr. John SPITTAL		Land Survey New Zealand

AGENDA - THIRD ABLOS MEETING
Auckland, New Zealand, 8-9 July 1996

1.	Welcome	Chairman
2.	Approval of Agenda	Chairman
3.	Approval Minutes 2nd Meeting & Actions arising	Chairman
4.	Geodetic Appendix to TALOS Manual	Mr. KERR, Prof VANICEK
5.	IOC/IHO Book on Continental Shelf/UN Commission Outline technical guide for active margin	Mr. CARLETON, Dr. KATSURA
6.	Action on press release on ABLOS	Mr. KERR
7.	Report on GALOS Conference at Bali	Prof. VANICEK
8.	Report on "Errors in maritime boundaries"	Prof. VANICEK
9.	Liaison and future planning with GALOS	Chairman/ Chairman GALOS
10.	Liaison with UN DOALOS, IOC Report to UN	Mr. KERR, Prof. VANICEK
11.	Report on organization Eastern Caribbean States Meeting	Mr. CARLETON
12.	Recommendations on vertical datums of IHO Tidal WG	Mr. KERR, Prof. VANICEK
13.	Conference Boundaries Research Unit, Durham University	Mr. CARLETON
14.	Future Work Programme	Chairman
15.	Appointment of new Chairman	
16.	Other business: - Communications within ABLOS. - ABLOS Report to XVth IH Conference - Optimum line spacing and instrumentation	
17.	Next Meeting	