Proposal for Consideration by the Council
Preparations for the triennium of IHO centenary celebrations (IHO-100)

Submitted by: IHO Secretary General

Executive Summary: The years 2019 and 2021 will be important in the history of the International Hydrographic Organization. In accordance with Decision A-1/23, the IHO Secretariat has already started the preparations of the centenary celebration activities. The main activities for the IHO centenary celebrations so far undertaken by the Secretariat are described by means of this submission.

Related Documents: Decision 23 of the 1st Session of the IHO Assembly (Approval of IHO Work Programme 2018-2020)
IHO CL 32/2018 – Activities for the centenary celebrations of the IHO (IHO-100)
IHO CCL02/2018 – Approval of the Finance Report for 2017

Introduction

1. The years 2019 and 2021 will be important in the history of the International Hydrographic Organization. 2019 will mark the centenary of the 1st International Hydrographic Conference, which was held in London in 1919 and 2021 will be the centenary of the establishment of the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) in 1921 in Monaco as precursor of the current IHO Secretariat.

2. In combination with the second Session of the IHO Assembly to be held in April 2020 this sequence forms a triennium period of celebration activities (hereinafter “IHO-100”) which aims to reflect the development and achievements of the Organization, supported by the Secretariat, since its installation throughout the century by means of suitable publications, media outreach and public events.

3. In accordance with Decision A-1/23, the IHO Secretariat has already started the preparations of the celebration activities. The planned outreach actions for the centenary celebrations are intended to raise awareness on hydrography, nautical charting and ocean mapping activities as well as highlighting the importance of the IHO and its relations with Monaco on all available platforms. Special emphasis is to be placed on the IHO’s global scope of themes and commitments to promote the conduct of hydrography, the specific contribution of Member States and the close collaboration with specific United Nations bodies and Inter Governmental Organizations, namely IMO, IOC and IALA.

Discussion

4. The main activities so far scheduled for the IHO-100, coordinated by the IHO Secretariat are as follows:

   a. To hold an exhibition on "Historical Nautical Charts and Mediterranean" which will be displayed at the Monaco Yacht Club from 1 to 13 April 2019,

   b. To organize an international workshop on “A Historical Approach for Measurements and Protection of Oceans and World Waters” scheduled to be held at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco from 20 to 21 June 2019 (in conjunction with the World Hydrography
Day),

c. To highlight the centenary celebrations as part of the media and press-campaign associated with the Council meetings in 2019 and 2021.

d. To organise a half day special session on IHO-100 at the 2nd Session of the IHO Assembly (A-2) in April 2020.

e. To prepare, publish and distribute an IHO Prestige Book on “100 Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography”.

f. To hold an exhibition at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco to highlight the close relationship between the IHO and the Principality of Monaco in June 2020/2021.

g. To present the work and the achievements of the IHO with special emphasis on safety of navigation in collaboration with the IMO at the IMO Assembly in November 2021.

h. Any other outreach activities with regards to IHO-100, such as organizing a dedicated page on the IHO web site, producing video clips, collecting historical photos and charts, issuing of media materials / press releases, providing presentations and small exhibitions at the UN, IMO and other relevant international platforms/meetings, distribution of IHO objects and stickers, unveiling of a commemorative plaque, organizing of social events in conjunction with WHD and other relevant events.

5. The International Workshop on “A Historical Approach for Measurements and Protection of Oceans and World Waters” will be jointly organized by the Piri Reis University / Turkey (International Association of Maritime Studies-IAMS), Oceanographic Museum of Monaco and International Hydrographic Organization. Member States and stakeholders are invited to contribute to the workshop by submitting papers for the conference sessions on the themes and beyond. The Call for Papers for the workshop is provided as Annex to CL32/2018.

6. For the preparation and the publication of an IHO Prestige Book on “100 Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography” the Secretary-General has established an Editorial Board composed of former IHO Presidents/Secretary-General, IHO Directors and other qualified individuals. Mr Gilles Bessero, former IHO Director, has accepted the nomination as Editor in Chief under the authority of the Editorial Board. The Editorial Board will

   a. discuss the relevance and – as a follow up - the structure of themes to be presented reflecting the Centennial of the IHO’s existence by appropriate chapters of the IHO Prestige Book;
   b. develop general guidelines for the shape of the text and suitable illustrations to explain the various topics;
   c. identify suitable authors and sub-authors for selected topics;
   d. investigate sources of suitable materials to illustrate the history of the IHO;
   e. coordinate the compilation of the materials;
   f. suggest a dissemination strategy to address the widest audience possible.

Proposals

7. Member States and Stakeholders are encouraged to contribute and attend the exhibition, workshop and other IHO-100 events indicated in paragraph four. Member States and Stakeholders are also invited to forward to the Secretariat (info@iho.int) lists of historical photos and charts in support of the centenary celebrations for posting on the IHO website and for contribution to the Prestige Book (deadline: December 2018). These lists will enable the Secretariat to undertake a
selection and forward individual requests for the materials selected.

8. The Chief Hydrographers, former National Hydrographers and prominent expert contributors are invited to provide the Secretariat with video interviews (up to five minutes), highlighting their specific contributions to the evolution of the IHO as an individual reflection of the collective approach in coordination and technical standardization of hydrographic affairs (Deadline: December 2018). It is planned to make use of these clips in composite manner to be placed on suitable media channels. For this purpose, the GEBCO Training Programme interviews could be used as an example which is available at: https://www.gebco.net/training/

9. The Secretariat also welcomes any comments and additional suggestions in support of these centenary events and proposes to make this topic a standing Council agenda item for the duration of the triennium.

Impact

10. The conduct of the above proposed activities will result in additional costs which are proposed to be covered from the Special Project Fund. The Finance Committee agreed the deposit of an amount of 37,000 Euros for the preparation and celebration of the 1st centenary of the IHO stretching over the period from 2019 – 2021 (CCL 02/2018 refers).

Action required of the Council

11. The Council is invited to:
   a. discuss and agree on proposed activities for the IHO-100 celebrations;
   b. approve the topic as standing Council Agenda item for the triennium period;
   c. take note of the additional costs evolving from this activities and it’s coverage from the Special Project Fund; and
   d. take any other actions that may be appropriate.