



IHO File No S1/6200/C-10

COUNCIL CIRCULAR LETTER 04/2026
01 June 2026

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR OF THE FOURTH IHO COUNCIL

References:

- A. Council Circular Letter 01/2026 dated 04 May 2026 - *Call for Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Fourth Council and election procedure*,
- B. Publication M-1 - Edition 2.1.3, January 2024 - *Basic Documents of the IHO - Rules of Procedure of IHO Council*.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO Secretariat thanks the seven Member States that responded to Reference A by submitting nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Fourth IHO Council: Denmark, Italy, Indonesia, Malaysia, Spain, Suriname and Romania.

2. The nominations received by the closing date for nominations were (ordered by nomination receipt):

- a. For the position of Chair:
 - i. **Mr. Magnus WALLHAGEN** – Sweden (nominated by Denmark)
 - ii. **Captain (N) Francisco DIAZ RODRIGUEZ** – Spain
 - iii. **Mr. Michel AMAFO** – Suriname
 - iv. **Captain (N) Lucian GRIGORESCU** – Romania
- b. For the position of Vice-Chair:
 - i. **Captain (N) Francisco DIAZ RODRIGUEZ** – Spain
 - ii. **Vice Admiral Budi PURWANTO** – Indonesia
 - iii. **Rear Admiral Fabrizio ORENGO** – Italy
 - iv. **Rear Admiral Dr. Najhan Md SAID** – Malaysia

3. As no objections were received on the proposed modus operandi outlined in Reference A, the IHO Secretariat invites all Council Members to cast their votes for the two positions using the dedicated online IHO form provided below.

- a. For the position of Chair:
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/dfNwXW33M4>
- b. For the position of Vice-Chair:
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/PHC6qyuULT>

4. In accordance with the secret ballot requirement (Reference B), access to individual Member State responses is restricted to the Assistant Director Charting & Services, acting as Assistant Secretary of the Council, who will communicate only the aggregated results to the Council.

5. Both ballots will remain open **until Monday 16 June 12:00 UTC** to enable a second round in case of a tie and finalize the election process by 2nd July 2026, as initially planned.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mathias Jonas', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Distribution: IHO Council Members (as per Annex A)

Annex A: 2026-2029 Membership List of the IHO Council

IHO Council Membership List

2026-2029

#	Member State – <i>Etat Membre</i>	Selected by – <i>sélectionné par</i>	Point(s) of contact – <i>Point(s) de contact</i>
1	Australia – <i>Australie</i>	SWPHC - <i>CHPSO</i>	Ms. Hillary Thompson
2	Bahamas (The) – <i>Bahamas (Les)</i>	Tonnage	Ms Kimberley Lam
3	Brazil – <i>Brésil</i>	MACHC	VAdm Ricardo Jaques Ferreira
4	Canada – <i>Canada</i>	USCHC	Dr Manon Larocque
5	China – <i>Chine</i>	Tonnage	Mr Cao Desheng
6	Colombia – <i>Colombie</i>	SEPRHC - <i>CHRPSE</i>	VAdm John Fabio Giraldo Gallo
7	Denmark – <i>Danemark</i>	NHC - <i>CHN</i>	Mrs Pia Dahl Højgaard
8	Fiji – <i>Fidji</i>	SWPHC - <i>CHPSO</i>	LtCdr Jervis M. Robinson
9	Germany – <i>Allemagne</i>	NSHC - <i>CHMN</i>	Mr Thomas Dehling
10	Greece – <i>Grèce</i>	Tonnage	Cdr Dimitrios Alevras HN
11	India – <i>Inde</i>	NIOHC - <i>CHOIS</i>	VAdm Lochan Singh Pathania
12	Indonesia – <i>Indonésie</i>	Tonnage	VAdm Budi Purwanto
13	Iran (Islamic Republic of) – <i>Iran (République islamique d')</i>	RSAHC - <i>CHZMR</i>	Mr Nader Pasandeh
14	Italy – <i>Italie</i>	MBSHC - <i>CHMMN</i>	RAdm Fabrizio Orenco
15	Japan – <i>Japon</i>	Tonnage	Mr Hideki Kinoshita
16	Malaysia – <i>Malaisie</i>	EAHC - <i>CHAO</i>	RAdm Dr. Najhan Md Said
17	Malta – <i>Malte</i>	Tonnage	Mr Godwin Louis Borg
18	Panama – <i>Panama</i>	Tonnage	Mr Luis A. Roquebert
19	Philippines – <i>Philippines</i>	EAHC - <i>CHAO</i>	Cdre Carter S. Luma-ang
20	Republic of Korea – <i>République de Corée</i>	Tonnage	Mr Kyu-sam Jung
21	Romania – <i>Roumanie</i>	MBSHC - <i>CHMMN</i>	Capt Lucian Grigorescu
22	Singapore – <i>Singapour</i>	Tonnage	Mr Thai Low Ying-Huang
23	South Africa – <i>Afrique du Sud</i>	SAIHC - <i>CHAIA</i>	Capt Nicolette le Roux
24	Spain – <i>Espagne</i>	EAtHC - <i>CHAtO</i>	Capt Francisco Diaz Rodriguez
25	Suriname – <i>Suriname</i>	MACHC - <i>CHZMR</i>	Mr Michel Amafo
26	Sweden – <i>Suède</i>	BSHC - <i>CHMB</i>	Mr Magnus Wallhagen
27	Türkiye – <i>Türkiye</i>	MBSHC - <i>CHMMN</i>	RAdm Fatih Erden
28	United Kingdom – <i>Royaume-Uni</i>	Tonnage	RAdm Angus Essenhigh
29	United States of America – <i>États-Unis d'Amérique</i>	ARHC - <i>CHRA</i>	RDML Christiaan van Westendorp
30	Uruguay – <i>Uruguay</i>	SWAtHC - <i>CHAtSO</i>	Capt Niki Silvera