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COUNCIL CIRCULAR LETTER 05/2026
17 June 2026

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

References:

- A. Council Circular Letter 04/2026 dated 01 June 2026 – *Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Fourth IHO Council*
- 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 twenty-nine (29) Member States who responded to Reference A by casting their vote to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of the fourth IHO Council.
2. In accordance with Reference B, the number of votes received (29) exceeds the two-thirds quorum required of the 30 Council Members (rule 12 refers), and only one nominee per ballot having received the largest number of votes, the following results are duly confirmed:
 - **Mr. Magnus WALLHAGEN (Sweden)** is elected as Chair of the Fourth Council, with 17 votes out of 29 received.
 - **Vice Admiral Budi PURWANTO (Indonesia)** is elected as Vice-Chair of the Fourth Council, with 11 votes out of 28 received (one Member State did not cast a vote for Vice-Chair).
3. The elected Chair and Vice-Chair will formally take up their duties at the start of the 10th session of the Council on 13 October 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Distribution: IHO Council Members (as per Annex A), copy to IHO Member States

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 (<i>Vice Chair</i>)
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 Orengo
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 (<i>Chair</i>)

#	Member State – <i>Etat Membre</i>	Selected by – <i>sélectionné par</i>	Point(s) of contact – <i>Point(s) de contact</i>
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