

IHO File No. S1/6100/2026

ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N° 7
25 August 2025

4th SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY (A-4)

Monaco, 19-23 April 2026

INVITED OBSERVERS

SUBMISSION OF FINAL LISTS FOR APPROVAL

References:

- A. Assembly Circular Letter (ACL) No. 4 dated 09 May 2025 - *Observers at the 4th Session of the IHO Assembly.*
- B. General Regulations of the IHO, Article 4
- C. Assembly Circular Letter (ACL) No.1 dated 17 April 2025 - *Announcement and General Arrangements.*
- D. IHO Resolution 5/1957, as amended, IHO Relations with Other Organizations

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The IHO Secretariat thanks Chile for its response to Reference A concerning the preparation of the lists of Observers to be invited to the 4th Session of the IHO Assembly (A-4). The comment from Chile and the response by the IHO Secretariat are provided in Annex A to this Circular Letter.

2. The proposed lists of Observer States and Organizations to be invited to A-4 are attached in Annexes B, C and D. These lists are now submitted for approval and comment, as required by Article 4 of the General Regulations (Reference B) and in accordance with the timeline for the preparation of the session (Reference C).

3. In relation to invitations for States that are not Parties to the IHO Convention, paragraph (a) of Article 4 of Reference B specifies “*one or two observers each, if proposed by a Member State, the Council or the Secretary-General and subject to approval by two thirds of the Member States*”. In the absence of any comment on the proposed list circulated with Reference A, the IHO Secretariat proposes that the Secretary-General will invite all States listed in Annex B, subject to the required approval of Member States. **Member States should note that a two-thirds majority of IHO Member States is required.**

4. In accordance with paragraph (b) of Article 4 of Reference B, the Secretary-General will invite Member States with rights suspended that are listed in Annex C.

5. In accordance with paragraphs (c) and (d) of Article 4 of Reference B, the Secretary-General proposes to invite those inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental

international organizations, listed in Annex D, with which an agreement or special arrangement has been made in accordance with Reference D, if there are no further comments from Member States.

6. Member States are requested to provide further comments and consider approving the lists in Annexes B, C and D.

7. Responses are requested **no later than 31 October 2025**, by email (cl-lc@iho.int) when using the Response Form in Annex E, but preferably using the IHO Online Form System by accessing the following link: https://IHO.formstack.com/forms/acl07_2025

Yours sincerely,

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

Dr Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Annexes:

- Annex A: Member States' responses to ACL 4 and comments from the IHO Secretariat.
- Annex B: List of non-IHO Member States,
- Annex C: List of suspended IHO Member States,
- Annex D: List of inter-governmental organizations, and non-governmental international organizations.
- Annex E: Response Form.

**MEMBER STATES' RESPONSES TO ACL 4
AND COMMENTS FROM THE IHO SECRETARIAT**

Invited Observers to A-4

CHILE

Chile has no comments to offer regarding the List of Observers proposed in ACL 04/2025.

Comment from the IHO Secretariat:

The IHO Secretariat thanks Chile for the support.

IHO SECRETARIAT

Following the signature of a Letter of Intent, the IHO Secretariat proposes the inclusion of the Maritime Organization for Eastern, Southern, and Northern Africa (MOESNA) on the List of Non-Governmental International Organizations with which the Organization has established appropriate relationships.

LIST OF GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE NOT PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE IHO

Afghanistan	Gabon	Niue
Andorra	Grenada	Palau
Antigua and Barbuda	Guinea	Panama
Armenia	Guinea-Bissau	Paraguay
Austria	Haiti	Republic of Moldova
Azerbaijan	Holy See	Rwanda
Barbados	Honduras	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Belarus	Hungary	Saint Lucia
Belize	Israel	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Benin	Jordan	San Marino
Bhutan	Kazakhstan	Sao Tome and Principe
Bolivia (Plurinational State)	Kyrgyzstan	Senegal
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Sierra Leone
Botswana	Lesotho	Slovakia
Burkina Faso	Liberia	Somalia
Burundi	Libya	South Sudan
Cambodia	Liechtenstein	State of Palestine
Central African Republic	Luxembourg	Sudan
Chad	Madagascar	Switzerland
Comoros	Malawi	Tajikistan
Congo	Maldives	Timor-Leste
Cook Islands	Mali	Togo
Costa Rica	Marshall Islands	Turkmenistan
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania	Tuvalu
Czech Republic	Micronesia (Federated	Uganda
Djibouti	Mongolia	United Republic of Tanzania
Dominica	Namibia	Uzbekistan
El Salvador	Nauru	Yemen
Equatorial Guinea	Nepal	Zambia
Eritrea	Nicaragua	Zimbabwe
Eswatini	Niger	
Ethiopia	North Macedonia	

Note: this list is based on the list of UN Member States, UN Observer States and the two non-UN members (Niue and Cook Islands).

LIST OF SUSPENDED MEMBER STATES OF THE IHO

Serbia	
Syrian Arab Republic	

**LIST OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH AN AGREEMENT OR
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT HAS BEEN MADE WITH IHO**

Association of Caribbean States (ACS)
European Commission (EC) (Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE))
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)
International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA)
International Seabed Authority (ISA)
Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)
Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa (MOWCA)
Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)
Pacific Community (SPC)
Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH)
Port Management Association of Western and Central Africa (PMAWCA)
United Nations Organization (UN)
- DOALOS
- UNGGIM
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

**LIST OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH THE
ORGANIZATION HAS ESTABLISHED APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS**

(IN ACCORDANCE WITH IHO RESOLUTION 5/1957)

Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators (AECO)
Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO)
Chart & Nautical Instrument Trade Association (CNITA)
Comité International Radio Maritime (CIRM)
Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA)
Defence Geospatial Information Working Group (DGIWG)
Inland ENC Harmonization Group (IEHG)
Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST)
International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators (IAATO)
International Association of Geodesy (IAG)
International Association of Institutes of Navigation (IAIN)
International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH)

International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC)
International Cartographic Association (ICA)
International Centre for ENC's (IC - ENC)
International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS)
International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)
International Geographical Union (IGU)
International Harbour Masters' Association (IHMA)
International Maritime Pilots' Association (IMPA)
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)
International Association of Tank Owners (INTERTANKO)
Maritime Organization for Eastern, Southern, and Northern Africa (MOESNA)
Mercator Ocean International (MOI)
Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC)
PRIMAR
Professional Yachting Association (PYA)
Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM) Aeronautics
Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA)
Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR)
The Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators (AECO)
The Hydrographic Society of America (THSOA)
World Ocean Council (WOC)

RESPONSE FORM*(to be returned to the IHO Secretariat **by 31 October 2025**)**e-mail: cl-lc@iho.int)***Approval of the Lists of Observers to be invited to A-4**

Member State:	
Point of Contact:	
Contact e-mail:	

1. Do you agree that the States listed in Annex B to ACL 7 be invited as Observers to A-4?

Please tick ✓ the appropriate box:

YES

☐

NO

☐

If you answer 'No', please explain your reasons in the comment section below:

Comments:

2. Do you have any comments or proposals to make regarding invitations to Observer Organizations listed in Annex D to ACL 7?

Please tick ✓ the appropriate box:

YES

☐

NO

☐

If you answer 'Yes', please provide your comments or proposals in the comment section below:

Comments:

Name/Signature:	Date:
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