

**4th SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY (A-4)****Monaco, 19-23 April 2026****SELECTION OF CHAIR OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY**References:

- A. IHO Convention (Article V. (e) (1))
- B. Rules of Procedure of the IHO Assembly (Rule 14)
- C. Assembly Circular Letter No.1 dated 17 April 2025 - Announcement and General Arrangements

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In accordance with References A and B and as announced in Reference C, Member States are invited to nominate candidates for election as the Chair of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the IHO Assembly (A-4). Candidates should have a good knowledge, experience and familiarity with IHO activities and fluency in at least one of the working languages of the IHO Assembly.

2. Aiming to facilitate this procedure and following the process that has taken place at several previous IHO Conferences and IHO Assembly sessions, the IHO Secretary-General and Directors have identified Mr. Michel AMAFO, Hydrographer of Suriname, as a suitable candidate who has already expressed his readiness to chair the Assembly.

Mr. Michel AMAFO has an active history of involvement in IHO activities and is aware of many of the issues that will be discussed at the next Assembly. Mr. Michel AMAFO, who has also attended previous sessions of the IHO Assembly, has demonstrated experience in chairing international events and has an excellent working knowledge of, and ability to speak in, one of the two official languages of the Organization.

3. Member States are kindly requested to inform the IHO Secretariat by 12 December 2025 of the names of any other suitable candidates that they may wish to propose as the Chair of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the IHO Assembly. If this results in more than one nominee being presented, a list of candidates will be circulated to all Member States, so that the Chair of the Assembly may be selected by vote before the Assembly and in enough time for the Chair-elect to properly prepare for their important role. In accordance with Reference B, the election of the Chair of the Assembly shall be confirmed at the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the IHO Assembly.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS  
Secretary-General