



IHO File No S1/6200/C-9

COUNCIL CIRCULAR LETTER 01/2025
25 April 2025

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 9th MEETING OF THE IHO COUNCIL
AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

References:

- A. Summary Report of the 8th Meeting of the IHO Council,
- B. Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council,
- C. IHO Circular Letter 44/2024 dated 13 November 2024 – Announcement of the new IHO Portal.

Dear Hydrographer,

- 1. As reported in Reference A (Decision C8/71), the 9th Meeting of the IHO Council (C-9) will be held at the IHO Secretariat in Monaco from Tuesday 14 to Thursday 16 October 2025 as a face-to-face event with passive livestreaming arrangements on request.

Participation of Member States

- 2. Member States occupying a seat on the Council in accordance with the composition approved by Decision A3/32 of the third Session of the Assembly (A-3) should be represented preferably by the Head of the Hydrographic Office (See Reference B, Rule 5 and *iho.int* > *About IHO* > *Council* > *Basic Documents* > *Membership List 2023-2026*).
- 3. Member States that are not Members of the Council may participate in the meeting but shall not be entitled to vote (See Article VI of the IHO Convention).
- 4. Based on experience from previous Council meetings, it was decided that no observer from the categories listed in Article 4 of the General Regulations of the IHO should be invited to this meeting of the Council. However, an invitation to subject matter experts and/or keynote speakers might be considered at a later stage if it is deemed appropriate to support specific agenda items.
- 5. C-9 will take place in the conference room at the IHO Secretariat in Monaco. This venue has a maximum capacity of 80 delegates under normal health conditions.
- 6. Members of the Council are invited to limit their delegations to two people, and observers and other participants are invited to limit their delegations to one person. These limitations do not include the Chairs of subsidiary organs requested to report to the Council or those having specific duties (rapporteurs, interpreters if any).
- 7. In accordance with Decision C1/51, delegations wishing to arrange bilateral or regional meetings prior to or after the Council meeting are reminded to inform the Secretariat (info@iho.int)

and confirm their meeting room¹ reservations and requirements at their earliest convenience. Planning will be made on a *first come first served* basis.

Provisional Agenda and Proposals submission

8. As required by Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council, this letter of announcement includes a provisional agenda enclosed as Annex A.

9. Member States are invited to submit any proposal they wish to discuss at C-9, together with relevant supporting documentation. In accordance with Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council, proposals shall be submitted “*at least three months before the opening day of the meeting*”. Accordingly, Member States and the Chairs of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) are requested to submit any proposals to the Secretariat at cl-lc@iho.int as soon as possible after their respective meetings (Reference A, Action C8/19 refers), and **no later than 15 July 2025**.

10. In accordance with Rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the IHO Council, a revised provisional agenda with supporting documents and a timetable will be provided to Member States “*at least two months before the opening day of the meeting*” (**15 August 2025**).

New IHO Portal

11. As announced by IHO circular letter (Reference C), The [IHO Portal](#) is to be considered as the main platform for the information management of IHO Meetings. From now on, all information related to the IHO Council (logistic, information, documents, registration) will only be made available through that platform.

12. All delegates are reminded that an individual IHO Portal account will be necessary to access the Council section of the IHO portal.

13. To take full advantage of the IHO Portal experience, delegates are encouraged to subscribe as member of the IHO Council Section (see IHO Council section - ‘Member’ tab for details).

Registration - Logistic Information

14. Member States are invited to register through the [IHO Portal](#) (i.e. C-9 ‘Information’ page) **no later than 15 September 2025**.

15. General logistics information will be made available on the C-9 ‘information’ page of the IHO Portal in June. Member States requiring invitation letters that may support visa requests are kindly invited to send their requests to the IHO Secretariat **at their earliest convenience**, noting that hotel reservations and visa requests remain the responsibility of each participant.

Provisional Programme – Social Events

16. The C-9 meeting is planned to start on Tuesday 14 October at 09:00 and end on Thursday 16 October at 12:00.

¹ Two meeting rooms are available, with limited capacity.

17. The Chartroom at the IHO Secretariat will be available on Monday 13 October, from 16:00 to 18:00 for an informal, voluntary gathering of C-9 participants to brainstorm and talk through the upcoming week, if so desired.

18. A reception is planned to be held at the IHO Secretariat, on Tuesday 14 October, from 18:00 to 20:00.

Yours sincerely,



Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General

Distribution:

- Council Chair/Vice-Chair, IHO Council Members, IHO Member States
- IHO Committees (Chair/Sec.): HSSC, IRCC, RENCs (IC-ENC, PRIMAR, EA-RECC)

Annex:

- A. Provisional Agenda

9th MEETING OF THE IHO COUNCIL
IHO Secretariat, Monaco, 14 – 16 October 2025

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- References:**
- A. IHO Council Rules of Procedure (Rule 8) – *Provisional agenda of meetings*.
 - B. IHO Resolution 12/2002 as amended – *Planning Cycle*.

1. OPENING

- 1.1 Secretary-General Opening Remarks.
- 1.2 Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
- 1.3 *Left blank intentionally.*
- 1.4 Chair's Opening Remarks.
- 1.5 Administrative Arrangements.

2. ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE 3rd IHO ASSEMBLY

Reference: Cumulative List of A-3 Decisions affecting the Council (Decisions A3/05, A3/08 (a) to (e), A3/13, A3/14, A3/15, A3/20 (c), A3/21, A3/28 (c)).

- 2.1 Status Report on the Implementation of the List of Assembly Decisions affecting the Council.

3. ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE IHO COUNCIL

- 3.1 Review of the Status of Decisions and Actions from C-8.

4. ITEMS REQUESTED BY SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

- 4.1 Report and proposals from HSSC.
- 4.2 Report and proposals from IRCC.
 - 4.2.1 Outcomes of the IHO Fund Generation Project Team
 - 4.2.2 Outcomes of the Workforce Project Team (Actions C8/22 & C8/24 refer).
- 4.3 Update on the S-100 Roadmap.
- 4.4 Update on the establishment of the IHO Infrastructure Centre.
- 4.5 Update on the development of S-130.

5. ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET

- 5.1 Review of the Current Financial Status of the IHO.
- 5.2 Proposed IHO Work Programme for 2026 (inc. update on Programme 1)
- 5.3 Proposed IHO Budget for 2026.
- 6. IHO STRATEGIC PLAN**
 - 6.1 Implementation of the IHO Work programme and other affected IHO instruments resulting from the Strategic Plan 2021-2026 and Decisions A3/08 (a) to (d).
 - 6.2 Outcomes from 3rd UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3), contributions to the UN Ocean Decade, and next steps
 - 6.3 GEBCO developments
 - 6.4 Proposed IHO Strategic Plan for 2027-2032 by the Strategic Plan Review Working Group (SPRWG).
- 7. OTHER ITEMS PROPOSED BY A MEMBER STATE OR BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**
 - 7.1 Constitutional and organizational framework of IHO Infrastructure Centre (Action C8/40 refers).
 - 7.2 Proposed theme of the World Hydrography Day 2026.
 - 7.3 4th IHO Assembly Preparation (Action C8/75 refers)
- 8. NEXT MEETING**
 - 8.1 Dates and venue for the 10th IHO Council meeting (13 to 15 October 2026, Monaco) (dates to be confirmed).
- 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 10. REVIEW OF ACTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE MEETING**
- 11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**