

IHO File No. S1/6100/2026

ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N° 4
09 May 2025

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

Monaco, 19-23 April 2026

OBSERVERS AT THE 4th SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY

References:

- A. General Regulations of the IHO, Article 4
- B. Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, Rule 5
- C. IHO Resolution 5/1957, as amended, IHO Relations with Other Organizations
- D. Assembly Circular Letter No.1 dated 17 April 2025 - *Announcement and General Arrangements*.

Dear Hydrographer,

1. In accordance with References A and B, the Secretary-General will issue invitations to Observers to attend the 4th Session of the IHO Assembly (A-4) to be held from 19 to 23 April 2026 to the following recipients:

- a) States that are not Parties to the IHO Convention (maximum 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;
- b) Member States with rights suspended under Article XV of the Convention, as implemented in accordance with Article 16 of the Financial Regulations (maximum two observers each), one of whom should preferably be the head of the hydrographic office;
- c) Intergovernmental organizations with which an agreement or special arrangement has been made (one or exceptionally two observers each); and
- d) Nongovernmental international organizations with which the Organization has established appropriate relationships in accordance with the Reference C Resolution for the Accreditation of Nongovernmental International Organizations (one or exceptionally two observers each).

2. The lists of Observers in the Annex were prepared according to the categories above, indicating the governments, intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental international organizations that are eligible to be invited to send Observers to the A-4.

3. Member States are invited to review the lists in the Annex and to provide their comments to the IHO Secretariat, if they wish, **not later than 18 July 2025** by email to info@iho.int.

4. The Secretary-General will prepare the final lists of governments and organizations to be invited to A-4 and will submit the lists to Member States for approval, in accordance with the deadline stated in Annex B of Reference D.

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

Annex: Lists of non-IHO Member States, suspended IHO Member States, Intergovernmental organizations, and Nongovernmental international organizations.

**LISTS OF NON-IHO MEMBER STATES, SUSPENDED IHO MEMBER STATES,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND NONGOVERNMENTAL
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

1. List of governments that are not Parties to the Convention on the IHO

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

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).

2. List of suspended Member States of the IHO

Serbia	Syrian Arab Republic
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3. 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 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)

4. List of NonGovernmental 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 Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA)

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)
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)