

IHO File No. S1/6100/2026

ASSEMBLY CIRCULAR LETTER N° 5
12 May 2025

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

Monaco, 19-23 April 2026

SHIPS' VISITS AND RECEPTIONS

References:

- A. Assembly Circular Letter No.1 dated 17 April 2025 - *Announcement and General Arrangements*.

Dear Hydrographer,

Ships' Visits

1. A regular feature of the triennial Assembly is the opportunity for Member States to present vessels servicing hydrographic tasks in the Port Hercule of Monaco. The presence of such vessels offers Assembly delegates the chance to visit and familiarize themselves with the respective specifics of technical and operational arrangements in support of survey, wreck search and other shipborne activities. Member States are therefore invited to consider sending a suitable vessel to berth in the Port of Monaco during the 4th Session of the IHO Assembly in April 2026.
2. Member States intending to send a vessel to Monaco during the Assembly period are kindly requested to inform the IHO Secretariat as soon as possible, and **no later than 31 October 2025**, so that advance notice for the allocation of suitable berths or moorings can be forwarded to the Port Authorities of Monaco, noting that Port Hercule is used to be busy at this time of the season. Since this class of vessels is legally regarded as Governmental Ships, interested Member States have to also make a formal application through diplomatic channels to the Government of Monaco for such visit.

Receptions

3. Advance notice to the IHO Secretariat is also required if any Member State wishes to organize and host a reception or similar side event during the Assembly week. Taking example from previous events, it is expected that there will be evening receptions hosted by the Industry Exhibitors and Government of Monaco. Given that the Assembly stretches over four evenings only, the options for other receptions are limited. Interested Member States are therefore invited to consider co-hosting receptions, as has been done in the past, particularly in the case of those Member States nominating candidates for election.
4. A final reception hosted by the IHO Secretariat will take place after closure of the Assembly in the late afternoon of Thursday 23 April 2026. Member States should note that any request to organize and hold receptions will be considered on a "first come - first served" basis in view of the relatively small number of opportunities available for such receptions. The IHO Secretariat terrace and/or conference room can be used by any Member State wishing to host a reception during the Assembly week. Invitations to attend hosted receptions should be distributed by the Member State concerned.
5. The IHO Secretariat remains at the disposal of Member States for any supplementary information.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Mathias JONAS
Secretary-General