

**INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION**

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT,  
LONDON SE1 7SR

Telephone: 01-735 7611  
Telegrams: INTERMAR-LONDON SE1  
Telex: 23588



SN/Circ.122  
6 November 1984

**IMO**

Ref. T1/1.02

**SAFETY OF NAVIGATION**

- 1 At the request of the United Kingdom Government the following information is brought to the attention of Member Governments.
- 2 The United Kingdom Government wishes to draw the attention of Member Governments to the attached recommendation of the Second International Hydrographic Technical Conference concerning the development by coastal States of hydrographic and charting programmes.
- 3 The Second International Hydrographic Technical Conference was held in the United Kingdom at Plymouth, from 3-7 September 1984, and was attended by over 300 delegates from 56 countries. The attached recommendation was passed unanimously by the delegates at the end of the Conference.
- 4 As the host country for the 2nd IHTC, the United Kingdom agreed to bring the recommendation to the attention of Member Governments with the request that it be given the widest possible publicity.

IHTC 2/84

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC  
TECHNICAL CONFERENCE  
(Plymouth - September 1984)

THE CONFERENCE,

RECALLING the recommendations of the UN Group of Experts on Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting in its report E/CONF 71/L1 of 12 May 1978 on the vital and urgent need of developing coastal States to establish or strengthen their hydrographic services,

RECOGNIZING that such services are essential in developing coastal States for providing modern hydrographic data that is necessary:

- A. to update navigational charts and thereby enhance the safety of shipping and reduce risk of pollution in their areas of national jurisdiction,
- B. to facilitate the development of offshore hydrocarbon and other marine resources in the above areas,
- C. to enable port administrations to optimise the permissible draught of ships using their ports thereby increasing their revenues and improving their services,
- D. to enable proper planning of port development schemes and the construction of new ports needed for their maritime development, fisheries and tourism,
- E. to facilitate the control of marine pollution occurring in their waters by enabling the movement of oil slicks to be predicted,
- F. to enable the undertaking of effective coastal zone management and
- G. to determine accurately their seaward limits of national jurisdiction and facilitate negotiations of maritime boundaries,

REALIZING that since the Publication of the UN Group of Experts' Report very little has been achieved in developing coastal States for establishing or strengthening their hydrographic services, causing a severe hindrance to their maritime growth and development, impacting on their social and economic prosperity and posing potential hazards to the safety of international shipping navigating in their waters,

NOTING that the International Maritime Organization, the International Hydrographic Organization and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) have expressed their strong support for the establishment or strengthening of hydrographic services in developing countries at both national and regional levels,

CONSIDERING that the world maritime community can also benefit from such activities,

RECOMMENDS that developing coastal States in consultation with IHO and IMO seek and be given every assistance by international funding or financing agencies (including UNDP, the World Bank and other development banks as well as by industrialized countries under bilateral or multilateral arrangements) for the development of hydrographic surveying and charting programmes including the establishment and strengthening of hydrographic services.

7th September 1984.

---