



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION  
MESO AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION



MACHC Letter 01 / 2009  
10 January 2009

To: MACHC Member States and Observers  
Subject: **New Mandate and Persons of Contact**  
Reference: MACHC Action List 9-17

Dear Hydrographer,

1. First of all I would like to wish MACHC Member States, Observers and Collaborators plenty of prosperity in 2009. May your challenges be overcome.

2. At the last MACHC meeting (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 08<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October 2008) the Commission agreed on 17 decisions. Two of them require immediate action:

- The amendment of the Statutes regarding the mandate of the Commission Chair; and
- The election of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

New article 5 establishes that the mandate of the elected Chair and Vice-Chair shall begin three months from the day of the election, and the elected Chair and Vice-Chair have been Brazil and the United Kingdom (UK) respectively. So, in order to fulfil the requirements of the Statutes, as of January 10<sup>th</sup> 2009, Brazil and the UK will take over their posts. On behalf of MACHC Members and Observers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mexico for its efforts during the last three years leading the Commission. This was not an easy task and the work done has provided ways and means to improve the hydrographic development in the Caribbean area.

In order to provide continuity to the work performed by Mexico, the following actions are urgently required:

- To update the Persons of Contact (PoC) list in order to provide the necessary communication for handling pending matters;
- To check, finalize, and manage the Actions List of the last meeting which includes the amended Statutes and a Capacity Building Plan;
- To circulate and approve the minutes of the last meeting;
- To discuss a membership application from St Kitts and Nevis;
- To update ENC production information;
- To agree on the date of the next MACHC meeting;
- To discuss the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC) key points; and
- To discuss the 1<sup>st</sup> Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) agenda.

3. As a starting point of the above list of actions, I would kindly ask you to nominate, as soon as possible and **no later than January 20<sup>th</sup> 2009**, your PoC, sending an e-mail to <int.rel@dhn.mar.mil.br>, with a copy to <wesley.cavalheiro@yahoo.com>, with the following information: full name, address, e-mail address, phone number, and fax number.

Yours sincerely,

LUIZ FERNANDO PALMER FONSECA  
Vice Admiral (Brazil)  
Brazilian Director of Hydrography and Navigation  
MACHC Chairman

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Note: To improve the Commission's effectiveness, this letter is provided only by e-mail.