G E B C O GENERAL BATHYMETRIC CHART OF THE OCEANS



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<u>To GEBCO Guiding Committee, Chairman Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature</u> <u>Names, Chairman Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping, Chairman Sub-</u> <u>Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping, Director of the IHO Data Center for</u> <u>Digital Bathymetry, Representatives from the International Hydrographic Bureau,</u> <u>Representatives from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invited</u> <u>guests.</u>

Dear Colleagues,

Meeting in Principality of Monaco, June 13-15, 2014

First Circular

The GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) will meet at the International Hydrographic Bureau offices in the Principality of Monaco. The address of the meeting is International Hydrographic Bureau, 4b quai Antoine 1er B.P. 445, MC 98011 MONACO CEDEX, Telephone: +377 93 10 81 00, Telefax: + 377 93 10 81 40. Our host is Directing Committee of the International Hydrographic Bureau. The contact for local arrangements is IHB's David Wyatt, Email adso@iho.int

Further information on the location of the IHB is available from the IHO website at (http://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=385&Itemid=303)

1. Program

The agenda for the Guiding Committee is currently being developed. The GGC will meet on June 13 and 14. The GGC will also meet on June 15 (morning). Please note that this year the Guiding Committee will not meet in open session although some key non-GC members and official observers will be invited to attend.

The GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names will also meet at IHB from June 16 to June 20, 2014. Members of the GEBCO Guiding Committee are welcome

to attend the SCUFN meeting as observers. If you plan to attend SCUFN, please complete the registration form which can be found at http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/SCUFN/SCUFN27/SCUFN27Docs.htm

Please note: The two other Sub-Committees of GEBCO (Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping and the Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping) will meet in December, in San Francisco, California, USA, preceding the American Geophysical Union Meeting, December, 15-19, 2014. The exact dates and venues will be described very shortly in a separate circular. Also, the GEBCO Bathymetric Science Day may be held differently this year. This will also be described in the upcoming circular.

2. Passports and visas

Anyone wishing to enter into Principality of Monaco is required to pass through French territory. Those wishing to enter into and stay in Principality of Monaco must hold a valid passport, or travel document, bearing the stamps, visas and authorisations enabling them to enter and stay in France, in particular in the department of the Maritime Alps. Visa applications are to be made at the French Consulate or Embassy in their place of residence or any other signatory country of the Schengen agreement. Although the Principality of Monaco is an independent and Sovereign State, the border may be crossed without any formality.

All GEBCO participants should check, well before they travel, whether they will need a visa to enter Principality of Monaco. <u>It is strongly recommended that you apply well</u> in advance for your visa. In principle all visitors must be able to show that they hold a return ticket.

If you need a **letter of invitation** to support your visa application please contact David Clark, GEBCO Permanent Secretary, at the address above.

3. Hotel accommodation

The IHB has made block bookings for the GEBCO Guiding Committee meeting at the following hotels for the period 12 June to 15 June. When booking with these hotels please quote: "**GEBCO GC**"

Hotel AMBASSADOR: *** 10, Ave. Prince Pierre, Monaco info@ambassadormonaco.com http://www.ambassadormonaco.com/ 10 rooms booked €150 single and €170 double, including breakfast Offer valid till 15 April

Hotel CAPITOLE: *** 19, Bld. G. Leclerc, Beausoleil, France info@hotel-capitole.fr http://www.hotel-capitole.fr/ 5 rooms booked €126 single and €149 double, including breakfast Offer valid till 31 March Hotel de France^{**}; (hotel-france@monte-carlo.mc) 6 rue de la Turbie, Monaco 10 rooms booked €105, single, double €135, breakfast included Offer valid till 15 March

For those GGC attendees who will be attending a portion of the SCUFN meeting, the IHB has made block bookings for the SCUFN meeting at the following hotels for the period 15 June to 21 June. When booking with these hotels please quote: "**BHI**"

Hotel AMBASSADOR: *** 10, Ave. Prince Pierre, Monaco info@ambassadormonaco.com http://www.ambassadormonaco.com/ 10 rooms booked €150 single and €170 double, including breakfast Offer valid till 15 April

Hotel CAPITOLE: *** 19, Bld. G. Leclerc, Beausoleil, France info@hotel-capitole.fr http://www.hotel-capitole.fr/ 10 rooms booked €126 single and €149 double, including breakfast Offer valid till 31 March

Hotel FORUM: *** Place des Moneghetti Beausoleil, France info@forumhotel.net http://www.forumhotel.net/ 10 rooms booked €120 single and €140 double, including breakfast Offer valid till 15 April

Hotel de France**; (hotel-france@monte-carlo.mc) 6 rue de la Turbie, Monaco 10 rooms booked €105, single, double €135, breakfast included Offer valid till 15 March

The following hotel is also within close walking distance of the IHB:

Hotel NOVOTEL: *** 16 Bld Princesse Charlotte Monaco h5275-rm@accor.com http://www.novotel.com/fr/hotel-5275-novotel-monte-carlo/

For any assistance on hotel reservation, contact Ms. Mireille Mollet at the IHB (info@iho.int).

There are many other hotels in the vicinity, details can be found on the IHO web site at: <u>http://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=386&Itemid=304</u> Additional hotels may be available though the various online hotel booking web sites.

4. Local Travel Information

For information about travelling from Nice Airport to Monaco, please see the IHO web site at

(http://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=385&Itemid=303)

5. Meeting Registration

It is very important that you register your attendance to the meeting with the GEBCO Permanent Secretary, David Clark at the address above. Please send your name, institution, email address and the dates you will attend the GGC and SCUFN. This information is necessary to plan the agenda and logistics for the meeting.

5. Local information

Principality of Monaco is a sovereign city state, located on the French Riviera in Western Europe. Located on the Mediterranean Sea, Monaco is surrounded by France on three sides. Nice, France, is the nearest large city at a distance of 11 miles (18 kilometers) and is the normal airport entry point for Monaco. Monaco is rocky and situated on steep hills that drop off into the Mediterranean. Part of the Côte d'Azur, Monaco's terrain and geography are typical of the northwestern area of the Mediterranean. It has an area of 1.98 km2 (0.76 sq mi), and a population of 35,986, making Monaco the second smallest and the most densely populated country in the world. The official language is French, although Italian and English are widely spoken.

Monaco is divided into four neighborhoods: Monaco-Ville, the old original city, which is on a rocky promontory extending into the sea; La Condamine, along the port; Monte-Carlo, the main resort, residential and tourist area; and Fontvieille, a newly constructed area on land reclaimed from the sea.

Monaco has a warm-summer Mediterranean climate which is influenced by the oceanic climate and the humid subtropical climate. Situated in the heart of Mediterranean Europe, the Principality of Monaco enjoys a particularly mild climate, with more than 300 days of sunshine per year. In June, one can expect temperatures from 20° - 30° C with only occasional rain showers.

I look forward to seeing you in Monaco!

Best regards,

David Clark GEBCO Permanent Secretary