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INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
COMMISSION

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INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE

Paris



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC
ORGANIZATION

ORGANISATION HYDROGRAPHIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

MONACO

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To GEBCO Guiding Committee, Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names,
Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping, interim Sub-Committee on Regional
Undersea Mapping, Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Project Management Committee,
GEBCO Scientific Advisers, Corresponding Members, UNH Alumni, IBC
Chairmen/Editors and others

24 March 2012

Dear Colleague,

Meeting in Principality of Monaco, October 1-5, 2012

First Circular

The GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC), Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM), Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM) and Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Training Project Management Committee will meet at various venues in the Principality of Monaco.

The address of the meeting is International Hydrographic Bureau, 4 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 Steve Shipman, Email stephen.shipman@iho.int (After June 1, 2012 it will be IHB's David Wyatt, Email David.Wyatt@iho.int)

1. Program

In addition to the GEBCO meetings in Monaco, the IHO/IAG Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) will also meet during the first week in October. Attendees at the ABLOS Conference will be invited to come one day early and also attend the GEBCO Science Day; GEBCO attendees will be invited to attend the ABLOS Conference Day one at no cost. Should a GEBCO attendee wish to attend the other

days of the ABLOS Conference, they would have to register and pay to attend the ABLOS Conference.

The formal meeting Program is planned as listed below, in chronological order, However not all participants will need, or will be encouraged, to attend for the whole of that period. For non-committee and non-subcommittee members, if you are interested in attending any of the meetings, please inform the relevant chairman of your interest. Names of Chairmen and Working Group leaders can be found on the GEBCO web site. The Science day is open to all. 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.

There are two venues for the GEBCO and ABLOS meetings. The Salle du Ponant (Address : 2 ave d'Ostende, 98000 MONACO) and the International Hydrographic Bureau (Address : 4 quai Antoine 1er, B.P. 445, MC 98011 MONACO CEDEX, Telephone: +377 93 10 81 00.

Date	Venue		
	Salle du Ponant	IHB	IHB
Monday 1 October 2012	Preparations	ABLOS BM	GEBCO TSCOM/SCRUM
Tuesday 2 October	GEBCO Science Day		
Wednesday 3 October	ABLOS Conference		
Thursday 4 October	ABLOS Conference		GEBCO TSCOM/SCRUM
Friday 5 October	ABLOS Conference		GGC
Saturday 6 October		ABLOS BM	

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. It is strongly recommended that you apply well in advance for your visa.

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

In principle all visitors must be able to show that they hold a return ticket.

3. Hotel accommodation

The IHB has made block bookings for the ABLOS Conference and GEBCO meetings at the following hotels for the period 30 September to 6 October. When booking with these hotels please quote: **IHB Block booking ABLOS/GEBCO**

Hotel	Number of rooms	Single with Breakfast (Euro)	Double with Breakfast (Euro)	Option until
Hotel Forum / *** Address: Place des Moneghetti 06240 Beausoleil Telephone: 33 4 93789636 Fax: 33 4 93789638 E-mail: info@forumhotel.net Web: http://www.hotel-forum-beausoleil.cote.azur.fr/page_en_1.html	25	110	130	29 June
Hotel Miramar / *** Address: 1, av JF Kennedy 98000 MONACO Telephone: 377 9330 8648 Fax: 377 9330 2633 http://miramar.monaco-hotel.com/	6	190	210	
Hotel Novotel / *** Address: 16 Bld Princesse Charlotte 98000 MONACO Telephone: +377 9999 8300 Fax: +377 9999 8310 E-mail: h5275-rm@accor.com Web: http://www.novotel.com/gb/home/index.shtml	20	153	165	3 September
Hotel Ambassador / *** Address: 10, Ave. Prince Pierre, MC. Telephone: 377 97979696 Fax: 377 97979699 Web: http://www.ambassadormonaco.com/en/index.php	20	150	180	30 July
Hotel de France / ** Address: 6, rue de la Turbie, Monte Carlo Telephone: 377 93302464 Fax: 377 92161334 E-mail: hotel-france@monte-carlo.mc Web: http://www.monte-carlo.mc/france/presentation_en.php	15	85	105	1 July
Azur Hotel / ** Address: 14 Bld de la République 06240, BEAUSOLEIL Telephone: +33 4 9378 0125 Fax: +33 4 9378 3008 E-mail: azurhotel@yahoo.fr Web: http://www.cote.azur.fr/hotel_azur-hotel-beausoleil_59312_lang_en.htm	8	73	83	1 August
Hotel Diana / ** Address: 17, Bld General Leclerc, 06240 Beausoleil Telephone: 33 4 9378 4758 Fax: 33 4 9341 8894 Web: http://www.monte-carlo.mc/hotel-diana-beausoleil/formgb.php	11	75-50	90 & 95	15 September

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

4. 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. 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). 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. One of the loveliest times to be in Monaco is September - October. With temperatures in the 60s to 70s, people are still sun tanning on the beach until mid-October.

I look forward to seeing you in Monaco!

Best regards,



David Clark
GEBCO Permanent Secretary