



**Commission 4 – Hydrography**

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**Mr Alberto Neves**  
**Secretary, IBSC**  
**International Hydrographic Bureau**  
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**6 April 2016**

**DRAFT NEW EDITION 1.0.0 OF IHO PUBLICATION S-5A –STANDARDS OF  
COMPETENCE FOR CATEGORY “A” HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS**

Dear Alberto,

You would be aware that a key deliverable of FIG Commission 4 is to help provide ongoing oversight of, and input to, hydrographic standards and guidelines, in particular those sponsored by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). You might also be aware that to help realise this objective, the Commission currently has in place a formal Working Group (WG 4.1 – Standards and Guidelines for Hydrography) whose primary objectives include:

- assisting the development and recognition of standards of competency for hydrographic surveyors;
- assisting the development of technical standards and guidelines;
- assisting with the review of standards and guidelines; and
- promoting the need for and benefits of, professional hydrographic surveyor certification.

In response to IHO Circular Letter 07/2016 of 10 February 2016, which invited comment on the first draft edition of S-5A- Standards of Competence for Category “A” Hydrographic Surveyors, a review of the draft Standard has recently been undertaken by WG 4.1 members.

In line with the Memorandum of Understanding between the IHO and FIG, which provides a framework for continuing liaison and mutual sharing of knowledge and expertise, based on this review by WG 4.1, Commission 4’s S5A submission is forwarded for IBSC consideration ahead of the IRCC8 meeting next month in the UAE.

Commission 4's point of contact regarding this submission and any clarification of the observations and recommendations raised in the enclosure, is the Chair of WG 4.1 Mr Simon Ironside, who can be contacted through Commission 4 or alternatively, through the WG 4.1 web site:

[http://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/4/2015-2018/WG/wg\\_4.1\\_15\\_18.asp](http://www.fig.net/organisation/comm/4/2015-2018/WG/wg_4.1_15_18.asp)

Kind regards,



**Angela Kesiena Etuonovbe,**  
**Chair**

**FIG Commission 4**

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**Enclosure:**

1. WG 4.1 Hydrographic Standards and Guidelines Review Submission 1/16 – S5A of 4  
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