

Report on the activities of ABLOS 2003-2007

The Advisory Board of the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) was created in 1994 by the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO) and IAG to provide advice and, guidance and, where applicable, offer expert interpretation of hydrographic, geodetic and other technical aspects of the Law of the Sea to parent organisations, their member states or to other organisations on request.

The IAG representatives in ABLOS for the current period were Don Grant, Chris Rizos (chairman 2003-2005) and Lars Sjöberg.

Four annual business meetings were held (all in Monaco except one in Canberra, October 2004). One of the main activities was the revision of the Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea to the 4th TALOS manual (www.iho.shom.fr: publication S51 (free to download)). This task required that some of the members gathered at additional editorial meetings. The other major activity was the preparation and conducting of two ABLOS conferences, namely

- *Difficult Issues in UNCLOS*, Monaco, 28-30 October 2003, and
- *Marine Scientific Research and the Law of the Sea: the Balance between Coastal State and International Rights*, Monaco, 10-12 October 2005.

More details on ABLOS' activities with minutes of meetings and conference papers can be found at ABLOS homepage: www.gmat.unsw.edu.au/ablos/