IOC Circular Letter No. 2569

(Available in English only)

To: IOC Member States (Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC)
Permanent Delegates/Observers Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States

Cc: The Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission
Officers of Major IOC Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical and Regional)

Subject: Nippon Foundation / GEBCO (General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans) Training Project Year 12 (2015–2016)

Please be advised that nominations are being sought for the 12th class of the Nippon Foundation / GEBCO Training Programme leading to the Postgraduate Certificate in Ocean Bathymetry (PCOB) at the University of New Hampshire, USA, to begin late August 2015 (pending funding to be confirmed end of March 2015 by the Nippon Foundation).

Students will undertake an intensive 12-month training of lectures, practical laboratory and on-the-water projects, secondments to relevant laboratories and cruises on research or survey ships. In addition to teaching staff from the university, other experts are brought in from various institutions for limited periods of time to give expert lectures. The course syllabus includes acoustics, positioning, satellite altimetry, sonar performance, survey design, and uncertainty management, geology, margin and abyssal sediments, bottom composition and acoustic backscatter, structure of ocean basins, physical oceanography, data analysis and integration and surface interpolation. Students can also select additional courses from a range of electives.

The language of instruction is English, and candidates must demonstrate capability to undertake graduate level instruction in English to the satisfaction of the University of New Hampshire. Candidates must be aware that this is an intensive course, even for students whose first language is English. The minimum standard for admission is a four-year Bachelor’s degree in a related field. Since GEBCO is affiliated with both the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, candidates from both contributing disciplines are considered equally on their merits.

.../...
Member States are requested to consider nominating suitable candidates for the Postgraduate Certificate in Ocean Bathymetry (PCOB) course from among their nationals. Nomination decisions should include consideration of the following: Level of and subject of degree(s) held by nominee; experience in ocean bathymetry; ability in English; future opportunities to work on bathymetric projects, likelihood of candidate continuing to work in the field; and personal motivation.

A description of the course, eligibility for entry, financial details, schedule, course content, contact information and a downloadable application form are available at: http://www.gebco.net/training/training_project/.

Fill out the preliminary application form available on the above website and send it by email as an “attached” file, to the Course Director, nfg_project_manager@ccom.unh.edu, as soon as possible and no later than 31 March, 2015. Please note that applications sent directly to the IOC will not be considered.

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Ms Flavia Schlegel
Executive Secretary (ad interim)