



**NATO MARITIME GEOSPATIAL, METEOROLOGICAL & OCEANOGRAPHIC
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

Our Reference NU/MGEOMETOC COE/019/DIR

Date 12 March 2025

To TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Subject **LETTER OF INVITATION FOR THE “RAPID ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT SUPPORT TO MARITIME OPERATIONS” COURSE,
26-30 MAY 2025**

Enclosures A. Administrative Information
B. Guide for Participants
C. Application Form

1. The NATO Maritime Geospatial, Meteorological & Oceanographic Centre of Excellence (Maritime GEOMETOC COE) is pleased to invite NATO and Partner Nations to participate in the **INT-MO-37111 Rapid Environmental Assessment (REA) support to Maritime Operations Course**. The first edition of this course will be held in person at the Centre's premises in Lisbon, Portugal, from **26 to 30 May 2025**, with the support of the School of Hydrography and Oceanography of the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute.
2. This course is published in the Education and Training Opportunity Catalogue (ETOC) as "Listed" and is designed to provide Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) and Geospatial personnel with a better knowledge and understanding of REA activities in support of maritime operations. On completion of the course, participants will be able to:
 - a. Identify NATO doctrine governing REA support, as well as geospatial and METOC support for military activities.
 - b. Understand the impact of environmental conditions on naval operations.
 - c. Identify critical environmental parameters affecting different naval warfare areas.
 - d. Recognize numerical modelling, in situ observations & remote sensing strategies, and technology.
 - e. Produce and manipulate REA products to support military decision-making.
3. The course is designed for NATO and national METOC and Geospatial personnel, as well as other military personnel who may be called upon to provide REA support to maritime operations.

NATO UNCLASSIFIED

4. The course will **start on Monday, 26 May, and ends on Friday, 30 May 2025**. Daily sessions will run from 09:10 to 17:00, with breaks for lunch and refreshments. On Friday the course will end earlier, at 13:00.
5. This one-week course consists of interactive lectures followed by practical exercises covering the following topics:
 - a. NATO Geospatial and METOC principles, concepts and doctrine.
 - b. NATO REA and Recognized Environmental Picture (REP) concepts and doctrine.
 - c. Impact of the environment on naval operations.
 - d. Operational modeling.
 - e. REA technology and survey planning.
 - f. REA products, including Mission Impact Diagrams, Tactical Decision Aids, Additional Military Layers, and Amphibious Operations Graphics.
 - g. REA information dissemination and NATO formats and standards.
6. The course will be delivered by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) from the Maritime GEOMETOC COE, the Portuguese Navy, and invited guest speakers.
7. The course will be conducted at NATO UNCLASSIFIED and will be delivered in English with no translation services available. Participants must have a language proficiency equivalent to English SLP 3322 or higher.
8. Participants are encouraged to complete the following Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) modules prior to attending this course: ADL 037 - Introduction to NATO and ADL 223 - Introduction to NATO Geospatial Support.
9. Rank Requirements: Officers (OF-1 through OF-5) and NCOs (OR-5 through OR-9).
10. **The course fee is €120 per participant.** For payment instructions, see Enclosure A.
11. To apply for the course, interested personnel must complete the **Application Form** (see Enclosure C) and email it to info@mgeometoccoe.org **no later than 9 May 2025**. Upon successful submission, candidates will receive a confirmation email acknowledging receipt of their application. The selection process will take place shortly thereafter, and all candidates will be notified of their acceptance status.
12. For further information, please contact the COE POC: LTJG Mauro Silva (OF-1) PRT N, Public Affairs Officer, mauro.silva@mgeometoccoe.org.

Director,

Miguel dos Reis Arenga
CAPTAIN (OF-5) PRT N

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

1. **Course Fee and Payment Instructions:** The **course fee is €120 per participant** and includes morning and afternoon refreshments for the duration of the course, as well as full lunches, ensuring that participants are well catered for throughout the day.

The course fee must be paid by **bank transfer at least 7 working days before the start of the course**, only for admitted candidates. This will ensure that all logistical arrangements, including materials and resources, can be finalized in time. All bank charges associated with the payment are the responsibility of the participant. Participants are recommended to check the total payment amount to avoid any discrepancies or underpayment. **Participants must ensure that payment confirmations are sent to info@mgeometoccoe.org**. The COE account details are as follows:

Banco Santander Totta S.A.

BIC/SWIFT: TOTAPTPL

Portugal

IBAN: PT50 0018 000352977899020 22

2. **Cancellation Policy:** The course cancellation policy is designed to minimize disruption and financial loss due to last-minute cancellations. Late cancellation of a confirmed seat within 7 working days of the course start date will incur a 50% cancellation fee.
3. **Accommodation:** Although the Maritime GEOMETOC COE does not provide accommodation, participants requiring accommodation may request assistance in finding nearby hotels, guesthouses or other options. For accommodation recommendations, see Enclosure B, point 4. **Accommodation expenses are not included in the course fee** and must be arranged and paid for directly by the participant.
4. **Meals:** A canteen is available on site, the cost of which is included in the course fee. In addition, coffee breaks are provided near the classroom, ensuring that students have convenient access to refreshments throughout the course.
5. **Dress Code:** Participants are required to wear their **Daily Service/Battle Dress Uniform** or the national equivalent for the duration of the course. Changing rooms are available for use next to the classroom.
6. **Eligibility for certification:** To receive a certificate of completion, students must attend at least 85% of the course sessions. **Attendance below this threshold will result in ineligibility for certification.**

GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Location

Maritime GEOMETOC COE (with the support of the School of Hydrography and Oceanography of the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute – IHPT)

Address: Rua das Trinas 49, 1249-093 Lisbon, Portugal (co-located with IHPT)

Visit our website at <https://www.mgeometoc-coe.org/Pages/contact-find-US.aspx>

The Maritime GEOMETOC COE is situated to the west of Lisbon's city center, in the historic district of Madragoa, on one of the hills near the Tagus River.

For directions, click [here](#).

2. Weather

The climate in Lisbon in May is generally mild and pleasant. Expect average temperatures of around 15°C in the morning and 22°C in the afternoon. The weather is mostly sunny, with occasional cloudy intervals. Sunrise is at approximately 6:30 AM, and sunset occurs around 8:30 PM.

For more detailed information, you can check the weather forecast for Lisbon using the link below: [Lisbon Weather Forecast](#)

3. Local Tourism

Lisbon is a city where you feel safe walking around at any time of the day or night, where the cuisine is dedicated to creating more than a thousand ways to cook the beloved *bacalhau* (salted cod), and where you'll find hotels and restaurants to suit every taste, budget, and requirements.

Discover Lisbon, a city full of authenticity, where old customs and ancient history mix with cultural entertainment and high-tech innovation. Lisbon is timeless, but it loves company – after all, Lisbon is famous for its hospitality and the family-like way it welcomes visitors. A historic city with many stories to tell, where the sun shines almost all year round and temperatures rarely drop below 15°C.

A city where tradition blends with cultural vibrancy and technological innovation. Be sure to visit some of its top attractions, including the Jerónimos Monastery, the National Museum of Ancient Art, Terreiro do Paço, and the National Museum of Ancient Carriages, and immerse yourself in the unique experiences they offer.

Other places to explore:

- Belém – Heritage and history with a special twist.
- Lisboa on tram 28 – When the tram goes by, time stops.
- Sintra – UNESCO Cultural Landscape and World Heritage Site.
- The Tagus Riverside – Enjoy the pure pleasure of the riverside.
- Cascais – The fascination of the sea.
- Setúbal, Palmela & Sesimbra – A perfect symbiosis of nature and sea.
- Parque das Nações – Modern Lisbon, a contemporary city.
- And the Historic Centre – Discover the charm and elegance of the city's heart.

For tourism information about the Lisbon region, visit www.visitlisboa.com.

4. Accommodation

Participants are encouraged to book early to ensure availability.

The following hotels have arranged preferential rates:

a. Lisbon São Bento Hotel 3*

Rates: €159 - €230

(15-minute walk from the COE)

Address: Rua de São Bento, 347, 1269-084 Lisbon, Portugal

info@lisbonsaobentohotel.pt, +351 213 823 309, [Website](#), [Location map](#)

Other preferential hotels:

b. Janelas Verdes 4*

Rates: €256 - €307

(10-minute walk from the COE, slightly farther from the city center. Considered a high-end hotel.)

Address: Rua das Janelas Verdes 47, 1200-690 Lisbon, Portugal

reservations@heritage.pt, janelas.verdes@heritage.pt, +351 213 968 143

[Website](#), [Location map](#)

c. York House Hotel 4*

Rates: €200 - €300

(5-minute walk from the COE, slightly farther from the city center. This is the closest accommodation to IHPT, apart from Airbnb's and some hostels. It is considered a high-end hotel.)

Address: Rua das Janelas Verdes 32, 1200-691 Lisbon, Portugal

reservations@yorkhouse.com, +351 213 962 435, [Website](#), [Location map](#)

5. Transportations

Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, is located on the western Iberian Peninsula, near the Atlantic Ocean and the River Tagus.

a. Getting to Lisbon by Air

The recommended airport for arriving in Lisbon is Aeroporto Humberto Delgado, located in the north of the city and just 20 minutes from the city center or about 5 km away. For more information, visit [Lisbon Airport Website](#).

Upon arrival, you can easily reach the city center by taxi, metro, or bus. Lisbon has an efficient public transport network that ensures quick and comfortable travel to and from the airport. For details on public transport, visit [Public Transportation Information](#).

b. Travel by Taxi

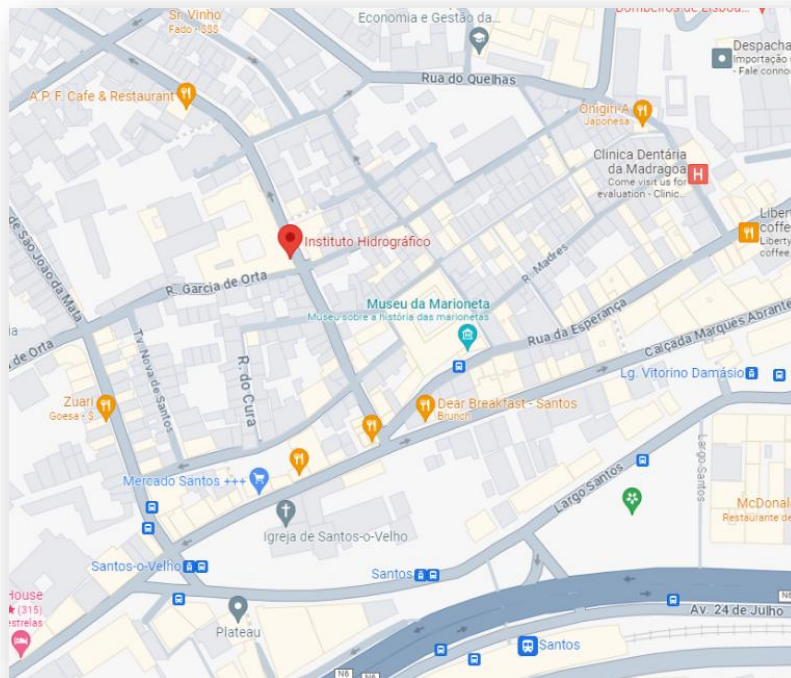
Taking a taxi is often the quickest and most comfortable option. The fare from the airport to the city center is approximately €15 - €20, depending on traffic and whether the €5 airport tax is applied (some taxi drivers may not charge it).

c. Travel by Public Transport

Lisbon's public transport system is operated by Carris-Metro. Tickets can be purchased for each journey on buses, trams, or at metro stations. However, the most cost-effective way to travel is by using pre-purchased LisboaViva cards, which can be loaded with money or journeys. For more information, visit the following websites:

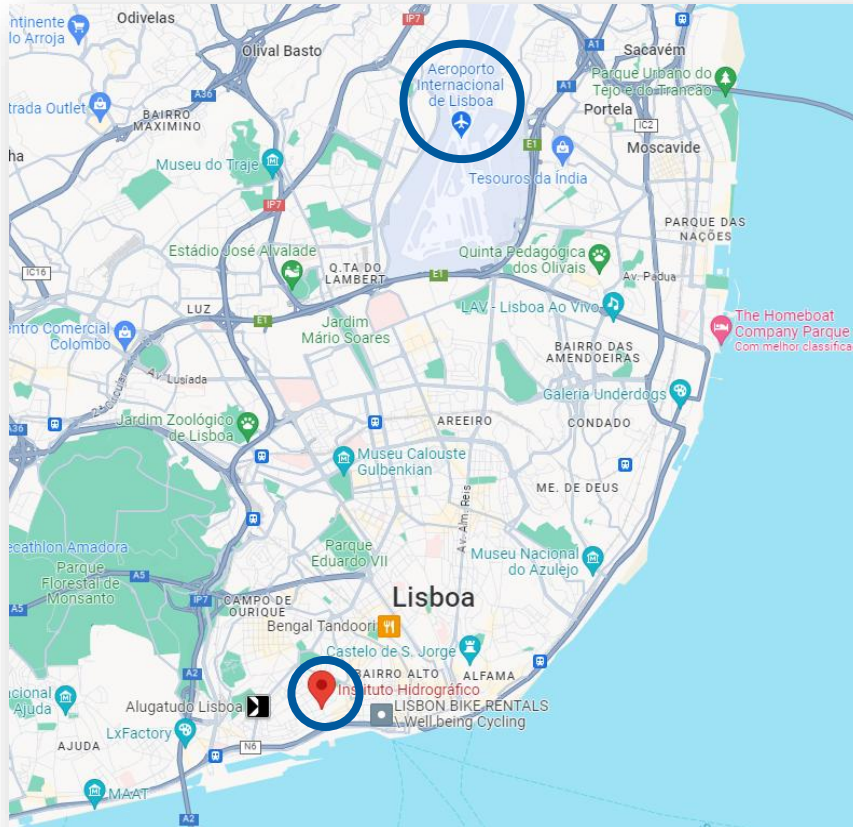
Bus: [Carris](#) | Train: [Comboios de Portugal](#) | Subway: [Metro Lisboa](#)

6. Location Map



Maritime GEOMETOC COE | Portuguese Hydrographic Institute (*Instituto Hidrográfico*)

GPS Coordinates: N 38° 42' 31" / W 9° 9' 82"



APPLICATION FORM

Course Title: Rapid Environmental Assessment support to Maritime Operations

Course Dates: 26 - 30 May 2025

Location: Maritime GEOMETOC COE, Lisbon, Portugal

1. Personal Information

Full Name: _____

Rank: _____

Nationality: _____

Service/Branch: _____

Organization/Unit: _____

Position/Function: _____

Official Email: _____

Phone (including country code): _____

Alternative Email (if applicable): _____

2. Desirable Pre-Training

Have you completed the recommended ADL modules?

- ADL 037 – Introduction to NATO ☐ Yes ☐ No
- ADL 223 – Introduction to NATO Geospatial Support ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Course Requirements

The following language proficiency skills in English are required to attend: SLP 3322, level 3 in listening, level 3 in speaking, level 2 in reading, and level 2 in writing (self-assessment in accordance with STANAG 6001 Ed.5) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Other (please identify): _____

4. Payment Information

Course Fee: €120 per participant

☐ I confirm that my organization/unit will cover the course fee.

☐ I will personally cover the course fee.

5. Additional Information

How did you hear about this course?

☐ Maritime GEOMETOC COE Website

☐ NATO Internal Communication

☐ Colleague/Superior

☐ Other (please specify): _____

Do you have any dietary restrictions or special requirements?

☐ No

☐ Yes (please specify): _____

Any additional comments or requests, please let us know:

6. Acknowledgment & Signature

I confirm that the information provided above is accurate. I understand the course requirements and agree to comply with the registration and participation guidelines.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Application Information

- Deadline for applications: May 9, 2005.
- Please complete and submit this form through the application email: info@mgeometoccoe.org.
- For more information, please contact the Maritime GEOMETOC COE Public Affairs Officer at mauro.silva@mgeometoccoe.org.