

REPORT OF THE XIVth MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS

Bandung, Indonesia, 22-26 April 1991

1. Location and attendance

The XIVth meeting of the Advisory Board was held at the Institut Teknologi, Bandung, (ITB) Indonesia, from 22 to 26 April 1991.

The following were present :

Mr. Roger LOTT (Chairman)
Prof. Peter ANDREE, IHO
Cdr. Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHO
Cdr. Gerald MILLS, IHO
Prof. Dr. Ing. Sjamsir MIRA, FIG
Dr. David WELLS, FIG
Mr. Alan YARDLEY, FIG
Cdr. Federico BERMEJO, IHB (Secretary)

Mr. Rick KING, acting as an observer for the Hydrographic Society, attended the meeting from 24-26 April.

The Dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Design, Professor Sahari BESARI, Ph. D., welcomed all participants and wished them a successful meeting. He also took the opportunity to brief the members of the Board on the present activities of the ITB.

2. Opening of the meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting and regretted the absence of Cdr. José Cardoso, IHO, due to unavoidable previous commitments. He introduced Dr. David WELLS, FIG, and Cdr. Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHO, as new members of the Board.

3. Administrative arrangements

A meeting room and other facilities were provided by ITB. Prof. MIRA explained the administrative arrangements and social events scheduled.

On Tuesday 23 April, the members of the Board visited the ITB facilities and paid a courtesy call on the ITB Rector.

On Friday 26 April, the Board members were invited to visit the Hydro-Oceanographic Service of the Indonesian Navy, in Jakarta, where they were received by the Chief Hydrographer, Commodore WIDODO. The Board also had the opportunity to visit the survey vessel KAL BARUNA JAYA II.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was adopted with some minor amendments. A new course from the Indonesian Hydro-Oceanographic Service, was presented for submission to the members of the Board at the beginning of the meeting. The Board decided to review the course at the end of the meeting, if time was available for this purpose.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

While reviewing the Report of the XIIIth meeting, it was pointed out that some of the decisions then taken, still required action.

The Chairman noted that the Course in Hydrography of Hamburg Polytechnics, submitted and reviewed at the XIIIth meeting, had not yet received accreditation, due to the lack of a satisfactory answer

from the institution to the requests of the Board. It was decided to seek clarification by correspondence, and if a satisfactory response was obtained to award accreditation retroactively to 1990.

The Chairman also informed the members that the draft document "Guidelines for Individual Accreditation", approved by the Board at the XIIIth meeting and presented to FIG at its meeting in Helsinki, had not been approved by FIG members. Consequently the proposed amendments to the 5th edition of the Standards had not been completed, and a revised edition not issued.

The IHO publication MP-006 "Reference Texts and Journals for Training in Hydrography", published by the IHB on behalf of FIG and IHO, was presented to the Board. Members agreed on the approval of this Bibliography and it was decided to maintain it updated by means of direct action from both readers and members of the Board. It was noted that the Hydrographic Society were to adopt this Bibliography as part of their own literature sales.

The Secretary of the Board was requested to provide a new Comparative Hours Table, including a larger selection of courses in each category.

6. Review of the Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers (Chile)

The above course, which had been accredited at Cat. B with specialism in Nautical Charting at the XIIIth meeting, was re-submitted at Cat. A and specialisms in Nautical Charting and Port and Nearshore Surveys. The Board decided to award this accreditation on receipt of written confirmation that some topics of the Standards not found in the syllabus, are, or will be included in it.

7. Review of the course "Hydrographic Education Program" of the Institut Teknologi of Bandung (Indonesia)

This course was submitted for accreditation at Cat A Academic level with specialisms in Nautical Charting and Port and Nearshore Surveys.

The Board was assisted in its reviewing by the presence of Ir. Samsul BAHRI HASAN, M. Eng., and Ir. Dedy RUMHADI KARMAN, M. Eng.. It was decided that the course required to cover several items of the Standards not included and that a new general re-structure was needed to meet the minimum Standards for Cat A.. The ITB was subsequently invited to re-submit the course at the next meeting.

8. Review of the Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers (Brazil)

The Board reviewed the course, submitted for accreditation at Cat A level, with specialism in Nautical Charting, and decided that it did not meet the requirements for accreditation and that the opening of the course to civilians was not sufficiently explained. The Hydrographic Service of the Brazilian Navy will be invited to re-submit the course at the next meeting, including the subjects not covered at present and providing clear documentation about the procedures followed for the admission of civilians to the course.

9. Re-accreditation of courses

The Board proceeded to discuss the re-accreditation of courses before continuing the review of the courses submitted under this item.

The Board realized that an appropriate cycle time for re-accrediting courses would probably be about five years. However, the workload that this cycle would represent, does not allow, at present, its implementation. Consequently, the Board will retain the present ten-year cycle time until the procedure can be streamlined.

The Board decided that a paragraph stating that courses must be re-accredited in a maximum period of ten years will be included in a future change of the Standards. All existing accredited courses will be notified of this.

It was also decided to publish an updated list of accredited courses after each meeting, indicating the date of the first and last accreditation for each course. It was noted that the Graduate Program in Hydrographic Surveying of the US Naval School, Monterey (USA) was no longer offered, and that the syllabus of the final examination of the RICS (UK) had been radically changed for 1991 and no longer conformed to the Standards.

10. Review of the R.A.N. course for Surveying Assistant (4th class) H4 (Australia)

The Board reviewed the course, submitted for re-accreditation at Cat B level, with specialisms in both Nautical Charting and Port and Nearshore Surveys.

The course was found not to cover the complete Port and Nearshore specialism syllabus, and accreditation for this specialism was not made.

It was decided to award the course re-accreditation at Cat. B level with specialism in Nautical Charting on written confirmation that some topics of the Syllabus not sufficiently or specifically covered will be included.

11. Review of the Graduate Diploma of Applied Science (Hydrographic Surveying) of the Australian Maritime College. (AMC).

The Board agreed that this course, submitted for re-accreditation at Cat A Academic, with specialism in Nautical Charting and Port and Nearshore Surveys, and Partial accreditation in Industrial and Offshore Surveys was no longer the same course accredited in 1986, due to substantial changes in its structure and admission requirements. It was decided that the course could not be re-accredited in its present status and that further documentation should be required from the A.M.C.

The application of this course for Partial Accreditation for Specialism 3 was rejected, as the Board felt that it was not an example of what was intended by Partial Accreditation in the Standards.

12. Review of the Cours d'Ingénieurs de l'ENSIETA (France)

The Board regretted the inability to review the course, submitted for re-accreditation at Cat A level, with specialism in Nautical Charting, due to the late receipt of the course documentation. It was decided that, in view of the short time available to members to review the course thoroughly, action will be taken by correspondence, the final decision being communicated to SHOM as soon as possible.

13. Review of the Course in Hydrography of the H.O. of Indonesia (DISHIDROS)

The Board was unable to review this course, which had been distributed to members at the beginning of the meeting. However, the Board had the opportunity to discuss some general questions on it with the Indonesian representatives, Cols. HOMAR, RAHYONO and MINNADUNG. It was decided that the procedure will be conducted by correspondence, and a letter will be sent to DISHIDROS communicating the decision taken as soon as possible.

14. Hydrographic Society Scholarships

The Board noted the proposal of the Hydrographic Society to offer scholarships to students of accredited courses and thanked the representative of the H.S. for this generous offer.

It was agreed that the Secretary would advise the chairman of the Hydrographic Society Education fund of the addresses of institutions running accredited courses.

15. Individual accreditation

At its XIIIth meeting, the Board had decided to introduce a mechanism for individual accreditation, mainly to permit graduates from courses with Academic accreditation to achieve a status equivalent to graduates from Full accreditation courses. At the FIG Congress, in Helsinki, strong objections were raised to the proposal presented as "Guidelines for individual accreditation". It was the feeling of some FIG members that the project would discriminate against hydrographers who have not completed accredited courses, some of whom may have equal or better qualifications. It was also considered that additional procedures should be provided for monitoring how closely accredited courses actually follow the Standards. FIG referred the issue back to the Board for further consideration.

The Board essentially agreed with these objections. In order to promote its commitment to strong field training and to erase the distinction between Full and Academic accreditation, the Board decided to recommend to institutions offering courses with Academic accreditation that they develop their own procedures, at the institution level, for certifying (at some later date) that their graduates have attained the complete experience requirements of the Standards. A model of such procedures was presented to the

Board by Dr. David WELLS (FIG) and would be included in a future edition of the Standards. Institutions offering both academic courses and the experience certification would be able to obtain Full accreditation for the combination.

No national or international register would be kept for the purposes of FIG/IHO individual accreditation. However, the Board encourages those national professional organizations that desire to do so, to develop their own procedures for individual certification. ACSM in the US, and the hydrographic community in Australia are moving in that direction.

Depending upon how readily those programs of Academic accreditation adopt procedures permitting the Board to award them Full accreditation, the difference between Academic and Full accreditation could be entirely abolished in the future.

16. Review of the Standards of Competence

The Board reviewed the Standards of Competence, including the decisions taken on accreditation, and updating the syllabus to reflect the new technology and eliminating duplications. New Appendices will be included, with new Review Forms and examples, in order to help institutions to provide a better documentation for the revision of courses.

The Board also considered and appealed the decision taken at the XIIIth meeting about the deletion of Partial Accreditation, due to two new cases arisen over the past year, from the Australian Maritime College, and the University of Calgary.

The revised version of the Standards will be published, when available, by the IHB as its publication MP-005 "Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors" 6th edition. Drafts of the publication will be sent to all accredited courses and to those institutions intending to submit courses for accreditation.

17. Date/Venue of the next meeting

Following the invitation of Cdr. Hugo GORZIGLIA, it was decided that the next meeting will be held in Valparaiso (Chile), provisionally in the second week of March 1992. This invitation will be officially confirmed at a later date.

18. Close of the meeting

There being no other points to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1830 on 25th April 1991.