

**4th IHO-HSSC Meeting
Taunton, UK, 25-28 September 2012**

Paper for the Information of HSSC

Outcome of the 4th IRCC Meeting

Submitted by:	IHB
Executive Summary:	This paper reports on the outcome of the 4 th IRCC meeting (June 2012) that affects HSSC. It relates to the work programme of MSDIWG.
Related Papers:	IRCC4 Minutes (IRCC4-Final Minutes), Report and recommendations of MSDIWG (HSSC4-05.7A)

Background

1. The 4th meeting of the IHO Inter-Regional Coordinating Committee (IRCC) took place in Singapore on 7 and 8 June 2012 (IHO CL 25/2012, 20 February 2012 refers). The Committee reviewed the outcome of the 18th International Hydrographic Conference (IHC) of interest for its work and agreed that within Work Programme 2 (CONF.18/WP.2 refers), matters related with Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) required further consideration.

Outcome of IRCC4

2. IRCC noted that the following issues related with MSDI had been identified by the Conference:

- the role of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC), the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs) and IRCC itself in promoting the development of MSDI as an efficient tool for the sustainable management of the marine environment;
- the mobilization of the appropriate expertise within IHO Member States to provide guidance and make best use of lessons learned.

IRCC considered further its role at the Committee level and via RHCs and CBSC in contributing to the development of MSDI through:

- reviewing MSDI developments at the regional level (RHCs),
- identifying CB requirements associated with MSDI development (CBSC),
- identifying any need for cross-regional coordination (IRCC),
- discussing future IRCC input to MSDIWG activities (IRCC).

3. After discussion taking into account the input from the representatives of RHCs and CBSC, two actions were agreed at IRCC4:

IRCC4/22: Request HSSC to task MSDIWG to develop an “introduction to MSDI” training course.

IRCC4/23: CBSC Chair to investigate the possibility to deliver a MSDI course with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).

Action Required of HSSC

4. The HSSC is invited to:

- a. **note** this report,
- b. **consider** adding a task to the MSDIWG work programme addressing the development of an “introduction to MSDI” training course, and
- c. **take** any other **action** as appropriate.