



**INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION  
MEDITERRANEAN & BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MBSHC)**

**SECOND MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE  
IHO-IRCC2**

New Orleans, USA, 17-18 June 2010

**REPORT FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN & BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION**

**1. Chair:** Radm Mustafa İPTEŞ (Turkey)

**Vice Chair:** Cdre AlexandrosTheodosiou (Greece)

**2. Membership**

**Members:** Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine (19 Members).

**Associate Members:** Bulgaria, Georgia, Israel, Malta, Palestinian Authority, UK, USA (8 Associate Members).

**Observers:** Albania, Germany, Lebanon, DINMA, IMA, IOC, PRIMAR. IHB Representatives: Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS (President), Captain Federico BERMEJO (PATP).

**3. Last Meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Mediterranean & Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC), Odessa, Ukraine, 22- 24 September 2009

**4. Main items under consideration:**

**4.1 INT Charts**

**a.** Since the first IRCC meeting, 35 new INT charts were proposed by MBSHC MSs, but none of them has been approved, yet. After re-election of MEDINTCHART Coordinator (France), the following decisions were taken on INT Charts in the region during the last MBSHC meeting :

**(1)** The draft new edition of MEDINTCHART Catalogue will be issued by the Coordinator by 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2010.

**(2)** To convene a technical meeting in February 2010 in Paris organized by SHOM to discuss/solve only technical issues (Production of mid-scale INT charts in the Aegean Sea and the new draft MEDINTCHART Catalogue)

**b.** As agreed at the last MBSHC meeting, the 1st meeting of Region F - International Charting Coordination WG (ICCWG) took place in Paris under the Chairmanship of MEDINTCHART Coordinator. In conclusion, the outcome key proposals of the meeting are as follows:

(1) INT chart scheme in the Aegean sea is frozen until an agreement is reached by GR/TR.

(2) All new proposals related to areas “out of Aegean sea” made by MBSHC MS to be discussed at next MBSHC meeting.

#### **4.2 ENC issues**

There are 9 ENC producing nations in the region and most of the region is covered with 1236 ENCs (36 of them are only in AVCS), but there are still gaps as well as overlaps in some parts of the region. The gaps are especially in some parts of North Africa. Those gaps and overlaps are main topics of MBSHC meetings.

MBSHC ENC production and coverage status :

<b>No.</b>	<b>Member States</b>	<b>Producer Nation</b>	<b>Note</b>
1	Algeria	United Kingdom	12
2	Croatia	Croatia	91
3	Cyprus	Turkey and United Kingdom	9+11
4	Egypt	United Kingdom	14
5	France	France	68
6	Greece	Greece	270
7	Italy	Italy	243
8	Monaco	France	1
9	Montenegro	United Kingdom	2
10	Morocco	United Kingdom	10
11	Romania	-	No coverage
12	Russian Federation	Russian Federation	28
13	Serbia	-	No sea area
14	Slovenia	United Kingdom	2
15	Spain	Spain	58
16	Syria	United Kingdom	5
17	Tunisia	United Kingdom	2
18	Turkey	Turkey	225
19	Ukraine	Ukraine	138

<b>No.</b>	<b>Non-Member States</b>	<b>Producer Nation</b>	<b>Note</b>
1	Bulgaria	United Kingdom	7 (only in AVCS)
2	Georgia	United Kingdom	4 (only in AVCS)
3	Israel	United Kingdom	8 (only in AVCS)
4	Malta	United Kingdom	6
5	Palestinian Authority	United Kingdom	-
6	Albania	United Kingdom	4 (only in AVCS)
7	Lebanon	France	5
8	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia	-
9	Libya	United Kingdom	13 (only in AVCS)
10	United Kingdom	United Kingdom	3

#### **4.3 Capacity Building Activities**

Following allocation by the CBSC of funding to support technical/advisory visits to Syria, Israel and Libya, the Commission decided that the MBSHC Chairman to inquire

whether these countries need such visits. In case one or more of these countries decline the need for a visit, other requests should be identified.

According to the Commission's decision, Syria, Israel and Libya were asked whether if such visits are needed.

14-18 June 2010 was planned for the visit to Syria but it was postponed due to absence of the official approval from Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. That visit will be carried out after receiving the official approval from Syria through diplomatic channels.

From Israel and Libya no response has been received until now. In case of decline the need for a visit by Israel and Libya, other requests will be identified.

## **5. General Aspects:**

a. 7<sup>th</sup> Regional Seapower Symposium was held in Italy between 14 and 17 October 2008 with the participation of 39 Navies.

The purpose of the Symposium is to create a forum where the leaders of the regional Navies can meet and discuss about their common challenges and strengthen mutual cooperation.

Dialogue and cooperation on "Peace Support Operations", "Maritime Surveillance" and "Evolution of Ocean Governance" were discussed in the Symposium and in conclusion, the key actions were to enhance dialogue and cooperation among Navies; to expand maritime information sharing; to understand each other better to avoid confrontation; to enhance capacity of Navies to ensure maritime security and to participate in multilateral operations.

Next symposium will be held in October 2010.

b. 8 of 19 MBSHC Member States ratified the Protocol on Amendments of the IHO Convention.

c. The procedure for the designation of MBSHC representatives to the IHO council is under progress and it will be discussed in the next MBSHC meeting.

d. The Commission approved the Status, the Terms of Reference and the Rules of Procedures of the Black and Azov Seas Working Group of the MBSHC and the last meeting of the BASWG was held in İstanbul on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2010.

e. Russian Federation and Ukraine reported in BASWG meeting in May 2010 that they will reach an agreement on co-production of the INT Charts in north-eastern part of the Black Sea and Sea of Azov by the next meeting. This is a good cooperation example in the region.

f. MBSHC would like to highlight that Georgia has started the application process for the IHO membership.

## **6. Conclusions:**

MBSHC is committed to carrying forward hydrographic, cartographic, MSI and capacity building activities in line with the IHO objectives and goals.

## **7. Venue and Date of the Next Meeting**

Athens, Greece, June 2011.

