Action WENDWG3/08: UK to make the evaluation criteria available to assist RHCs and Members States in resolving navigationally significant differences between paper charts and ENCs (Deadline: end of June 2013).

Evaluation criteria provided by UKHO (Mr. Keith Packer)

a. The UKHO compares ENCs received from other producing nations with UKHO's paper charts (and subsequently with other sources of information where available, including paper charts from the other producing nation).

b. Initially, the UKHO looks for any difference which would justify the issue of a Notice to Mariners.

c. The UKHO then categorises the differences found according to the potential risk that they present to the mariner.

d. The criteria for this categorisation are described in the table below.

Risk	Description
HIGH	Significant offshore features and depths considered dangerous to surface vessels operating at draughts of <31m.
	Significant changes to major navigational aids (fixed and floating).
	Changes to routeing measures.
MEDIUM	Significant features and depths between 31m and 800m considered dangerous to submarine operations and activities.
	Features and depths of <31m, but close to shore or other charted dangers.
LOW	Minor changes to depths or navigational aids.
	Changes to Pilot Boarding Places, Anchorages etc.

e. Priority is given to the resolution of high risk differences which might present a significant navigational safety risk to surface shipping.

Note: many Member States will already be aware of these criteria because of UKHO's bilateral discussions with ENC producing nations which have been aimed at resolving differences.

Information provided by Keith Packer, 14 June 2013 (via email)