

**IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)  
10<sup>th</sup> Meeting, Cambridge, UK, 20-22 September 2010**

**NATIONAL REPORT – NORWAY**



**NORWEGIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE  
(NHS)**

## **1. General**

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) is responsible for the provision of hydrographic services for Norwegian waters and sea areas, including the Svalbard and Jan Mayen area.

In Antarctica the Norwegian geographical area of interest mainly is concentrated in Dronning Maud Land (Queen Maud Land) and the adjacent Kong Håkon VII Hav (King Håkon VII Sea). Peter I Øy (Peter I Island) in the Bellingshausen Sea and Bouvetøya (Bouvet Island) are also Norwegian dependencies. However, the latter is north of the 60 parallel.

In 2008, Norway reached the goal of full ENC coverage for the Norwegian coast. Although this was a major step forwards, there still remains large areas with old data that needs to be replaced with new survey data. In addition, large areas on Svalbard remain to be surveyed and covered with ENCs and paper charts.

The NHS has established a fully digital production flowline and all new products and updates are produced from a seamless Primary database. A new chart production system that enables more efficient maintenance of the ENC and chart portfolio is currently being fully implemented.

The NHS has established a Tracing service in 2010. Print on Demand service will be established by the end of 2010. A project is being carried out in order to develop the services including the technology needed to support it.

PRIMAR International ENC service, operated by the NHS, now includes approx 9700 ENCs from more than 35 countries.

The NHS will in 2010 implement a new management and distribution system for high resolution depth data, called the Norwegian Bathymetric Database (NMDB).

During the EIHC in June Canada invited the 5 countries surrounding the Arctic Ocean to an informal meeting for discussing establishment of an Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC). The Arctic Ocean is the only region not covered by a HC. During the autumn 2009 Canada circulated Draft statutes to the relevant countries and IHB. It is expected that an inaugural meeting will take place during 2010.

The NHS has got a new director general in august 2010: Evert Flier.

## **2. Surveys**

The NHS is not carrying out any surveying or nautical charting activity within the HCA region.

Norway is still planning on building its first icebreaker. However, the project is delayed and it will be operational at the earliest in 2013.

## **3. Charts and Publications**

### **a. Charts:**

NHS has, according to the INT chart scheme, produced one chart for Antarctica - INT 904 (National No. 550) Dronning Maud Land, which was issued in 2002. The chart was published as an Overview ENC in 2008.

The NHS has undertaken the production responsibility for INT 909 Ross Sea and plans to produce the chart in 2011. Contact has been established with NOAA in order to get access to bathymetric data. Norwegian Polar Institute will provide the land information.

### **b. Publications:**

NHS is not publishing any nautical publications for Antarctica.

## **4. MSI**

Outside the responsibility of the NHS.

## **5. Capacity Building**

The NHS is involved in the IHO CBSC, there is however little activity related to HCA.

## **6. C-55 Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide**

The NHS has provided the IHB with updates to C-55, October 2009. There are no survey activities in Antarctica to report.

## **7. Oceanographic activities**

Nothing to report.

## **8. Conclusions**

The NHS has not undertaken any surveying or nautical charting activity in Antarctica since the last meeting.