

IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)
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NATIONAL REPORT – KOREA

Korea Hydrographic and Oceanographic Administration

1. Bathymetric Survey

After signing Antarctic Treaty in 1986 Korea opened King Sejong Station at King George Islands, Antarctica in 1988. With these activities Korea became the 33rd member of ATCP. Hydrographic survey has been conducted in 1992/1993 and 1997 using Korean Research Vessel “Onnuri”. The survey area covers off the coast of the South Shetland Islands and the main purpose of it was science related to geological tectonics. In 2009 the first Korean icebreaker *Araon* has been commissioned. She is equipped with multi-beam echo sounder for swath bathymetry.

In 2010/2011 austral summer, Korea Polar Research Institute (KOPRI) conducted swath bathymetry survey utilizing multi-beam echo sounder installed onboard Icebreaker *Araon*. The survey was conducted during scientific survey and transit to Antarctica. Off the Antarctic Peninsula bathymetric survey conducted in Dec. 2010. In the Ross Sea the survey conducted between Jan. and Mar. 2011. Fig. 1 shows tracks of hydrographic survey.

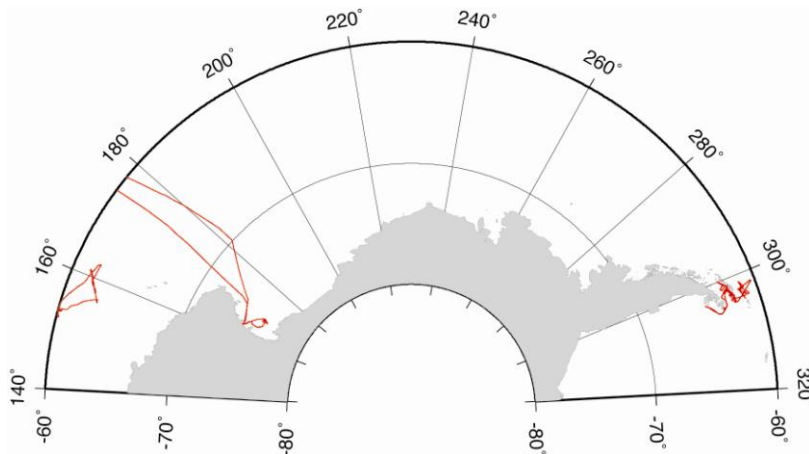


Fig 1. Track chart of bathymetric survey. Red lines represent ship track.

2. Contribution to HCA

Korea is considering providing collected bathymetric data of Antarctic waters (HCA area) to the IHB, for further distribution to IHO INT Chart producers.