Explanatory Note Item D4 Chairman

Consider adoption of IHO standard RHC Agenda and National Reports

The Chairman has included this item on the agenda in order to gauge opinion on whether a standard agenda and National Reports would be useful for future NSHC meetings.

Most other Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) meetings are now adopting a standard agenda, which includes the following key items:

- 1. Report by outgoing Chairman on RHC activities since the last conference
- 2. Review of Actions from the last meeting
- 3. Election of Chairman/Vice Chairman
- 4. All regional aspects of navigational warning broadcasts (IHO Circular Letter 31/2000)
- 5. Status of Hydrographic Surveying & Nautical Charting (IHO S-55) (IHO Circular Letter 23/2003)
- 6. Assistance in ENC Production

(IHO Circular Letter 80/2003)

7. Capacity Building (IHO Circular Letter 74/2005)

8. SPWG developments & development of procedure for selecting Members to Council.

(IHB Letter - File No. S3/0123 dated 31 Aug 05)

9. Date & place of next conference

As well as the above items, other RHC agendas include items relevant to their particular Commission.

The agenda is informed by National Reports, which are now submitted in a standardised format for those RHCs that wish to receive them, in accordance with IHO CL 25/2006.

The standardised structure is attached.

The use of National Reports would also enable countries to advise one another of new developments in their respective offices, thereby freeing up valuable meeting time for discussion of key issues and action items.

Structure for National Reports to Regional Hydrographic Commissions

Executive summary

1. Hydrographic Office / Service: General, including updates for the IHO Yearbook

e.g. reorganization

2. Surveys: Coverage of new surveys.

New technologies and /or equipment

New ships

Problems encountered

3. New charts & updates: ENCs

ENC Distribution method

RNCs INT charts

National paper charts

Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft

Problems encountered

4 New publications & updates: New Publications

Updated publications

Means of delivery, e.g. paper, digital

Problems encountered

5. MSI Existing infrastructure for transmission

New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS

Master Plan

Problems encountered

6. S-55 Latest update (Tables)

7. Capacity Building Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

Training received, needed, offered

Status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional

development projects with hydrographic component. (In progress, planned, under

evaluation or study)

Definition of bids to IHOCBC

8. Oceanographic activities General

GEBCO/IBC's activities Tide gauge network New equipment Problems encountered

9. Other activities Participation in IHO Working Groups

Meteorological data collection

Geospatial studies
Disaster prevention
Environmental protection
Astronomical observations
Magnetic/Gravity surveys

International

Etc.

10. Conclusions