Explanatory Note Item D4 Germany

Meeting Schedule of NSHC: back to annual meetings?

According to the Final Report of the Strategic Planning Working Group to the 3rd EIHC, which was adopted by the Conference, it is planned to establish an Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC), being responsible for generating and monitoring the work to be carried out by the Regional Hydrographic Commissions. According to paragraph 6.4.2 of the Report, the IRCC shall meet annually.

Proposal 8 of SPWG, in conjunction with PRO9 and PRO10 to the forthcoming 28th IHC asks the IHO Conference to approve the establishment of the new Committee structure, and to implement the new structure not later than beginning of 2009.

Considering the clear intention of the IHO as expressed throughout the work of SPWG to strengthen the regional cooperation, it is suggested to return to an annual meeting schedule for NSHC to:

- Establish the procedures and rules for an enhanced role of NSHC as the professional regional Committee for this region acting also in the intersessional period, if required,
- to deal with any business that might come up before establishment of the IRCC.