

IHO AND SOUTHERN AFRICA & ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION MEETING (SAIHC) MEETING MAURITIUS

DATE: September 2013

COUNTRY REVIEW: NAMIBIA

INTRODUCTION

1. **RHC Involvement.** Namibia is not an IHO member, but is an associate member of the SAIHC.
2. **Country Liaison.** Mr Elzevir Gelderbloem of the Namibian Ports Authority (NAMPORT) affiliated to the National Joint Committee with Mr Matthew Nangolo, the Director Maritime Affairs in the Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT).
3. **Points of Contact.** The IHO Year Book reflects the responsibility of the Directorate of Maritime Affairs (DMA) for national hydrographic policy and provision for SOLAS V obligations, and the delegation to NAMPORT of the roles of collection and promulgation of hydrographic information through liaison with the South African Navy HO (SANHO).

DESCRIPTION OF MARITIME ACTIVITIES

4. **National Maritime Affairs.** Namibia's retains its strategic location in the maritime routes round the Cape of Good Hope, and of current and projected operations to exploit the significant offshore resources in the water column and seabed.
5. **Trade and Maritime Traffic.**
Current overview is as follows:
 - a. **Through Routes.** Walvis Bay is growing in the Africa Ports stature plus Regional link and it is currently the first port of call for certain carriers to the Africa region from South America, Europe and the Far East.
 - b. **Trans-shipment.** Walvis Bay is a hub port for west coast trade carried by MAERSK, OACL, CMA & MOL where the volume of containers handled in the port has peaked at 340,000 TEU's in 2012/13.
 - c. **Bulk Trades.** A Tanker berth at Walvis Bay caters for wet bulk-loading requirements, which is under a replacement development programme and a dry Bulk Terminal for Namibian exports & imports.

The new tanker berth project was put out to tender in August 2013 and construction will commence by first quarter 2014. This project will see the creation of another separate entrance channel into the new port area which is officially called: Walvis Bay SADC Gateway port. See attached tender drawing for more information.

- d. **Feeder, Coastal and Local Trade.** Container/Passenger/cargo services link Walvis Bay to south & North-bound ports.
- e. **Offshore Oil Supply and Support.** The offshore supply, Rig & shipping Industry has been catered for with two floating docks for Ship & Rig repair facilities at Walvis Bay. A third and much larger floating dock is currently being installed and should be fully commissioned by Dec 2013.

Extension of port limits has been approved and is now formally law. Same has been communicated to SANHO for updating of the charts.

- f. Tourism - Cruise Liners. The number of calls at Walvis Bay and Luderitz average is 10 vessels per annum.
- g. Tourism - Small Craft. The coastal focal points for leisure cruising are Luderitz, Walvis Bay and Swakopmund. There are some 18 craft of between 15 – 20 metres. The informal development phase of the marina at Walvis Bay includes restaurants and departure points for boat tours.
The Waterfront at Luderitz is in the second study phase.
- h. Fisheries. Most Namibian fishing vessels are based in Walvis Bay, with a smaller number & the Crayfish Industry based at Luderitz. The number of foreign fishing vessels in Namibian waters has stabilised and the majority are chartered for specialist mid-water trawling for quotas allocated to national fishing companies.
The emerging marine aquaculture industry is developing both in the Walvis Bay and in the Luderitz bay.
6. Responsibility for Safety of Navigation. The DMA is responsible for policy and regulation in matters of safety of navigation. NAMPORT is responsible for the maintenance of port channels, the provision and maintenance of aids to navigation, for navigational warnings broadcast from Walvis Bay radio.
NAMPORT has completed erection of four coastal Racons, at the chosen positions being - Kunene, Angra Fria, Saddle Hill and at Oranjemund.
7. Defence Force Responsibilities. The Namibian Navy is being equipped with vessels to meet its needs. In the meantime SAR remains with DMA, fishery protection with the Sea Fisheries Patrol of the Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources (MFMR), and operations to counter illicit traffic or illegal immigrants been developed under a joint committee.

The Namibian Navy has requested for a exclusion zone inside the Port of Walvis Bay immediately around their land and water lease area. Namport is currently considering the same.

8. Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Protection. Namibia has completed a full length Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Study under the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and legislated the coastal Dorop National Park.

OUTLINE S-55 ANALYSIS

9. Status of surveys within the National Maritime Zone. Namibia's entry is an opportunity.
Collection and Circulation of Nautical Information. NAMPORT collates and updates to SANHO.
11. Survey Capability. NAMPORT has one staff member trained in hydrographic surveying, who has received the following training to date:
- Category B Hydrographic Surveyor, offered by SANHO, 2007

Namport continues to conduct its own hydrographic surveys inside the two Ports of Walvis Bay and Luderitz with equipment acquired in 2009. This equipment consist of:

- a Navisound 200 dual frequency echo sounder;
- a Leica 1200 RTK positioning system;
- Quincy lite surveying processing and charting software package;
- Autocad Civil 3D draughting software package;
- This equipment is permanently installed on a mono hull aluminium launch designed and built for hydrographic surveying purposes.

Namport intends to acquire a multibeam echo sounder in 2014 to replace its current single beam system which it considers to be limited in application.

12. Independent Chart Production Capability. SANHO completes the INT chart scheme for Namibian waters.

PROPOSALS FOR CO-ORDINATION AND CAPABILITY BUILDING

13. National Hydrographic Committee. The development of national policy for Coastal waters is outstanding and currently a close role with SANHO is maintained. Namport has given focus to Ports Hydrography by the significant investments it has made in the procurement of hydrographic surveying equipment, software and craft. Namport remains open to consider any cooperation initiatives in terms of new technological advances in hydrographic surveying systems and especially in receiving training.

14. MSI Organisation and GMDSS. Improvement of arrangements and liaison for effective passage of information between national and regional agencies.

a. MSI (Navigational Warnings). Navigational warnings are broadcast by Walvis Bay Radio. NAMPORT take responsibility for liaison for the Namibian NAVAREA VII Co-ordinator in South Africa. DMA carries the role in timely collection and dissemination of urgent navigational safety information .

b. Information on Ports and Harbours. Information underwritten by the Minister of Works, Transport resort under Namport.

c. GMDSS Status. The IMO Regional Co-ordinator has summarised the timetable for the establishment of the Namibian GMDSS sub-station, which, with repeater stations along the Namibian coast, is managed from Cape Town by the SAN HO.

15. Hydrographic Capability. National capacity and resources for the appointment and training of additional personnel required action:

a. Provision of Survey and other Data to the Charting HQ. NAMPORT are using their in-house capability under training and the Namibian Navy for the developments.

b. Survey Capability. Namport retains the role to provide port related surveys with planning to extend its equipment capability. Namport has coordinated a national committee to rationalise surveys and develop skills which can enhance national activities.

c. Chart Production. SANHO do the production of charts and publications for Namibian waters. A formal bilateral agreement for this service has merit.

d. Potential for Regional Activity. Namibia has reliance on the IHO for such integration.

POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE AREAS

16. Training. Technical Workshops and study forums are beneficial, while SAN continue to manage MSI/GMDSS arrangements for Namibian waters.

17. Equipment. Purchase of the portable survey suite comprising DGPS and a single-beam echo sounder with a boat and trailer has been achieved by Namport as its ports hydrographic objective. Further equipment upgrades and enhancements are required. Multibeam systems are earmarked as the next step in Namport's equipment enhancements.

18. Advice. A Joint Committee application to IHOCBC for prioritising a national survey plan and specification, with appraisal of contract surveys, is a solution to enhancing Namibian strengths and support.

ACTIONS

19. IHO Membership
 - a. Namibia is as yet not a member.

20. Collection and Promulgation of Hydrographic Information.
 - a. Information obtained by the SAIHC Technical Committee visit 27-29 June 2011, is due for SANHO chart updating.

 - b. Notification of licensed areas for mining conflicting in the areas of fisheries and seabed resources as and when issued.

21. Development of Hydrographic Capability.
 - a. Harmonization through Local and Regional integration and capacity building would add to the Namibian capability.

**COMPILED ON BEHALF OF THE NAMIBIAN
NATIONAL JOINT HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE**