



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

**NATIONAL REPORT**

**TO**

**THE 9<sup>TH</sup> SOUTHERN AFRICAN AND ISLANDS  
HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION**

**MAURITIUS**

**18<sup>TH</sup>– 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2012**

## 1. GENERAL

The United Republic of Tanzania is a Maritime State of the Indian Ocean with approximately 223,000 square kilometers of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and a coastline length of about 1,500km. Along the coast of the main land there are three off lying big Islands namely Zanzibar, Pemba and Mafia, also there are many small Islands. In addition it has extensive inland maritime areas such as Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika and Lake Nyasa. There are three major harbours and six minor ones. Also there are several Lake Ports.

Hydrographic survey activities fall under two Ministries as detailed below:

- The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements development, in which there is a Hydrographic Surveys Section within the Surveys and Mapping Division headed by Assistant Director for Hydrographic Surveys. The Ministry is responsible for land and hydrographic surveys and mapping/charting in the country. At the moment there are no hydrographic survey vessels although there are three staff with Category “B” hydrographic survey qualifications within the Ministry. Also the Ministry provides secretariat for the National Hydrographic Committee.

Handling of Maritime Affairs and implementation of all Maritime Conventions ratified by the United Republic of Tanzania is the responsibility of the Ministry of Transport. The ratified conventions include UNCLOS, Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), Load Line, The Standards of Training, Certification & Watchkeeping (STCW), Tonnage, The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs), Search and Rescue (SAR) and OPRC among others. Matters related to maritime safety and security and protection of the marine environment are managed in accordance with the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2003. Under the provisions of this Act, the Ministry of Transport has delegated the obligation to ensure the implementation of the Act and the ratified International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions to the Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority (SUMATRA).

- The Ministry of Infrastructure Development, through Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) has the responsibility to manage all Tanzania main land Sea Ports and Lake Ports. Basically, TPA’s broad functions are to promote the effective management and operations of sea and inland water ways ports, secure the provision of services in relation to loading and unloading of cargo, develop and manage the port infrastructure and maintain ports safety and security. TPA has a

Hydrographic Section that deals with hydrographic matters. The section's principal functions are as follows:-

- Hydrographic surveys in seaports and inland water ways ports on Lakes Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa.
- Maintenance and improvement of Marine Navigational Aids in seaports, coast and inland water ways ports.
- Dredging to maintain depths at channels and berths in seaports and inland water ways ports.
- Notices to mariners and Oceanographic studies

Zanzibar Ports Corporation (ZPC) is the Authority responsible for Ports in Zanzibar and Pemba.

## **2.0 SURVEYS**

### **2.1 Hydrographic Surveys carried out by TPA**

TPA carried out Hydrographic surveys at the following Sea and Lake Ports:

- **Sea Ports:-**

- Dar es Salaam
- Tanga
- Lindi
- Mbegani (Bagamoyo)

The purpose of the hydrographic surveys at Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Lindi Ports was to ascertain siltation build-up and dredging requirements.

Considerations are being taken to establish a new port at Mbegani village near Bagamoyo town, about 60 Km. to the North of Dar es Salaam. However, hydrographic survey results have revealed that extensive capital dredging works would be required. Geotechnical investigations have also been carried out to assess soil conditions and a consultant has been engaged to look into the possibility of establishing a Port at Mbegani; the report for which is being awaited.

- **Lake Ports:-**

- Lake Victoria Ports:  
Hydrographic surveys were carried out at Mwanza North and Mwanza South Ports in order to assess maintenance dredging requirements.

Lake Tanganyika Ports:

- Also surveys have been carried out at seven ports along Lake Tanganyika coast line with a view to construct jetties. With reference to the hydrographic survey results, these jetties will be constructed at Lagosa, Kalya, Karema, Kagunga, Kirandu, Kipili and Sibwesa Ports. At present contractors have been engaged to construct the respective jetties.
- Lake Nyasa Ports:  
  
Hydrographic surveys have been carried out at Itungi Port to assess dredging requirement and at Kiwira village for jetty construction. At the moment a contractor has been engaged to construct a jetty at Kiwira village.

## 2.2 Surveys carried out by Contracted Companies

- **East African Community Surveys:-**

The East African Community (EAC) has floated tender to look for a consultant who will conduct survey and map navigational routes and ports in Lake Victoria Basin.

- **Delineation of the Continental Shelf:-**

Tanzania ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982 on 30th September, 1985 and became a Party to the Convention in 1994. In accordance with the provisions of Article 76 of the Convention, all coastal States that ratified the Convention before 13th May, 1999 were obliged to submit before 13th May, 2009 to the United Nations scientific and technical information that may allow them to be granted sovereign rights over the extended continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles. However, due to insufficient data, Tanzania submitted a Preliminary Information document on 7th May, 2009 in accordance with the States Parties' agreement reached in June 2008. On 18th January, 2012, Tanzania made a full Submission to the United Nations.

The United Nations invited the United Republic of Tanzania to make a presentation on the Submission before the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf during its 30th Session which was scheduled from 30th July to 10th August, 2012. The Submission contained a detailed description of data, maps, technical procedures and scientific methodologies applied as required by Article 76 of UNCLOS to delineate the outer limit of the extended continental shelf of Tanzania.

Following the presentation, the United Nations will consider the Submission, and make recommendations regarding Tanzania's claim in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedures. The Royal Norwegian government donated generously in supporting and making the project a success. Technical assistance was also covered in this generous offer. During the implementation of this project the baseline of Tanzania was surveyed by Tanzanian surveyors in collaboration with the German Institute of Geosciences (BGR).

Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Development was the lead ministry in the implementation of the Tanzania Continental Shelf Delineation Project.

- **Offshore Seismic Surveys:-**

A number of Seismic surveys co-coordinated by Tanzanian Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) for search of oil and gas, have been conducted in the Indian Ocean along the Tanzania coast line. But no bathymetric data have been received for the purpose of updating Admiralty charts.

## **2.3 Equipment**

There is one Hydrographic Survey boat and Buoys Tender Vessel.

Hydrographic Survey equipment comprises of the following:-

- Two Hydrostar 4300 Hydrographic Echo sounders
- DSM 12/212 & TRMTALK 450s Trimble, Differential Global Satellite positioning system (DGPS).
- Hewlett Packard Hydrographic survey computer with HYDROpro and Navigation software.
- A3 MP 5000 series plotter.
- A0 Hp 800 plotter
- A new RESON Seabat7125 Multibeam Echo Sounder has been acquired together with QINSY & Qloud Software, in which all the ports and their approaches will be surveyed using the system.

## **2.4 Future projects**

- Expansion of Dar es Salaam port.

- Expansion of Mtwara port.
- Construction of a new port at Mbegani (Bagamoyo)
- Construction of a new port at Mwambani (Tanga)

## 1. **Problems encountered**

Vandalism of solar lighting systems on navigation buoys is still the main problem.

## 1. **CHARTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

### a. **Charts**

At present we do not produce chart, ENCs, RNCs, INT chart or National paper charts. Usually we send all hydrographic data to the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office for update of the existing Admiralty charts and subsequent production of new editions.

### b. **Publications**

We do not produce any publications.

## 4. **MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION**

The Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority (SUMATRA) coordinates national SAR and pollution mitigation matters. Tanzania has both a draft national Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan and a national draft marine oil spill response contingency Plan. The HNS contingency Plan is under development. SUMATRA manages SAR services and oil pollution issues through the Dar es Salaam Maritime Search and Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC). SUMATRA is also responsible for issuing navigational warnings.

Tanzania has a long coastline on the Indian Ocean and inland water bodies (Lake Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa) where the country has an obligation under international law to ensure the safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment. Matters related to the safety of navigation are the obligation of SUMATRA.

## 5. **CAPACITY BUILDING**

The MRCC is not able to transmit navtex messages. There is need to build capacity in this regard. Other areas where capacity building is required is in hydrography, maintenance of aids to navigation and Vessel Traffic System (VTS) services.

It is anticipated that the ongoing regional Maritime Highways Project” – West Indian Ocean Maritime Electronic Highway and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention, which involves eight countries of the region will benefit our countries in terms of capacity building. During this project it is hoped that modern hydrographic surveys will be undertaken in Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa and Tanzania. Tanzania has already benefitted from the project whereby training in Cat. B is ongoing for one of its staff in Rotterdam.

## **5.1 Personnel**

The TPA’s Hydrographic Section has four experts, one Technician in Marine Aids to Navigation, three Hydrographers, two with Category “A” and one with Category “B”. Also there are nine Sailors who work with the four experts as a team.

## **6. S – 55**

Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting in the United Republic of Tanzania, is in compliance with the requirements of **S-55**.

## **1. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES**

We do not undertake GEBCO/IBC’s activities.

There are three tide gauges in the country, at Dar es Salaam Port, Mtwara Port and at Zanzibar Port.

The Mtwara and Zanzibar tide gauges are connected to the University of Hawaii network in which tidal data is sent via satellite.

## **8. CONCLUSIONS**

Due to change in technology and weather uncertainties caused by global factors, The United Republic of Tanzania requires urgent capacity building in related maritime disciplines and Marine Infrastructure development, in order to cope with the challenges and modern shipping requirements for Safety of Navigation and preservation of the Environment.