

2009

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER BULLETIN

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REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSIONS

10th CONFERENCE OF THE EAST ASIA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (EAHC) Singapore, 15-17 October 2009

The 10th Conference of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission was held in Singapore from 15-17 October 2009. All Member States of the Commission: China, Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Singapore; and the observer States: Brunei Darussalam, UK, USA and Vietnam attended the meeting. In addition, a representative of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission attended as an invited observer. Captain WARD represented the IHB.

The Conference was opened by the Chairman, Dr Parry OEI (Singapore) with the unveiling of the new flag of the Commission. The Conference discussed a wide range of regional topics including developments in each of the Member States, ENC production and coordination, investigations into data-rich ENCs, the regional capacity building programme, and closer cooperation and coordination with adjacent Regional Commissions.

The meeting was closed by Vice Admiral Tanuwong NAKORN (Thailand), who assumed the chairmanship of the Commission at the end of the meeting and took custody of the flag. Commodore Romeo I. Ho (Philippines) was elected as the Vice-chairman.





The next meeting of the Commission will be a coordination meeting in Thailand in January 2010.

**10th MESO-AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN SEA HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION CONFERENCE (MACHC)**
Bridgetown, Barbados, 4-6 November 2009.

1. The 10th Meeting of the Meso-American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) was held at the Accra Hotel in Bridgetown, Barbados, hosted by the Barbados Port Authority, the UKHO and NOAA (USA).
2. The following MACHC members and Associate Members were present: Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Colombia, El Salvador, France, Grenada, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, The Netherlands, St. Kitts & Nevis, Suriname, UK, USA and Venezuela. The following hydrographic companies participated as observers: BROOKE OCEAN, CARIS, JEPPESEN, ESRI, KONSBERG and PELYDRYN. The IHB was represented by Captain GORZIGLIA (IHB Director) and Captain BERMEJO (IHB).
3. The meeting was preceded on 3 November by meetings of the Electronic Charts Committee and the INT Charts Committee, which presented reports to the plenary meeting, along with a report from the Capacity Building Committee. The MACHC CB Programme for 2010-2011 was subsequently approved.
4. The Opening Ceremony included addresses by the Chairman, Vice-Admiral PALMER (Brazil) and Captain GORZIGLIA (IHB Director). Both stressed the importance of the work of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions and the IHO effort to raise awareness of the importance of Hydrography worldwide. The Barbados Port Authority, UKHO and NOAA were kindly thanked by the Chairman for hosting the meeting. The keynote speech was given by the Honourable George HUTSON, Minister of International Business and Transport of Barbados, who declared the 10th MACHC Conference open.
5. In his report, the Chairman summarized the work carried out since the last meeting and a detailed review of the agreed actions was made. The IHB Director presented a report on a general overview of the Organization and the Bureau activities, highlighting the recent events, such as the 4th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference, the first meetings of the new Committees IRCC and HCSS and other subjects (Convention amendments ratification, ENC coverage, S100) as well as Capacity Building matters.
6. National Reports were provided by Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, France, Jamaica, Netherlands, St. Kitts & Nevis, Suriname, UK, USA and Venezuela.

7. The plenary adopted the proposals and conclusions presented by the MACHC Committees (see para. 2) and established an Action List which will be worked on during the intersessional period. UK was elected as the new Chairman of the Capacity Building Committee.

8. Some changes to the MACHC Statutes were also examined after being considered and proposed by a Working Group formed by Barbados, Jamaica, USA and Venezuela. The representative of El Salvador officially requested to join the Commission as an Associate Member, a request that was unanimously approved by the members.

9. The next meeting of the Commission will be held in 2010 in Suriname, with Venezuela as an alternative. Should none of these options be possible, the 11th MACHC meeting will be postponed to 2011.



10. The day following the closure of the meeting was "Industry Day", when the MACHC delegates had the opportunity to see technical presentations made by the hydrographic companies present. These presentations, together with a practical demonstration of software and hardware used on board a launch provided by the Port Authority, allowed participants to get a feeling of the state of the art hydrographic equipment used during hydrographic surveys. Everyone was pleased with the effort made by the Hydro Industry.

COMMITTEES / SUB-COMMITTEES / COMMISSIONS

IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)

9th Meeting, Simon's Town, Cape Town, South Africa, 12-14 October 2009

The 9th Meeting of the Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA) was held in Simon's Town, Cape Town, South Africa, 12-14 October 2009, organized with great success by Captain Abri KAMPFER, Hydrographer of South Africa in cooperation with the South African National Antarctic Programme (SANAP).

The Chairman, Capt GORZIGLIA (IHB Director), welcomed the 12 IHO Member States (Australia, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom and Venezuela), the 5 international organizations (COMNAP, IAATO, GEBCO, IBCSO and SCAR) and SANAP who all actively participated in the discussions.

The Commission reviewed membership status and confirmed that the Commission is composed of 23 IHO Member States, with the Republic of Korea and Venezuela being the last two members to join the HCA. Following this point, in accordance with Art 5.2 of the Statutes, the Commission re-elected Rear Admiral Ian MONCRIEFF (UK) as Vice Chairman of the HCA.

The Commission reviewed the status of the actions agreed at the last meeting and it was agreed that all actions had been completed. The reports of the international organizations as well as those from IHO Member States were commented, as well as the reports on the progress made with the INT chart scheme, ENC scheme and production and the C-55 status with regard to Antarctica. Several actions were identified to further progress the subjects discussed.

The Commission noted with satisfaction the constant support and contribution made by COMNAP and IAATO. It was agreed to hold a seminar on the Importance of Hydrography in Antarctica at the next IAATO Annual Meeting that will take place in Turin, Italy in June 2010; it was also agreed that technical visits would be conducted to IAATO ships, before they head for Antarctica, in order to brief the ships' Captains on the procedure of collecting and rendering hydrographic data after having acted as Ships of Opportunity. It was felt that the presence of representatives from ATCM and IMO would have been beneficial in the discussions held.

There were specific discussions to identify the main topics to be included in the presentation and discussion that will take place at the Antarctic Treaty Experts Meeting in December 2009 concerning matters related to Tourism in Antarctica.

Further discussions were held following the report of the Chairman of the HCA Hydrographic Survey Prioritization Working Group, successfully chaired by Mr. Andy Willett (UK). As a result of an interesting exchange of views, several actions were identified, all aiming at improving safety of navigation as quickly as possible, through the exchange and collection of new high priority hydrographic data required to produce the INT Charts in the region "M" scheme.

The Commission also agreed on a number of actions to be carried out during the intersessional period, with the responsibilities and deadlines clearly identified.

Following a kind invitation from the UKHO, the Commission decided to hold the 10th HCA meeting in the United Kingdom. The venue and dates (last week of September or first week of October 2010) are to be confirmed.



HCA Group photo with Rear Admiral Robert Higgs (SAN) at Simon's Town square.

**1st MEETING OF THE IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES
AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (HSSC)**
Singapore, 22-24 October 2009

The inaugural meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) was held in Singapore from 15-17 October 2009, hosted by the Hydrographer of Singapore, Dr Parry OEI. The HSSC became operational on 1 January 2009 to oversee the technical program of the IHO. The committee has taken over the role of the Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems (CHRIS) as well as assuming responsibility for other technical activities of the IHO.



The meeting was attended by 72 delegates from 28 countries together with representatives from nine Non-Governmental International Organizations (NGIO's) and sister intergovernmental organizations.

The work of HSSC's ten subordinate Working Groups was examined. Of particular note was the completion of a new geospatial data transfer standard – S-100, to be known as *The Universal Hydrographic Data Model – UHDM*. As a result, the HSSC decided to recommend that IHO Member States adopt S-100 as an active standard from 1 January 2010.

The S-100 UHDM and its associated on-line registry, maintenance and governance infrastructure have been created specifically to encourage the widest possible use of hydrographic and related data and products in conjunction with other geospatial datasets and applications. An important consideration for the HSSC was that the introduction of S-100 will not have any adverse impact on the production of ENC's and ECDIS that rely on the S-57 standard.

Other notable topics included ongoing work on revising S-52 and its appendix 1 giving guidance on ENC updating procedures, development of guidelines for encoding temporary and preliminary ENC updates, drafting terms of reference for regional charting groups, monitoring the worldwide development of Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures (MSDI), revising procedures for making changes to IHO technical standards and specifications, the use of real-time tidal information in ECDIS, and future applications based on S-100 for ECDIS and also the e-Navigation concept under development by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

WORKING GROUPS

6th CSPCWG MEETING Monaco, 1-3 December 2009

The 6th meeting of the Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) took place at the IHB on 1-3 December 2009, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Peter JONES (UKHO). The 25 participants represented the HOs of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Korea (Rep. of), Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA (NGA and NOAA) and the IHB. Below is a summary of the main points discussed.

Distinction between 'foul area' (danger to surface navigation) and 'foul ground' (no danger to surface navigation) was clarified.

Assuming that AIS 'virtual' aids to navigation would be used in the future in some situations, the meeting agreed on a proposed IHO symbology to depict them on a chart.

Symbology was agreed for the depiction on charts of oscillating directional lights, floating wind turbines, areas being dredged, floating waste bin, fish aggregating devices and sub-surface obstructions (ODAS)

Finalization of the new section B-600 of S-4 *Chart Maintenance* and of a new edition of S-49 *Standardization of Mariners' Routing Guides* was acknowledged.

The next CSPCWG meeting is scheduled to be held on 23-25 November 2010 in Cape Town, South Africa.



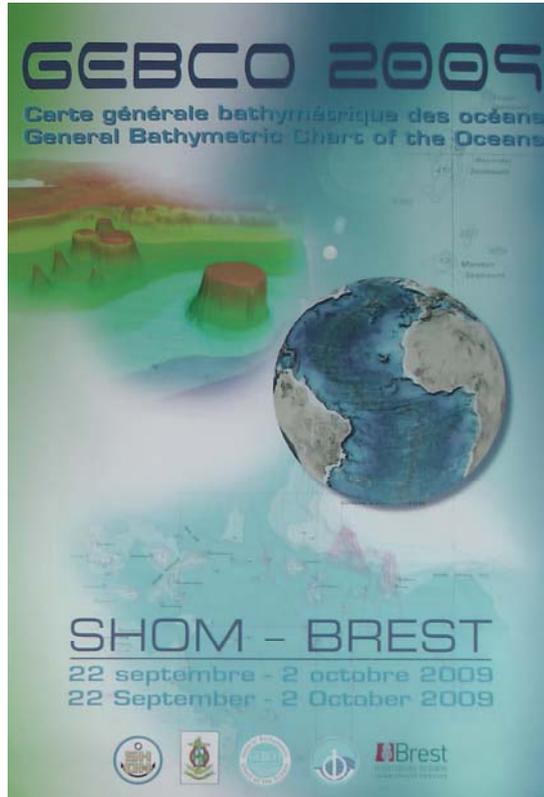
6th CSPCWG - IHB, MONACO - 1 - 3 December 2009

OTHER BODIES

GEBCO 2009 MEETINGS

SHOM, Brest, 22 September – 2 October 2009.

The 2009 series of GEBCO meetings were hosted by the Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (SHOM) in Brest, France on consecutive dates from 22 September to 2 October. The IHB were represented by Michel HUET (SCUFN); Anthony PHARAOH (TSCOM); and Captain GORZIGLIA and Steve SHIPMAN (GGC).



Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) 22 – 25 September

The 22nd meeting of the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea feature names (SCUFN) was held under the chairmanship of Dr Hans Werner SCHENKE from the Alfred-Wegener-Institut für Polar und Meeresforschung (AWI – Germany). There were 25 participants, including 9 of the 12 SCUFN members. The meeting welcomed Cdr Ana Angelica ALBERONI (Brazil) and Dr Vaughan STAGPOOLE (New Zealand), as new members. Ms. Lisa TAYLOR (USA) was unanimously elected Vice-Chair of SCUFN. The main issues discussed at the meeting are summarized below.

- Following publication in 2008 of IHO-IOC B-6 “Standardization of Undersea Feature Names” as an English/French version, the following language versions have been completed and published: English/Korean, English/Japanese and English/Russian. An English/Spanish version is still under preparation.
- A number of naming proposals were considered, in particular:
 - o 10 proposals from the Brazilian Navy Hydrographic Center in the SW Atlantic;
 - o 13 proposals from the Instituto Oceanográfico de la Armada, Ecuador, in the SE Pacific;
 - o 8 proposals from the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of Japan in the NW Pacific;

- 6 proposals from the Korea Committee on Marine Geographical Names in the NW Pacific; and
 - 2 proposals from the State Scientific Centre “Yuzhmorgeologiya” of Russia in the NW Pacific.
 - In total, the Sub-Committee “accepted” 30 new undersea feature names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer.
- Ms. Lisa TAYLOR demonstrated a geospatially enabled database and Web-based interface for the GEBCO Gazetteer of undersea feature names. This application, which is now operational, has been developed at the NGDC – also the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) – in collaboration with the British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC).

The Sub-Committee agreed that any future SCUFN meetings will take place as far as possible in conjunction with the other GEBCO meetings, i.e. GGC and TSCOM, in order to minimize travel costs for those SCUFN members also involved in GGC and/or TSCOM.



Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM) 28 – 30 September

The 25th meeting of the GEBCO Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM) took place under the chairmanship of Dr Walter SMITH from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) U.S.A.

Some of the issues discussed during the meeting included:

- The new **GEBCO_08** global bathymetric grid. This continuous terrain model was generated by combining measured depth data (collected by ships) with satellite-derived depth estimates in regions where no data are available. The grid covers ocean and land areas with 30 arc-second spacing. It can be downloaded (together with free viewing software) from the GEBCO web site;
- The release of data collected under the ice in the Arctic region by U.S. submarines between 1993 and 2000. This includes more than 13 000 data points which have been made available for improving the GEBCO bathymetry;
- Bathymetry provided by IHO Member States to improve the GEBCO grid in shallow water areas where there is a great shortage of data. More than twenty Member States have contributed soundings derived from ENC's for this purpose;
- The introduction of Google Ocean, and future cooperation between Google and GEBCO.

Very interesting tours of SHOM and IFREMER (L'Institut Francais de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer) were also provided during the meeting.

The TSCOM also organized and participated in, the 4th GEBCO Science Day which was held at the Oceanopolis aquarium and discovery park. This comprised oral and poster presentations on a wide range of topics relating to bathymetric mapping. Presentations on the Litto3D project, exploring the oceans in Google Earth, the UNEP Shelf program, the Olex global sounding database, bathymetric mapping activities around Israel and the Arctic Ocean and several other topics were provided. A full list of presentations is available from the GEBCO website.

GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) 1 – 2 October

The GGC met under the chairmanship of David MONAHAN, the IHO member from Canada. Apologies had been received from Commander Paolo LUSIANI, the IHO member from Italy and from Lic. José Luis FRIAS SALAZAR, the IOC Member from Mexico. Dr Hyo HYUN SUNG from Korea, the new IHO member replacing David MONAHAN, who was stepping down from the GGC after this meeting, and Mrs Lisa TAYLOR, Director of the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) along with numerous Scientific Advisors were also present.

This was the first meeting held since the establishment of the revised IHO Committee Structure and the new ToR and RoP approved by IHO and IOC in 2008. The meeting received reports from its parent organizations and subsidiary bodies and from the IHO DCDB. The meeting considered a proposal from two members for the establishment of a new Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM). This received widespread support from the meeting although it was agreed that more work and liaison with other bodies, particularly the IOC Regional Mapping Projects, was required prior to formal establishment. It was agreed to establish the SCRUM on an interim basis whilst further work was conducted. This work would be led by Drs Martin JAKOBBSO and Chris FOX who made the initial proposal. The IHB viewed this as a positive step as it would realise the view for “Ocean Mapping” originally proposed by the IHB at the GGC meeting in La Spezia in 2004.

Dr SMITH, Chairman of TSCOM, reported on the very successful attendance of the Manager of Google Ocean, Ms Jennifer FOULKES, at the TSCOM meeting. A large step forward had been taken in convincing Google Ocean that GEBCO were serious players who could provide Google with a one-stop shop for their ocean mapping requirements. This was considered to be of great benefit to both GEBCO and Google. The meeting agreed that Dr SMITH should be the principal point of contact with Google Ocean.

Options for further development of the GEBCO World Map, prepared by Nippon Foundation (NF) / GEBCO scholars under the direction of Dr Martin JAKOBBSO were considered and several ideas for further consideration developed. Mr Robert ANDERSON showed several “Globes” which had been prepared by UK and Chinese companies depicting the GEBCO World Map. It was agreed that further work was required prior to any endorsement by GEBCO and public sale and that Bob Anderson would continue this work.

Dr SMITH, and Ms Pauline WEATHERALL, British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC) - GEBCO Digital Atlas Manager, reported on the work undertaken with the GEBCO Grids. Currently there were two grids, the GEBCO 1 minute grid, based largely on legacy data from the 5th Edition of Paper Charts, and the recently released GEBCO 30 second grid which included altimetry data where “real” soundings were not available. It was agreed that resources did not permit the maintenance of both grids and that all effort should be focussed on maintaining and improving the 30” grid.

Dr FALCONER, Vice Chairman, in his role as Chairman of the NF / GEBCO Training Project Management Committee reported on recent developments. The NF had continued to fund students to attend the Post Graduate diploma course at the University of New Hampshire. The original proposal to the NF had also envisaged some further “Work packages” and “Fellowship” work but these ideas had not been funded by the NF. The NF had expressed their great satisfaction for the outcome of this training project and were now considering some further elements for its continuation but had requested that these not be publicised until discussions were completed.

The IHB presented proposals for a review of IHO Publication B-7 “The GEBCO Guidelines”. The GGC thanked the IHB for this work and agreed that certain key members should progress these proposals intercessionally with the intention of finalising a text at the next GGC Meeting. It was agreed that the current edition of B-7 should be removed from the IHO and GEBCO web sites pending this revision.

David MONAHAN confirmed that he was standing down as a GGC member, and consequently also as Chairman. The GGC thanked Dave for his many years of work both before and since becoming chairman of the GGC. Whilst no longer a GGC member the GGC looked forward to his continued efforts as both a Scientific Advisor to GEBCO and as the manager of the NF / GEBCO Training Project.

The GGC unanimously elected Dr Robin FALCONER, IOC member from New Zealand and currently Vice-Chairman, as Chairman of the GGC and then elected Dr Chris FOX, IHO member from the USA, as Vice Chairman. It was agreed that the Chairman would investigate further an offer from Hugo MONTORO, a former NF / GEBCO Scholar, to host the 2010 meetings in Peru.

26th SESSION OF THE IMO ASSEMBLY

IMO Headquarters, London, 23 November – 02 December 2009

The 26th session of the IMO Assembly was held at the IMO Headquarters in London, from 23 November to 02 December 2009. The IHB was represented by the President and PAH.

Welcoming addresses were made by Admiral MITROPOULOS, IMO Secretary General, Mr. Paul CLARK, United Kingdom Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Transport, and His Excellency Mr. Gehad MADI of Egypt, the outgoing President of the 25th Assembly. His Excellency Mr. Georg BOOMGAARDEN of Germany was elected as President for the 26th Assembly.

The Assembly established two Committees to consider: 1) Administrative, Financial Legal and Technical Cooperation Matters and 2) Technical Matters. Matters relating to the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) were considered by Committee 2 and their decisions were subsequently approved by the Plenary. The reports of the 84th, 85th and 86th sessions of the Maritime Safety Committee were accepted.

The Assembly, as recommended by Committee 2, confirmed the adoption by MSC85 of Resolution MSC.280(85) of amendments to the General Provisions on Ships' Routeing (Resolution A.572(14) as amended) as proposed by Norway, the United Kingdom and IHO in document MSC 82/21/3.

The IMO Secretary General, in a report on IMO membership, urged IMO Member States who were not members of the IHO to give favourable consideration to becoming members of the IHO. The representative of the Cook Islands, in an opening speech to the Assembly, thanked the IHO, the UKHO and SHOM for their continuing assistance in providing ENC coverage.

Delegates to the Assembly supported the idea of the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme becoming mandatory and adopted Resolution A.1018(26): "Further development of the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme", which sets out a proposed timetable for achieving mandatory status.

Consideration of the documents at Assembly 26 proceeded faster than anticipated and the Assembly concluded on Wednesday 2 December rather than on Friday 4 December, as originally planned. The 103rd session of the Council, which followed the Assembly, elected Mr. J. LANTZ of the United States as Chairman for the two year period to Assembly 27. Mr. D. NTULI of South Africa was re-elected as Vice Chairman.

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS

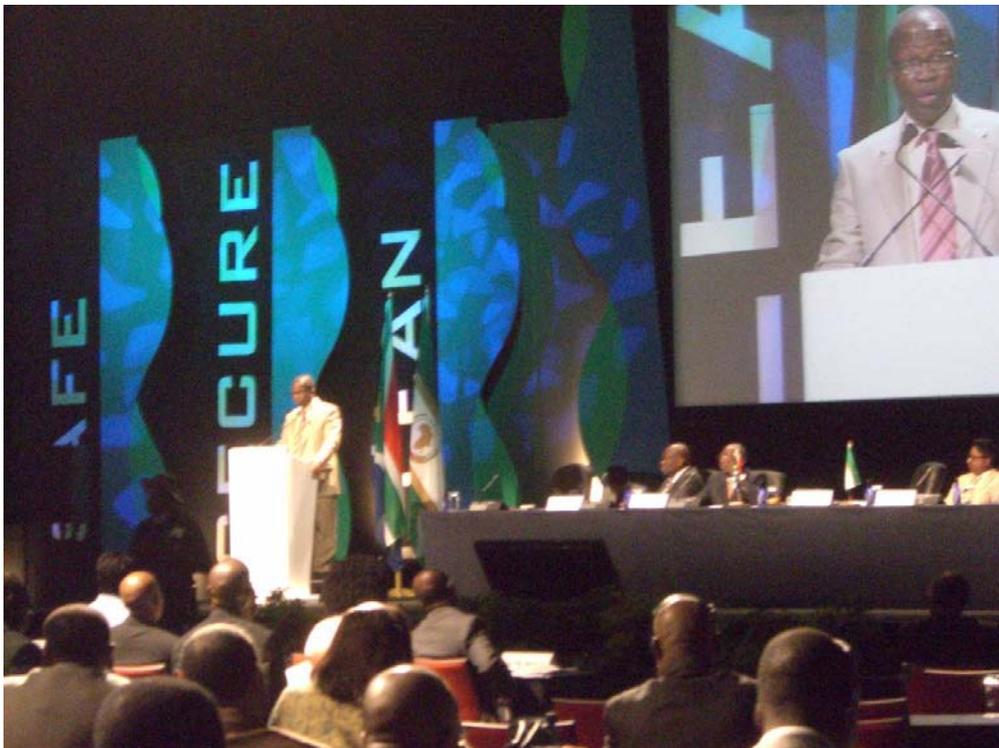
2nd AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR MARITIME TRANSPORT

Durban, South Africa, 12-16 October 2009

The 2nd African Union Conference of Ministers Responsible for Maritime Transport was held in Durban from 12-16 October. The theme of the meeting was “*Creating a Safe, Secure and Clean Maritime Transport Industry in Africa*”, which built on the 1st meeting held in 2007.

The first three days of the meeting comprised the “meeting of experts” that finalized various texts for consideration by the ministers during the final two days of the Conference. In addition, a number of related maritime development challenges were addressed including safety and security.

The principal texts considered were the African Maritime Transport Charter and the Maritime Transport Plan of Action 2008-2010. The Maritime Charter was approved at the end of the Conference and will enter into force after the ratification of at least 15 Member States of the African Union. The charter includes general references to the provision of hydrographic services. The Action Plan includes references to hydrographic capacity building.



*Opening of the Conference by Mr Sibusiso NDEBELE,
Minister of Transport for South Africa*

Captain WARD represented the IHO. During the meeting of experts Captain WARD explained that the respective roles of IHO and IALA were hydrography and nautical charting, and aid to navigation. This had not been appreciated by Member States or the African Union Commission secretariat. As a result, the draft Maritime Transport Charter was amended to reflect these two different roles. He also presented a progress report highlighting the IHO’s capacity building activities on the African continent and concluded by informing the meeting that the level of awareness and priority given to hydrography by many African governments was low and as a result was compromising the capacity building efforts of the IHO.

3rd INTERNATIONAL ECDIS CONFERENCE
Singapore, 19-21 October 2009.

The 3rd International ECDIS Conference was held in Singapore from 15-17 October 2009. Captain WARD presented the keynote speech. The conference concentrated on the forthcoming requirement for an increasing number of vessels to use ECDIS for navigation.

Over 300 delegates heard a range of views and experiences from mariners and shipping companies already using ECDIS. The consistent message that they delivered was: ECDIS improves navigation safety, is welcomed by mariners and it saves money. Their principal words of caution were that mariners must be properly trained to use ECDIS.



*Captain WARD and Dr Parry OEI,
Hydrographer of Singapore*

**INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF HYDROGRAPHIC SOCIETIES
HYDRO9 CONFERENCE**

Cape Town, South Africa 10-12 November 2009

Captain WARD represented the IHO at the 2009 International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS) Conference. The conference was hosted and organised by the Hydrographic society of South Africa.



Mr Aubrey PRICE, chairman of the Hydrographic Society of South Africa, addresses the Conference

Over 200 delegates and a wide range of industry exhibitors took part in the conference. As well as local participants, there were many delegates and exhibitors from the US, Canada, Australasia and Europe.

After an opening speech by the President of the IFHS, Mr William HEAPS, Captain WARD delivered a keynote opening address. He covered the conference theme of “enhancing global capacity”, with particular reference to the capacity building programmes of the IHO. He also provided a separate paper on S-100 – the Universal Hydrographic Data Model that was discussed later in the conference programme. Captain Abri Kampfer, Hydrographer of South Africa followed Captain WARD, by addressing the opening plenary session, highlighting the leadership

role that South Africa is playing in capacity building efforts of southern Africa.

I H B VISITS

VISIT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE

21 October 2009

Captain GORZIGLIA (IHB Director) and Mr. NAKABAYASHI (Seconded Professional Assistant at the IHB) visited the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) on 21 October 2009 to brief the trainees attending the Japan Capacity Building Project, funded by the Nippon Foundation, about the IHO and the importance of Hydrography.

The selection of the students was made in April and the 15-week course started in September. Following a broad and open exchange of views with the students, it was clear that the selection process had been successful. The trainees are very keen to learn and have the necessary educational background and experience for the course; they are also very open with each other and have established a friendly atmosphere which allows them to work harmoniously together and facilitates the running of the course. It was also felt that this FIG/IHO/ICA Category B Course is the level that the trainees were seeking.

Captain GORZIGLIA made a presentation that included the importance of hydrography and the IHO's role, and called upon the students to act as ambassadors of the IHO and the profession. He also encouraged them to maintain the team spirit even after the completion of the course.

Captain GORZIGLIA also presented mementos and certificates of Module 1 of the course and thanked the UKHO and the instructors for contributing to the enhancement of the level of hydrography .



TECHNICAL VISIT – SOLOMON ISLANDS
Honiara, Solomon Islands, 26-28 October 2009

Captain WARD and Ingénieur en Chef HUET visited the Solomon Islands in October 2009 as part of the IHO Capacity Building Program to raise the level of government awareness of hydrography.

The national hydrographic program in the Solomon Islands has been in decline since the disbandment of the Solomon Islands Hydrographic Unit more than 20 years ago. The establishment of the Solomon Islands Maritime Safety Administration (SIMSA) in 2010 offers an opportunity to reinstate a level of in-country hydrographic capability.

The IHO delegation briefed the First Secretary of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, as well as representatives from the College of Higher Education (Marine School), the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey, the Ministry of Development and Planning and the Solomon Islands Visitors' Bureau.



Various options were discussed during the meetings, including greater support for Maritime Safety Information (MSI) services, and the establishment of a limited surveying capability using portable equipment. The Solomon Islands is currently an observer in the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission – and is expected to seek Associate Membership at the next meeting which will be held in the Solomon Islands. The Solomon Islands is also likely to seek membership of the IHO in the future.

NEW HYDROGRAPHERS



NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF ITALY Rear Admiral Franco FAVRE Italian Navy

R. Adm. Franco FAVRE was born in Venice, on 21st of October 1955.

After the High School in 1974, he joined the Livorno Naval Academy of the Italian Navy where he graduated in 1978.

At the end of the Naval Academy he served on board of warships as Anti Submarine Officer and then he was task to became fix wing pilot for the Navy. For this reason he attended the pilot course of the U.S. Navy in Corpus Christis.

From 1980 he served as pilot and tactical coordinator on board of BREGUET ATLANTIC at the 86° Anti Submarine Squadron of Cagliari Elmas.

In different times he served as Chief of MPA's operations in the NATO Allied Joint Force Command of Naples from where he conducted the NATO and UE MPA OPS in Yugoslavia and at the Italian Naval fleet command in Rome where he was responsible of the national MPA OPS in former Yugoslavia and Kosovo.

XO on board of Fregate "DE CRISTOFARO" on 1985 and Commanding Officer of Oceanic Mine Sweeper "SALMONE" and "SQUALO" on 1986.

In 1988 he served as Flag Officer and Press Officer for the Chief Command of Ionian Sea Maritime Command.

In 1996 he served in the Multinational Force and Observer in quality of Commanding Officer of the Italian contingent and of the 10th Naval Group in Sinai. After that he was the Commanding Officer of the "VITTORIO VENETO" Destroyer (2000) and, from 2001 to 2003, he was the Chief of Staff of Ionian Sea Maritime Command.

From 2003 to 2009 he served as Deputy Commander of the Maritime Studies Institute and director of the naval war college in Venice and, during this period, on January 2006, he was promoted Rear Admiral.

From last 2009 October 26th he is Director of the Italian Hydrographic Institute. RAdm. FAVRE graduated in Naval and Maritime Science at Pisa University and in Political Science at Trieste University.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

PATRONAGE CEREMONY AT SHOM's HYDROGRAPHIC SCHOOL

SHOM, Brest, 30 September 2009

On 30th September a Patronage Ceremony, presided by IGA Gilles BESSERO, Director General of SHOM and in the presence of the staff of SHOM and instructors and students, was held at SHOM's Hydrographic School. This important event is to welcome the students starting the year's course at the Hydrographic School.

This one-year course is aimed at improving the hydrographic skills of people who have acquired practical experience in hydrography and require a formal instruction. This course is recognized as a Category B Programme by the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors.

On this occasion, Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director, was invited to address the gathering, which included the six students of the 2009/2010 promotion, four from the French Navy, one from the Moroccan Navy and one from the Port Authority of Congo, about the significance of becoming a hydrographic surveyor.

In his speech, Captain GORZIGLIA highlighted several subjects, including the objectives of the IHO and SHOM's contribution to the IHO work programme. He also referred to the importance of a hydrographic school being associated with a HO due to the benefits this situation offers.

Following a brief description of the importance, applications and challenges of today's hydrography, Captain GORZIGLIA invited the students to give close attention to a permanent study of the discipline and to act with a solid team work spirit.

Finally he wished the students every success on the course and thanked the School and SHOM for contributing to making available knowledgeable and trained human resources for the benefit of international hydrography.

Captain GORZIGLIA was invited to sign the Visitors' Book and was presented with SHOM's crest in recognition of his participation in the Patronage Ceremony. This ceremony was followed by a reception where Captain GORZIGLIA had the opportunity to exchange views with the students and school staff.



*IGA BESSERO (SHOM Director General),
IGA LE GOUIC (SHOM Deputy Director),
Captain GORZIGLIA (IHB Director),
Mrs. CARIOU (Head Hydrographic School)
and School Staff toasting the success of the
Course.*

*Captain GORZIGLIA with School Staff and
the Students.*



MARINE ELECTRONIC HIGHWAY (MEH) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
Singapore, 8-9 October 2009

The MEH Demonstration Project is a project funded by the Global Environment Fund of the World Bank. The project seeks to demonstrate the benefits of the establishment of a Marine Electronic Highway in the Malacca and Singapore Straits. Captain Ward represented the IHO at a meeting of the Project's Technical Committee on Survey and ENC Production (TC-SENC) on 8 and 9 October 2009 in Singapore.

The meeting was arranged to finalise detailed actions with the selected contractor, GEMS, who will survey the critical depth areas around One Fathom Bank in the Malacca Strait. The survey data will be used to improve the existing ENCs in the area, thereby improving navigational safety and the protection of the marine environment.

The meeting was attended by representatives from IMO, who are managing the project, the World Bank, the three littoral States involved: Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore, and the IHO, who provided technical advice to IMO and the Member States involved.

The survey will be carried out in January and February 2010.

NATIONAL DAY OF MONACO
19 November 2009

An important part of the festivities organized for the National Day of Monaco is the conferring of honours and decorations by His Serene Highness Prince Albert IInd of Monaco and the Government of Monaco.

This year two members of staff were awarded long service medals in recognition of their many years of loyal service at the I.H. Bureau: at a ceremony held at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco, Pascale BOUZANQUET (France) received a bronze medal for 20 years' service and Barbara WILLIAMS (United Kingdom) a silver medal for 30 years' service.

Congratulations to both.



(left to right) Mr. Jean-Jacques CAMPANA, Government Counsellor for Social Affairs and Health (Monaco), Ms Barbara WILLIAMS (IHB), H.E. Mr. Jean-Paul PROUST, Minister of State of Monaco, and Ms Pascale BOUZANQUET (IHB)

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A HYDROGRAPHIC AND OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE
IN HAITI (SHOH) - PROJECT MANAGER VISITS THE HYDROGRAPHIC
AND OCEANOGRAPHIC SERVICE OF THE CHILEAN NAVY (SHOA)
November 2009**

In November, Mr. Serge François MITTON, Manager of the Project for the establishment of a Hydrographic and Oceanographic Office in Haiti (SHOH), paid a two-week visit to the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy (SHOA). This visit was organized by the Chilean Government in support of the Haitian Project.

The visit programme included numerous activities and Mr. MITTON had the opportunity to visit all the SHOA departments, in particular the technical departments. He was briefed on the work and tasks of each department and its staff. He also met the Legal Advisor and the staff working in the Management and Quality Assessment Units, who explained the internal organization, as well as the various procedures involved in undertaking the planned tasks. An assessment was made of the level of human and material resources required to set up a Hydrographic and Oceanographic Office in Haiti.

Mr. MITTON was also able to attend the 24th International Cartographic Conference (ICC) and to visit the ship AGOR 60 "Vidal Gormaz".

Mr. MITTON's visit was made possible through a request, submitted by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) to the Chilean Navy, seeking support to allow Haiti to be able to meet its obligations under the Law of the Sea and SOLAS Conventions through the establishment of a national Hydrographic Office.



*Captain ROJAS, SHOA Director ,
Mr. MITTON and Commander CUNEO.*



*Mr. MITTON being briefed on hydrographic
activities.*



*Mr. MITTON being briefed on nautical
cartography*



*Mr. MITTON being briefed on print-on-demand
methodology.*

**ANTARCTIC TREATY MEETING OF EXPERTS (ATME) ON THE MANAGEMENT OF
SHIPBORNE TOURISM IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA**

Wellington, New Zealand, 09-11 December 2009.

Pursuant to Decision 7 (2009) the ATME on the Management of Shipborne Tourism in the Antarctic Treaty Area was held in Wellington, New Zealand, on 09-11 December 2009. The objective of this meeting was to provide recommendations for consideration by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) XXXIII when it meets in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in May 2010.

The meeting was attended by representatives of 18 Antarctic Treaty Parties and 6 international organizations, including the IHO and IMO. The IHO was represented by Captain GORZIGLIA, IHB Director and Chairman of the IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA). The meeting was opened by Ms Catherine TAYLOR, CEO Maritime New Zealand and co-chaired by Mrs. Caroline FORSYTH, Deputy Secretary New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Dr. Olav ORHEIM from Norway. The agenda included 6 topics: trends in shipborne tourism in the AT area; developments in the IMO relating to shipborne tourism in the AT area; maritime safety, including hydrography and nautical cartography; protection of the Antarctic environment; vessels flagged to non-parties and cooperation between ATCM and IMO and IHO.

31 papers were submitted by delegations and international organizations for consideration during the meeting, two of which were submitted by the IHO. One paper noted the role of the IHO and the work undertaken so far by the HCA. The paper recalled ATCM XXXI Resolution 5 (2008) and recommended that the parties consider increasing the number of days ships spend conducting hydrographic surveys and embark on a more concerted charting effort of the Antarctic waters. The meeting expressed strong support for the important and valuable work of the IHO HCA and noted the advice about a potential gap between the post 2012 mandatory carriage of ECDIS by SOLAS ships and the availability of necessary ENCs.

The Hydrographer of New Zealand submitted a working paper providing details on the hydro-cartographic activities New Zealand has conducted and offered two proposals for consideration.

The second paper submitted by the IHO dealt with cooperation between the ATCM and the IHO. It discussed the existing level of cooperation between the ATCM and the IHO to date and asked the ATCM to consider sending an ATCM representative to the IHO HCA meetings. The meeting agreed to continue inviting IHO HCA to the annual ATCM meetings and where appropriate to be represented at IHO HCA meetings.

Sixteen recommendations were adopted by the Meeting, two of which are directly related to the IHO and cover both the IHO's and the New Zealand Hydrographer's proposals. The texts are as follows:

- a) « *That the AT Parties should continue to contribute to hydrographic surveying and charting information and consider advising vessels intending to operate in the AT area that many areas have not been surveyed to modern standards* ».
- b) « *The IHO HCA should continue to be invited to annual ATCMs to report the status of hydrographic survey and nautical chart production in Antarctic waters. Parties also agreed that, as appropriate, the ATCM should be represented at IHO HCA meetings. Where an IHO HCA meeting was to be held in a country that was also a Consultative Party, then that Consultative Party should consider attending the HCA meeting* ».

The other recommendations mainly concern environmental issues, including Search and Rescue coordination; Port State Control measures mainly over non-treaty party ships; the proposed IMO Mandatory Polar Code under study and the IMO's Guidelines for Ships Operating in Polar Waters recently approved.

There was strong support of the IHO HCA work and the contribution made by the IHO to the objective of the Meeting of Experts was recognized.



Captain GORZIGLIA addressing the Meeting on the importance of conducting Hydrographic Surveys in Antarctica.

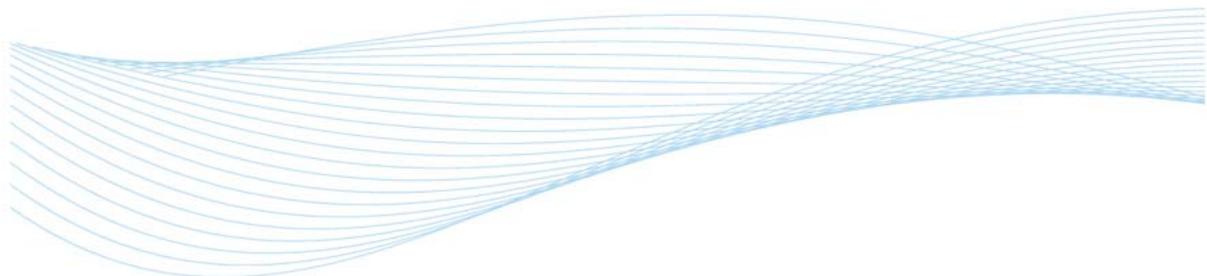


SHOM
Service hydrographique et océanographique de la marine

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 17 December 2009

Two new charts co-produced with the Moroccan Royal Navy



Historically, France has always produced nautical charts for the Moroccan coasts.

The administrative agreement between the two States, France and Morocco, signed on 21 January 2008 in Paris by Admiral OUDOT DE DAINVILLE, then Chief of Staff of the French Navy and Admiral BERRADA-GOUZI, Inspector of the Moroccan Royal Navy, provides for a gradual transfer of skills in the area of hydrography and nautical cartography.

This administrative agreement covers four main areas : maritime safety information, hydrographic surveys, nautical cartography and training.

Its initial aim is to train the Moroccan staff in hydrography and cartography by co-producing charts between SHOM and DHOC (Hydrographic, Oceanographic and Cartographic Division of the Royal Navy) with the final objective for Morocco to be capable of producing, disseminating and maintaining its own charts.

In this optic, SHOM and DHOC have just co-signed an agreement to put into service the first two charts produced by Moroccan cartographers with the support from SHOM.

These charts belong to the National Plan of Morocco for the DHOC to produce 51 charts to update the coverage of the Moroccan coastline. Their production started during a training seminar at SHOM in Brest in 2008 for Moroccan cartographers.

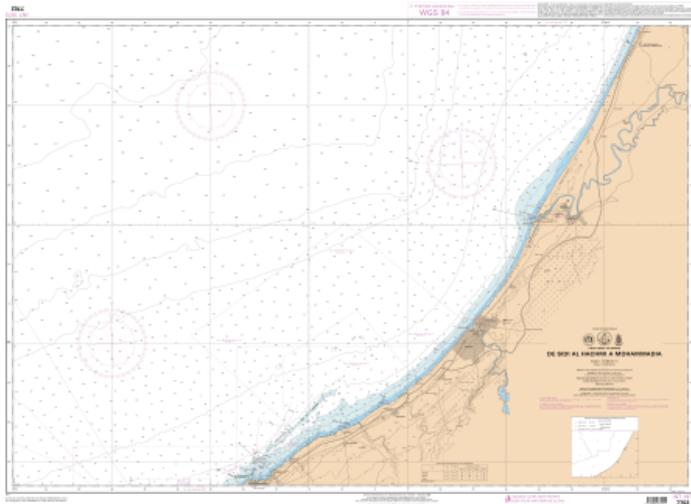
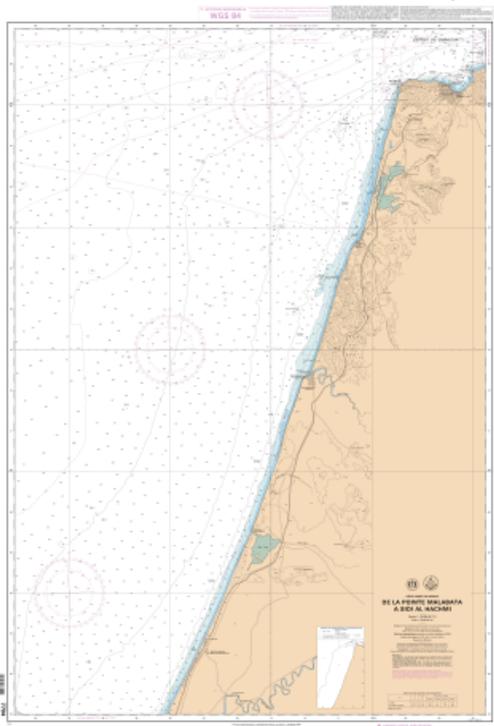


Chart 7702 (INT 1973)
 Scale 1 :150 000
 FROM SIDI AL HACHMI A MOHAMMADIA

Chart 7704
 Scale 1 :150 000
 TO THE POINTE MALABATA A SIDI AL
 HACHMI



As long as SHOM is responsible for the dissemination of nautical information along the Moroccan coastline, the co-produced charts will be disseminated by SHOM. However, when the transfer of the production and the maintenance of nautical documents has actually been made between SHOM and DHOC, Morocco will then take over from SHOM and will be entirely responsible for its nautical cartography.



Ing. General Alain FOURGASSIÉ, SHOM Operations Director and Captain Mohammed KHALIPHY, Director of DHOC (Hydrographic, Oceanographic and Cartographic Division of the Royal Navy)

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C O U R S E S

EAHC COURSES

hosted by the Hydrography Department of the National Mapping
and Resource Information Authority of the Philippines

The Hydrography Department of the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority of the Philippines hosted two East Asian Hydrographic Commission training courses supported by the IHO Capacity Building Fund:

- a) Quality Assurance of Multibeam Surveying and Data Processing on 18-21 August; and
- b) ENC Quality Assurance on 25-27 August.

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore provided the instructors and the course participants came from the EAHC Member States except, unfortunately, for China and the Democratic People's of Republic of Korea. All the participants expressed their satisfaction with the interactive teaching methodology employed by the team of instructors.

These courses were possible through a joint effort and the support provided by the members of the EAHC, particularly the host country, the Philippines, and Singapore, who supplied the course instructors and through the contribution made by the IHO CB Fund.