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REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSIONS

SOUTH WEST ATLANTIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SWAtHC) REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC/CARTOGRAPHIC PLAN PROJECT

15-22 February 2008

The SWAtHC submitted a project to the CBC requesting support to produce a regional hydro-cartographic plan, taking into account the capacity and the needs of each Hydrographic Service (HS) in the Commission. The aim of the project is to increase safety of navigation in the region, by producing INT Charts, both paper and ENC, in order to achieve the IHO goal to have the maximum maritime area covered by 2010.

The three HS in the Commission, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, historically have backgrounds of effective hydro-cartographic activity and it was felt that, after having established the RHC, there should be a joint effort to reduce the delay in achieving INT Chart coverage, thereby contributing to the achievement of IHO goals.

As requested by the SWAtHC, Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, Chairman of the CBC and IHB Director, visited the three HS where he individually met the Directors and technical staff, followed by a joint meeting in Montevideo, Uruguay, in February 2008, where the participants from the three HS exchanged views and shared their experience and examined the draft report submitted by Captain GORZIGLIA.

The final report prepared by the CBC Chairman included the following:

- cartographic status in each country;
- the ENC coverage expected to be available in the coming years up until 2010;
- the capabilities, limitations and needs with higher priority given to both cartography and hydrography;
- the possibilities of jointly coordinated hydro-cartographic activities that could be undertaken in the region and conclusions and recommendations for the consideration of the SWAtHC at its next meeting scheduled for mid March 2008.

The main conclusions were:

- a) the national hydro-cartographic plans would serve as the basis for establishing regional plans;
- b) despite the efforts made, the HS of the SWATHC have not yet completed their ENC coverage; nevertheless, by 2010, all ENCs in the region will be available to the mariner;
- c) paper chart coverage satisfies the needs for safety of navigation in the region;
- d) the main factors affecting hydro-cartographic development are the limited human resources and the lack of continuity, together with the fact that salaries are much below the private sector level; the high cost of licences and technical services and the difficulty in keeping the personnel well trained and the limited budget do not allow an increase in the general operations.

A summary of the recommendations made are:

- a) To maintain a coordination group formed by technical personnel from the three HS to ensure the implementation of the agreements reached at the SWAtHC, mainly those aspects that constitute limitations in the hydro-cartographic flow;
- b) To pursue the efforts to ensure the provision of ENC by 2010 as well as the INT Charts in the scheme. It was recommended that a regional ENC scheme be established, defining responsibilities in the production of cells of adjacent areas;
- c) To adopt an agreement that would allow representation of SWAtHC members on IHO bodies when not all HS could participate;
- d) To identify and update the CB priorities for the region and keep the CBC informed of these priorities in a timely manner;
- e) To consider preparing a subsidiary WP for the region, based on the 5-year IHO WP.

NOTE: This report was approved at the SWATHC2 Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, 18-19 March 2008.



**8th MEETING OF THE NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (NIOHC)**
Goa, India 15-17 April 2008

The 8th meeting of the NIOHC took place in Goa, India, from 15 to 17 April 2008, under the Chairmanship of Rear Admiral Ian MONGRIEFF, Hydrographer of the UKHO. Representatives from Bangladesh, France, India, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UK and USA participated in the meeting, as well as a representative from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). VAdm A. MARATOS represented the International Hydrographic Organization.

During the meeting many topics of interest to the Region were discussed and decisions were taken. Following the IHB report on the main intersessional activities of the Organization, the Commission considered issues concerning the status of hydrographic surveying and charting in accordance with S-55, the activities of States in the Region in the promulgation of Maritime Safety Information (MSI), the progress in implementing the INT Chart Scheme, the developments with the production of ENCs and the possible support needed, the Capacity Building activities and the request to the Capacity Building Committee for training during 2009. It was decided that India and Saudi Arabia will represent the NIOHC on the Council, under the new structure of the Organization, when it is implemented. Commission Members presented their National Reports on their activities. Other issues of a technical nature were also discussed.

The next meeting will take place in Seychelles or Bangladesh under the Chairmanship of Rear Admiral RAO, the Director of the Indian Hydrographic Service.



WORKING GROUPS

8TH MEETING OF THE BLACK AND AZOV SEAS WORKING GROUP (BASWG)

Kiev, Ukraine, 25-26 March 2008

The 8th Meeting of the BASWG was held in Kiev, Ukraine, on 25 and 26 March 2008, under the Chairmanship of Rear Admiral Mustafa IPTES, the Director of the Turkish Hydrographic Office. Representatives from Turkey, Romania, Georgia and Ukraine participated in the meeting and the I.H. Bureau was represented by Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS. Representatives from Spain, which is the NAVAREA III Coordinator for the promulgation of Maritime Safety information (MSI) in the Mediterranean and Black Seas, also participated.

The following issues were discussed and decided:

- The WG drafted the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures. These will be circulated to all Member States for approval and then will be sent to the Chairman of the Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC);
- The International Chart Scheme was reviewed and a few amendments were identified which will be forwarded to France, as the MBSHC Coordinator, for consideration;
- The WG reviewed the ENCs scheme in bands 1 and 2 and will inform France, as the Coordinator, for consideration and acceptance;
- With the support of the NAVAREA III Coordinator, discussions took place as to whether the Black Sea will become a sub-Area of NAVAREA III. Turkey agreed to act as the sub-Area Coordinator. Turkey, Romania and Georgia were in favour and Ukraine against. The matter will be referred to the CPRNW for consideration;
- The status of bilateral agreements in the area was discussed and the needs for training. The Chair will communicate with the CBC Chair to discuss this issue.

It was decided that the next meeting will be held in Constanta, Romania in February or March 2009.

COMMITTEES / SUB-COMMITTEES / COMMISSIONS

REPORT OF THE 31st MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO/ICA INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS AND NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHERS

07-11 April 2008

The 31st meeting of the FIG/IHO/ICA Board was hosted by the Australian Hydrographer and held at the HMAS Penguin Naval Base in Sydney (Australia).

The main items considered by the Board were as follows:

1. New Guidelines for submission of courses and Internal Assessment of Courses.

Amendments to Section 3 of the Standards resulting from the consideration of these two items were approved.

2. Template for procedures for internal assessment.

The Board approved the text for this topic which consists of three parts:

- 1) Course module assessment template;
- 2) Instructors assessment template and
- 3) Annual report.

3. Reduction of period for re-submission of courses (10 to 6 years).

The table showing adjustments to fulfill the new period of 6 years for re-submission of courses was endorsed.

4. Name of the Board.

The members of the Board agreed that the word "Advisory" did not properly reflect the role and work of the Board and therefore decided to delete that word from its name, which will now be known as the "International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers". The three parent organizations will be informed of this change.

5. Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure.

The Terms of Reference harmonized by the IHO to bring them in line with the new IHO structure were agreed by the members of the Board, with some minor amendments.

6. Study of funding/cost-recovery mechanisms.

The Board decided that there was a need to adopt a system similar to the one established by other certifying bodies and will prepare a proposal for submission to the parent organizations.

7. Review of courses

The courses submitted to the IB were reviewed and the results are shown in the table below:

Course	Decision
Specialization Course of the Italian Hydrographic Institute.	Re-recognized at Category A with Options 1, 2 and 5.
Course Programme in Hydrography from Skilltrade – STC	Recognized at Category B upon receipt of complementary information.
Course in Hydrography from the University of Technology of Malaysia (UTM)	Re-recognized at Category A with Options 2 and 7.
Hydrographic Education Programme of the University of Otago (New Zealand).	Re-recognized at Category A.
Group Training Course in Information Management for Maritime Activity and Disaster Prevention of Japan Coast Guard and Japan International Cooperation Agency.	Re-recognized at Category B.
Advanced Course in Hydrography of the Japan Coast Guard Academy.	Re-recognized at Category A with Option 1.
Applied Hydrography Education Certificate Programme of the Middle East Technical University (Ankara, Turkey).	Rejected. New submission required.

8. Review of M-5 “Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors” and M-8 “Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers”

The updating of these documents will be carried out by the Board Members with input from the parent organizations, in accordance with the Board’s Terms of Reference.

9. Individual Recognition.

Following the mandate received from the parent organizations, the Board agreed that the best approach to this matter was to establish a procedure to recognize national schemes, or programmes, for the certification of individuals. The experience of existing bodies, such as the Australasian Hydrographic Surveyors Certification Panel (AHSCP) and the ACSM from USA, provided the Board with some examples to follow in developing a framework for such a procedure. The Board will work on this topic during the inter-sessional period and will consider a provisional text by 1st October.

10. Date/Venue of the next meeting

The 32nd meeting will be held in Havana, Cuba, pending confirmation from the Cuban Hydrographic Office. The Board also accepted, as an alternative, the invitation of Dr. Surace to meet in Venice (Italy).



The International Board with some representatives of institutions submitting courses.

IMO COMSAR SUB-COMMITTEE 12th SESSION
Royal Horticultural Halls, London, UK – 7-11 April 2008

The 12th session of the IMO COMSAR Sub-committee was held at the Royal Horticultural Halls in London from 7 – 11 April 2008. The President, the Professional Assistant in Hydrography and the Chairman of CPRNW represented the IHO. The Coordinators from NAVAREA I (UK), II (France), III (Spain), IV (USA), IX (Pakistan), XII (USA), XVII and XVIII (Canada) and XIX (Norway) were present.

The Sub-Committee reviewed the report of the CG established at COMSAR 11 on extending the WWNWS to Arctic waters. The report was accepted and the CG re-established with new ToR in order to advance the task of bringing the 5 new Arctic NAVAREAS to Operational Status.

The Sub-Committee considered submissions by the IHO and approved the proposed amendments to resolutions A.705(17) (Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information) and A.706(17) as amended (World-Wide Navigational Warning Service) and to the issue of a revised COMSAR Circular regarding the details of NAVAREA Co-ordinators. The Sub-Committee also noted the IHO report on the outcome of CPRNW9.

Members of the CPRNW WG (Canada, France, Norway, Spain, Turkey, UK, USA, Inmarsat, WMO and IHB) reviewing the WWNWS documentation, set up at CPRNW7 in 2005, met in the week following COMSAR. The meeting completed the draft revision of the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information which will now be considered at CPRNW10 in August 2008 prior to submission to IHO and WMO Member States for agreement and subsequent submission to COMSAR. The WG also completed a preliminary review of IHO Publications S-53 and S-53 Appendix 1, and the International SafetyNET Manual.

IMO-IHO CAPACITY BUILDING COORDINATION MEETING

IMO, London, UK, 14 March 2008

IMO and IHB Representatives met on 14th March 2008 at IMO to consider in detail IMO initiatives within the global programme aimed at Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) that includes two IMO-sponsored activities focused on courses on hydrography :

- Programme No TC/0159 Activity 3: “Regional Training Course on Hydrography” (Caribbean). A five-day course to be held 08-12 September in a place to be confirmed, for approximately 20 participants;
- Programme No TC/0159 Activity 4: “Regional Training Course on Hydrography” (Pacific). A five-day course to be held 20-24 October in Fiji, to be confirmed, for 14 participants.

Participants from IMO were: Mr. Zhu JIANXING, Captain Gurpreet SINGHOTA, Mr. Moin AHMED, Mr. Pedro SAN MIGUEL and Ms. Helen BUNI. From IHO: Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA and Captain Federico BERMEJO.

The agenda items covered the following:

- a) Meeting with the Director, Technical Co-operation Division, Mrs. MNBAFO;
- b) Introduction by IMO into its global programme the special shipping needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and full details of the projects considered for 2008;
- c) IHO capacity building activities that have been undertaken in the Pacific and the Caribbean regions, and the needs for assistance in these regions;
- d) General discussion on the projects and possible contributions from IHO, IHB and the Regional Hydrographic Commissions – Meso-American and the Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission and the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission -, including discussion on how the IHB could assist IMO in finding knowledgeable instructors to deliver the two courses.

The discussion led to the following:

- a) Due to the various levels of development and previous actions that have been undertaken in the region, it was agreed that the course for the Caribbean SIDs will include the three original elements in the project, namely training on:
 - methods of carrying out hydrographic surveys;
 - principles used in scheming nautical charts to improve navigation safety; and
 - modern navigation aids.
- b) With regard to the South West Pacific, it was considered premature to run a course on the subjects indicated above, but it was agreed that the event should take the form of an IMO-sponsored Regional Seminar, following the pattern of similar seminars held by IHO for the Meso-American and Caribbean Sea and Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commissions, respectively. The seminar will, to some extent, replace the early technical visit planned that, due to the logistics involved, became difficult to organize in the past. The seminar shall be as interactive as possible and shall provide further information that would orient further the CB effort in the region. The idea of a course as previously planned was not abandoned but postponed for later evaluation.

The IHB proposed a draft timetable that IMO will shortly consider and refine.

For the time being, on 25 March, the IHB will start preparing the Course and Seminar contents and will identify potential instructors for both events, and will aim to propose the Course and Seminar content to IMO by 18 April.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

COAST-MAP-IO PROJECT

IOC-IHO Assessment Mission, Maldives, 2-4 April 2008

A technical assessment mission was conducted by an IOC-IHO expert team in the Maldives from 2 to 4 April 2008, as part of the IOC COAST-MAP-IO project. This project addresses the need for countries bordering the Indian Ocean to acquire and fully exploit coastal bathymetric data for the development of various products required for preparedness and mitigation of ocean-based extreme events. Its objectives are:

- To enhance available expertise to locally produce accurate bathymetric and topographic maps on either side of the high tide-line.
- To provide modelling capacity for Tsunami arrival, run-up and inundation in coastal areas.
- To provide the necessary tools and training for national agencies responsible for Disaster Management and Preparedness to exploit the bathymetric and land datasets for the development of targeted maps and services, including inundation maps.

The assessment mission aimed at determining the level of capacity, focal points and national partner agencies, as well as existing data sources for coastal bathymetry and land topography in Maldives.



Visit to the Coast Guard Headquarters

The team was welcomed by the Ministry of Construction and Public Infrastructure (MCPI)¹, and was able to meet and discuss with institutions in the Maldives likely to be concerned with the Coast-Map-IO project, in particular the Coast Guard. A courtesy visit was paid to the Minister of Construction and Public Infrastructure².

Due to the importance of bathymetry in the project, the MCPI, with their experience in hydrographic surveying, should play a key role in the establishment and management of the COAST-MAP-IO bathymetric &

topographic database, providing they receive appropriate training and equipment. The surveys conducted and planned by the Indian Navy Hydrographic Office in Maldives waters, in cooperation with the Maldives Coast Guard, should provide very useful bathymetric data for COAST-MAP-IO.

¹ Mr. Abdulla NAUSHAD, Director General, Engineering Section;

² His Excel. Mohamed MAUROOF JAMEEL.

**STRAITS OF MALACCA AND SINGAPORE
MARINE ELECTRONIC HIGHWAY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**
Penang, Malaysia, 14-15 April 2008



Captain WARD represented the IHO at a meeting of the Technical Committee on Survey and Electronic Navigational Charts held on 14 and 15 April 2008 in Penang, Malaysia. The main purpose of the meeting was to determine the priority areas for hydrographic survey under the Global Environment Fund/International Research Foundation for Development / International Maritime Organization (GEF/IRFD/IMO) Marine Electronic Highway Demonstration (MEH) Project. The three littoral States involved; Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore were represented together with representatives from IMO. The meeting was chaired by Mr Parry OEI, Hydrographer of Singapore and Chairman of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission.

The MEH Project is the first or “demonstration” phase of a potential two-phase programme to establish an MEH system in the Straits. This involves the establishment of a technological information network to deliver up to date maritime and environmental information to mariners and maritime authorities in the Straits. Reliable, modern charting is fundamental to the MEH.

The meeting designated a number of priority areas that would be surveyed under contract as part of the MEH Project. As well as improving the charts of the area generally, the data from these surveys will be used to create large scale ENC's of the most critical areas in the Straits. This will increase the freedom of manoeuvre for the largest vessels that transit the Straits, thereby improving safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment.



TECHNICAL VISITS

TECHNICAL VISIT TO THE HYDROGRAPHIC AND GEODETIC SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

Havana, Cuba, 03-06 March 2008

Following an invitation from the Head of the National Hydrographic and Geodetic Office of the Republic of Cuba, Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director and Captain Federico BERMEJO, Professional Assistant at the IHB paid a technical visit to the Republic of Cuba from 03 to 06 March 2008.

The technical visit had two objectives: at a strategic level, the visit was aimed at increasing awareness of the importance of hydrography and exploring alternatives to improve the actual capabilities through capacity building, including institutional and organizational aspects. At a practical level, the visit was aimed at providing advice on the preparation and submission of the hydrographic training program proposed by the Naval Academy in order for it to obtain international recognition by the IAB.

The technical visit included a meeting with the Head of the Revolutionary Navy, Vice Admiral Pedro M. PÉREZ BETANCOURT; the Head of the National Hydrographic and Geodetic Office, Colonel Eloy L. ALUM ORTIZ and the Head of the Hydrographic Department, Lt. Cdr. Angel ACANDA, where the objectives and scope of the visit were detailed and discussed. The IHB delegation also visited GEOCUBA Estudios Marinos, meeting with the Director, Ms. C. Ing. Alejandro MORALES ABREU and the professional staff of the hydrographic, nautical cartography, safety to navigation and oceanographic sections, where presentations were made by the host and the IHB Director, followed by a visit of the facilities and fruitful discussions.

A visit was also made to the "Granma" Naval Academy, where the delegation was received by the Director, Rear Admiral José ROSELLÓ PÉREZ and all the staff involved in the hydrographic training program. The Head of the Navy presided the visit and led the presentation made by the Academy and there were further discussions and a visit of the facilities, following which the IHB Director was invited to give a presentation on the importance of hydrography, the role of maritime countries within this context and the IHO and its capacity building program. Particular mention should be made of the outstanding level of the training staff and the excellent facilities the Academy has for training in hydrography and related subjects.

The National Oceanographic Committee was also visited, where its Chairman, Dr. Guillermo GARCIA, offered a complete and detailed presentation on the situation, programs and ongoing work coordinated by the Committee.

The main subjects discussed were:

- a) General Hydrographic Offices' organizational and institutional aspects and the establishment of a national coordinating structure, possibly in the form of a National Hydrographic Committee or similar body;
- b) Production and validation of ENCs and availability by 2010;
- c) INT Chart production and actions to accelerate its availability;
- d) Experience and perspectives of the development of nautical charts for yachts;
- e) Experience in ISO Certification of hydro-cartographic processes;
- f) Geospatial data management and the importance of considering the establishment of a National Data Centre;
- g) Professional training and international recognition options for the training program that is run by the Naval Academy;
- h) Possibility of Cuba hosting the 2009 IAB meeting.

Following the visits and the discussions, a special meeting was held to identify concrete actions for both the Hydrographic and Geodetic Service of the Republic of Cuba (HGS) and for the IHB. Mainly, the IHB was requested to provide information that would help the HGS to develop several initiatives identified as national priorities as well as to continue the support aiming at the recognition of the hydrographic program run by the Naval Academy.



Above: Capt. GORZIGLIA with VAdm. PÉREZ BETANCOURT.

Below: Capt. GORZIGLIA, with Col. ALUM ORTIZ and Lt. Cdr. ACANDA.



OTHER BODIES

31st EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF PMAWCA

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 21-25 April 2008

INTRODUCTION

The Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) is a specialized body of the Maritime Organization of West and Central Africa (MOWCA). The PMAWCA was established in 1977 with the following objectives:

- a) To seek the improvement, coordination and standardization of African port operations;
- b) To ensure the coordination and development of the activities of its members;
- c) To establish and maintain relationships with institutions and international organizations for the study of matters of interest to the Association;
- d) To provide a forum for the members of the association to exchange views on common problems.

In order to reinforce the relationship with PMAWCA, the IHO signed an MOU in 2006 with the following purpose:

“to provide a framework for regular liaison between the two organizations to improve and consolidate the hydrographic capabilities of Ports Members of the PMAWCA through the co-ordination of training and technical assistance initiatives”.

The PMAWCA invited the IHO to attend the 31st Executive Council in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 21 to 25 April 2008. After having discussed this matter with the Chairman of the EAHC, it was decided that Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director, would represent the IHO.

PROGRAMME OF THE EVENT

The Opening Ceremony took place on the morning of 21st April, in the presence of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Laurent GBAGBO, other national authorities, diplomats, port authorities of all the countries belonging to the PMAWCA, invited persons from international organizations and delegates, totalling about 400 persons. The IHO representative, along with other international representatives, were invited to deliver a “Goodwill Message”.

In the afternoon and in parallel, the Directing Board and Technical Committees met to discuss matters under their responsibility. The IHO representative attended the Maritime Safety, Environmental Protection and Operation Committee meeting where the work focused on reviewing the past activities. The discussions within the other Committees - Finance and Economic, Administrative and Legal, Technical Studies and Infrastructure, and ISPS Code, were not of particular relevance to IHO objectives.

On the second day, the IHO representative was invited to give a presentation to the PMAWCA Board of Directors. The presentation of 30 minutes included a brief description of the IHO, the SOLAS Convention, in particular Regulation 9 “Hydrographic Services”, the status of hydrography in the region, the IHO Capacity Building effort in the area and Conclusions and Recommendations. This presentation was followed by an hour of discussions and exchange of comments. Comments were made by Togo, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire and the general feeling was as follows:

- a) There was a need to develop hydrographic capabilities in the region as the lack of charts and capabilities to advance were not sustainable in modern times;
- b) A resolution should be drafted and adopted which will request Maritime Authorities to consider this matter with some urgency. It was noted that hydrography is a governmental problem where ports can play a role, but political willingness is required;

- c) The importance of raising awareness at governmental level through the maritime authorities in the region was noted. Hydrography needs to be made better known to other relevant persons, agencies and activities;
- d) The identification of priority projects and request for support from funding agencies for their implementation were highlighted. The need to improve safety of navigation and protection of the environment will be maintained as a priority;
- e) Training was identified as a necessary step forward to generate a basis for development;
- f) Participation of PMAWCA - Members and the Secretary General - in the forthcoming EAHC meeting was strongly supported. Togo indicated that they were seriously considering hosting the meeting and a final decision would soon be taken.

The Chairman and the participants thanked the IHO representative for the interesting presentation which brought to the decision-table a subject of utmost importance. Following this presentation, the Board will make decisions and recommendations to the Council.

In the afternoon the IHO representative rejoined the technical meetings, where reports on the various studies and visits undertaken by several countries were presented. Unfortunately the matters were not of direct relevance to the IHO, as they were related to MARPOL, concession services in ports, electronic management of port documentation, or similar.

On the third day there were round-table discussions on "Rail/Road Transport and Landlocked Countries", both fascinating topics, but a bit removed from IHO's objectives and mission. Nevertheless, the IHO representative attended the session where several presentations were given. The main subjects addressed were:

- a) The Roads and Railroads situation in the region: problems and challenges;
- b) The corridors and the land-locked states, and the effect on ports;
- c) Existing regional agreed regulations and lack of adherence to their ratification and accomplishment;
- d) Operational requirements. Integration, peace, systematic approach.

FINAL COMMENTS

The objective of this trip, in terms of taking advantage of the opportunity to stress the importance of hydrography to one of the key players in maritime affairs – the ports - in one of the weakest regions, was achieved. Nevertheless it is premature to assess the results of this trip and we will need to await the results of the deliberations at the final Council meeting.

After having had the possibility for the first time to participate in the Board of Directors, it is felt that this is the appropriate tribune to highlight strategic issues, while technical matters are handled in the proper Committee or through presentations at the Round Table, when the theme defined is relevant to IHO objectives.

NEW HYDROGRAPHERS



NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Ye-Jong Woo, born on 20 August 1959 in Cheonan, Republic of Korea, was appointed Director General of the National Oceanographic Research Institute (NORI) of the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs on 21 March 2008, after having served as Director of the Security Division of the National Defence University in 2007-2008.

He graduated from the Dankook University in 1981. His first post was at the Korean Maritime and Port Administration in 1985. He then worked in various divisions, such as the Fishery Resources Management at the Headquarters of the Fisheries Resources Bureau, Finance and Planning at the Planning and Management Bureau of MOMAF.

A brief summary of his career is given here below.

Academic Background

Feb. 1981 - Bachelor Degree in Community Development, Dankook University, Korea

Professional Career

March 2008 - Director General, National Oceanographic Research Institute (renamed as Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs in 2008);

Jan. 2007- Feb. 2008 Director, Security Division, National Defence University;

Jan. 2005-Dec. 2006 Vice President, Northeastern Asia Logistics Planning Group, Headquarters for Policy and Public Relations Bureau, Korea Maritime Institute;

July 2003-Dec. 2004 Director, Finance and Planning Division, Headquarters for Planning and Management Bureau, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF);

Jan.1997-Jun.2003 Director, Fishery Resources Management Division, Headquarters for Fisheries Resources Bureau, Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (MOMAF)

Mar. 1985-Dec. 1996 Director, Port Logistics Division, East Sea Regional Maritime and Port Administration; (renamed as Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries in 1996)

NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF BRAZIL

From April 2008



Vice-Admiral Luis Fernando PALMER FONSECA was born in Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil, on 30th October 1949. In 1968 he joined the Brazilian Naval Academy on Villegagnon Island, Rio de Janeiro. Upon graduation, in 1971, he was commissioned as an Ensign and was assigned to the Hydrographic Survey Ship CANOPUS. He specialized in Hydrography at the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation in 1975. He attended numerous military courses, including the Command and Staff Course at the Brazilian Naval War College and the Strategy and Policy Course at the Brazilian War Higher College.

He served on various Brazilian survey ships, and was Commanding Officer of MESTRE JOÃO DOS SANTOS, ORION, and CANOPUS, as well as the Tall Ship CISNE BRANCO and Training Ship BRASIL. His duty ashore included Head of the Brazilian Lighthouse and Aids to Navigation Authority, the VIth Naval District, the Sea Studies Institute ALMIRANTE PAULO MOREIRA, and Instruction Center ALMIRANTE WANDENKOLK.

Amongst the numerous decorations he received are the following: Naval Order of Merit, Military Order of Merit, Gold Military Service, Armed Order Merit, Air Order Merit, Seaman Merit, Naval Minerva Medal (Chile), and the Bolivian Naval Merit (Bolivia).