



2008

MAY TO SEPTEMBER BULLETIN

In this issue:

<i>Regional Hyd. Commissions</i>	1
<i>Working Groups</i>	4
<i>Committees/Sub-Committees/ Commissions</i>	6
<i>Conferences / Seminars</i>	9
<i>Information of interest</i>	10
<i>Other bodies</i>	15
<i>New Hydrographers</i>	19
<i>IHB visits</i>	20
<i>Visits to IHB</i>	22

REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSIONS

28th MEETING OF THE NORTH SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NSHC)

22 – 24 April 2008, Elsinore – Denmark

The 28th Meeting of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC) took place in Elsinore, Denmark, from 22 to 24 April 2008, under the Chairmanship of Dr Peter EHLERS, the Director of the German Hydrographic Service. Representatives from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and UK participated in the meeting. The IHB was represented by VAdm A. MARATOS.

VAdm A. MARATOS made a brief presentation on the main activities of the Organization during the interessional period, referring in particular to the status of approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention, the developments as regards the implementation of the decisions of the XVII IHC, the developments and problems with the production of ENC's, cooperation with other international organizations and the celebration of the WHD.

The meeting considered various topics of interest to the participants and the region and there were discussions on:

- the status of ENC's in the region and the problems with consistency and quality and the efforts to monitor and rectify these problems;
- the future WEND meeting;
- the developments of the Spatial Data Infrastructure in the region;
- the status of approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention;
- other technical issues that have been implemented by the Members of the NSHC.

The next meeting of the NSHC will take place in 2010 in France under the Chairmanship of Cdr Lars HANSEN from Denmark.

52nd MEETING OF THE NORDIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NHC)
Norrköping, Sweden 6-8 May 2008.

The 52nd Meeting of the Nordic Hydrographic Commission (NHC) was held in Norrköping, Sweden, from 6 to 8 May 2008, under the Chairmanship of Ake MAGNUSSON, Director of the Swedish Hydrographic Service. Representatives from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden attended and the IHB was represented by the President, VAdm A. MARATOS.

Vadm A. MARATOS updated the participants on the important issues of the Organization during the intersessional period. He specifically referred to the question of the approvals received so far for the Protocol of Amendments of the IHO Convention and he emphasized the need to accelerate the internal procedures for approval. He also referred to the developments regarding the status of ENC production, cooperation with other international organizations, in particular IMO, IOC and IALA, the submission to the next IMO/NAV meeting on the ENC developments based on the decisions of the X-WEND meeting held at the Bureau at the end of October 2007, the preparations for the X-IHC that will take place early June 2009 and the celebrations of the WHD. He responded to various questions from the participants.

The participants discussed various topics of interest to the region and in particular they referred to the coverage and technical details of the ENCs, the progress of surveying operations, the progress of the work of the ISPWG, the developments with the INT charts, the progress with the SDI within the countries in the area, et cetera. The next meeting will take place in Finland, from 21 to 23 April 2009, under the Chairmanship of Mr Jukka VARONEN.



The participants of the meeting.

**1st EAHC QUALITY ASSURANCE OF MULTIBEAM SURVEYING
AND DATA PROCESSING**
Singapore, 16-19 June 2008



EAST ASIA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION
QUALITY ASSURANCE OF MULTIBEAM SURVEYING AND DATA PROCESSING
16 - 19 JUNE 2008
SINGAPORE



As part of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC) Capacity Building Programme, the inaugural EAHC Training course on Quality Assurance (QA) of Multibeam Surveying and Data Processing was held in Singapore from 16 and 19 June 2008. The training was conducted at the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore. This training course was made possible with sponsorship from IHO Capacity Building Committee.

The training was attended by 12 participants from 7 regional Member State, namely Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, The Republic of Korea, The Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore. Four self-sponsored observers from Vietnam also attended the course.

The purpose of this training was to provide participants the added confidence and knowledge of identifying and addressing critical steps in the multibeam survey and post-processing process. Lectures on survey accuracy, multibeam data verification, comparison of data and documentation of data were covered during the course. A one day practical field survey on board MV Discovery and post processing were carried out to allow the participants to have a greater appreciation of the QA processes. The course also allowed participants to share their different survey systems and processes.

The course was very well received and participants commented that lessons learnt were relevant to their respective survey processes. Some remarked that they would like more emphasis on field work and data processing. These will be considered when the next course is organized in 2009.

Submitted by: Chairman (EAHC), Singapore.

WORKING GROUPS

COLOURS AND SYMBOLS MAINTENANCE WORKING GROUP (CSMWG)

18th Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa, 7-9 May 2008

The South African Navy Hydrographic Office hosted and organized the 18th Meeting of the Colours and Symbols Maintenance Working Group (CSMWG) in Cape Town, South Africa, from 7 to 9 May 2008. Dr. Mathias JONAS (BSH, Germany) chaired the meeting, with 28 persons in attendance, of whom 11 represented the private sector. CSMWG-18 was held in conjunction with a meeting of TSMAD, as both WGs have a number of subjects in common in connection with the development of the new IHO geospatial data standard S-100 and the future ENC product specification S-101. A combined CSMWG-TSMAD meeting took place on 7 and 9 May.

Following publication of a new edition of the IHO Presentation Library (PresLib) in January 2008, the future of this standard was addressed in the light of the S-100/S-101 developments. A draft IHO portrayal model, in line with the relevant ISO TC211 standard (known as ISO 19117), was presented, which should pave the way for the development of a hydrographic portrayal register, as part of the future IHO hydrographic registry. The IHO portrayal model will be improved to cover the PresLib Conditional Symbology Procedures (CSP). Taking account of the little acceptance by ECDIS users of the so-called ECDIS simplified symbols, it was agreed that those symbols will be relinquished in the next edition of the PresLib. Only the traditional cartographic symbols, with which the mariner is familiar, will remain in use; however they will need significant improvement in terms of graphical quality and colours.

The meeting reviewed a list of 15 objects which are not symbolized in the current PresLib and decided on how they should be displayed on a case by case basis. With a view to meeting repeated requests by ECDIS users for an IHO document showing the ECDIS/ENC symbology, it was agreed that the next edition of INT 1 (in English, by BSH) will include an additional column showing the ECDIS symbols, as provided by US-NGA who are preparing a new edition of their "Chart 1" including all ECDIS symbols.

WEND TASK GROUP ON ENC HARMONIZATION, COVERAGE AND DISTRIBUTION

Lisbon, Portugal, 23-24 June 2008

The IHO WEND Task Group (TG) on ENC coverage held a meeting in Portugal at the Headquarters of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). The meeting coincided with World Hydrography Day celebrations hosted by EMSA and organised by the North Sea Hydrographic Commission, as the IHO representatives to EMSA. The WEND TG meeting was attended by the Chairman of the TG, Herr Horst HECHT (BSH, Germany), Ing. en Chef Yves GUILLAM (SHOM, France), Mr Chris SMITH (UKHO, UK) and Captain Robert WARD (IHB Director).

In the context of worldwide availability of ENCs, the TG reviewed the effectiveness of the Worldwide ENC Database (WEND) concept and in particular whether the WEND Principles provided clear guidance on the roles, responsibilities, obligations and options for States in the production, maintenance and distribution of ENCs.

The meeting developed various proposed improvements and clarifications to the WEND Principles which will be submitted to the forthcoming WEND meeting in Tokyo 1-5 September 2008 for consideration.



WEND TG - assisted by Maritime representatives, outside the EMSA HQ in Lisbon.

COMMITTEES / SUB-COMMITTEES / COMMISSIONS

CIRM ANNUAL MEETING Dublin, Ireland, 21-23 April 2008.

The Comité International Radio-Maritime (CIRM) held its annual Conference in Dublin, Ireland, between 21 and 23 April 2008. CIRM is the body representing the maritime electronics industry in the development of international regulations and standards and is recognised by the IHO as a Non- Governmental International Organization. CIRM maintains an active role in the IHO Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems (CHRIS), with a number of its members also participating as Expert Contributors on various CHRIS Working Groups. Captain WARD represented the IHO at their Annual Meeting and provided an update on issues and activities of interest to CIRM members.

Topics covered during the meeting of interest to Member States included a progress report on the revised test specifications for ECDIS (IEC 61174), the e-Navigation Concept, Portable Pilot [navigation] Units and future Interface standards for all bridge equipment.

CIRM's brief includes communications systems, navigation systems and security and significant time was given over to the progress of Long Range Identification and Tracking systems that are mandated from the end of this year on all ships.



Capt. WARD during his speech.

GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES (SCUFN)

21st Meeting, 19-22 May 2008, Jeju Island, Rep of Korea

followed with the

3rd SYMPOSIUM ON APPLICATION OF MARINE GEOPHYSICAL DATA AND UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES

23 May 2008

The Rep of Korea's National Oceanographic Research Institute (NORI) hosted the 21st Meeting of the IHO-IOC GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) in Jeju Island, 19-22 May 2008. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Hans Werner SCHENKE (Germany) and attended by 23 participants from Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Hungary, India, Japan, Rep of Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia, USA and IHB. This included 9 out of the current 11 SCUFN members, plus the secretary (IHB). A welcome speech was given by Mr. Ye Jong WOO, Director of NORI and Chairman of the Korean Committee on Marine Geographical Names. The meeting welcomed Ms. Ksenia DOBROLYUBOVA (Geological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences) as new member appointed by IOC.

In total, the meeting considered 48 names, of which 29 were the subject of new name proposals received at the IHB, as SCUFN Secretariat, from Argentina, Brazil, Japan, Rep of Korea and Russia. After careful examination of each proposal, including the supporting survey data / bathymetry and the reason for the choice of name, the meeting eventually accepted 33 new names for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names, which is maintained at the IHB. Additionally, 9 names/features will be placed in a "reserved" section of the Gazetteer, pending further clarification / supporting documentation or the submission of an alternative name. As a result, a new GEBCO Gazetteer will be generated as an Excel file, for use in GEBCO and IBC products, and by Member States when new editions of INT charts / ENCs are prepared.

The meeting reviewed and agreed the English part of a new 4th edition of IHO-IOC publication B-6 *Standardization of Undersea Feature Names*. The new edition takes account of the revised Terms of Reference and new Rules of Procedures for SCUFN, which have recently been approved by Member States. The meeting also acknowledged the submission of the following draft language versions of B-6, 4th edition: E/French, E/Spanish, E/Russian, E/Japanese and E/Korean. The non-English part of each language version will be updated to reflect the changes agreed at the meeting. It is intended to have the five language versions of B-6, 4th edition published by the IHB at the same time.

Other topics addressed by the meeting included:

- A review of the IHO-IOC Undersea Feature Name Proposal form, in view of its improvement and modernization, and its harmonization with the form used by ACUF (Advisory Committee on Undersea Features, of the US Board of Geographic Names). As a result, a new form has been agreed;
- Consideration of reports on the GEBCO Gazetteer from the British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC) and the German Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), and of proposals for improving the Gazetteer. This will result, in particular, in corrections to the Gazetteer and additional positions to a number of features in the Gazetteer, in order to better define their shape and areal extension;
- Consideration of a report on the examination of 73 "unnamed" seamounts in the central Pacific Ocean, which were identified from the GEBCO Digital Atlas. The study was conducted by a SCUFN member, Walter REYNOSO-PERALTA (Argentina), based on the best available bathymetry. This has revealed that 5 seamounts had already been named and that 9 seamounts did not exist.

The 2009 meeting of SCUFN has been planned in Brest, France, following invitation by the French Hydrographic Office (SHOM).

The 3rd Symposium on Application of Marine Geophysical Data and Undersea Feature Names, organized by the Korean Cartographic Association and sponsored by NORI, took place at same location on 23 May 2008. Various papers, most of them relating to undersea feature naming, were presented at this occasion. This included a review of SCUFN and ACUF procedural similarities and differences, and a method of determination of sea limits in the Southern Ocean, based on the existing bathymetry.

More details on the symposium can be found at: <http://geo.khu.ac.kr/marinesympo>.

It has to be recorded that the organization of the SCUFN meeting and the symposium by NORI and Prof. Sung Jae CHOO (Kyunghee University, Seoul) was just outstanding.



The participants of the meeting.

CONFERENCES / SEMINARS

CANADIAN HYDROGRAPHIC CONFERENCE 2008

Victoria, Canada, 4-8 May 2008.

The Canadian Hydrographic Conference and National Surveyors' Conference was held in Victoria, Canada, between 4 and 8 May 2008. The Conference followed the theme "Bringing Land and Sea Together" and was a combined event organised by the Canadian Hydrographic Association and the Association of Canada Lands Surveyors.

The Conference covered a wide range of hydrographic topics. Captain WARD presented a comprehensive paper on behalf of the IHO on the development and expectations of the new IHO Geospatial Data Standard for Hydrographic Information – S-100. The paper was well received, with very favourable comments being made on the way that the standard was being developed and the fact that great effort was being made to enable all potential stakeholders to contribute both to the development of the standard and also its maintenance and further expansion. A copy of the paper has been posted on the IHO website at:

http://www.iho.int/COMMITTEES/CHRIS/TSMAD/tsmadintro.htm#S-100_IP



The NOAA Ship Ranier, together with other vessels, was open to visitors throughout the Conference.

INFORMATION OF INTEREST

CHAIRMAN EAHC VISIT TO VIETNAM'S MARITIME SAFETY COMPANY

24 – 25 April 2008

1. Vietnam is keen to become a Member State of the international hydrographic fraternity so as to better meet its obligations of nautical charting and hydrography and to promote safe navigation and protection of the marine environment.
2. Following that lead, Mr Parry OEI, Chairman of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC) and Mr K.C. NG, Hydrographer of Hong Kong (China) made an official visit to the Maritime Safety Company 1 (MSC-1) in Hai Phong in April 2008 to further encourage Vietnam to join the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and thereafter the EAHC. Some of the major regional shipping routes transect Vietnamese waters. The visit highlighted the importance that the EAHC places on enlarging its membership by inviting non-members to work more closely with it.
3. During the visit the EAHC representatives learnt from Mr Luu VAN GUANG, General Director, MSC-1 that Vietnam is developing an ENC production capability and is also planning to begin using multibeam sonar.
4. The visit was a resounding success with Vietnam acknowledging the benefits of membership of the IHO and EAHC which includes access to training programmes and on-going work by the EAHC task group to harmonize ENC data of Member States, and also the implementation of a proposed joint survey project in the South China Sea.
5. As a follow up to the visit, Vietnam sent 4 representatives from MSC 1 and 2 to attend the EAHC Quality Assurance on Multibeam Survey and Data Processing training course that was conducted from 16 – 19 Jun 2008 in Singapore. This was complemented by a high level delegation led by Director-Generals from MSC 1 and 2, Mr Luu VAN GUANG and Mr Pham DINH VAN respectively.



Mr Parry OEI and Mr Luu VAN GUANG, General Director, MSC-1

MARINE ELECTRONIC HIGHWAY
Project Steering Committee
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 3-5 June 2008

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore Marine Electronic Highway (MEH) Demonstration Project took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia between 3 to 5 June. About 40 delegates attended the meeting, representing the IMO, IHO, World Bank, ICS, the Malaysian Ship Owners Association, the Republic of Korea, and the three Coastal States – Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

The MEH Demonstration Project is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and supported by the IMO as managers of the Project. Additional financial support is being provided by the Republic of Korea. The three littoral States – Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore are all providing practical support and input to ensure the implementation of the Project. The IHO is represented by the IHB and is providing technical advice on the hydrographic aspects of the Project. Captain WARD represents the IHB.

The MEH Demonstration Project aims to provide a practical demonstration in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore of the potential for digital information networks that can provide environmental and related information in real time to both mariners transiting the Straits as well as other agencies and interested parties. The Project includes high-quality hydrographic surveys of some of the most limiting depth areas in the Straits, the development of ECDIS compatible Marine Information Overlays (MIOs), the establishment of a unified data centre to provide real time information and updates, and the establishment of a number of environmental monitoring stations including tide gauges and current meters.

The demonstration aims to show how environmental data related to the Straits, such as the nature and extent of environmentally sensitive areas can be accessed by the relevant authorities using a common database; how new or revised routing instructions or prohibited areas can be broadcast to ships taking part in the demonstration; and how Mariners will receive other environmental information such as tides, tidal streams, sea conditions and wind, in ECDIS via Marine Information Overlays (MIOs). The International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) are also supporting the Project and will ensure a range of vessels are made available for the trials and demonstration phase.

The main tasks of the Project Steering Committee meeting were to review the planned contracts and conditions for the hydrographic surveys, the MIO tasks and the IT infrastructure requirements. As a result, hydrographic surveys are planned to commence in September 2008 and MIO development later in 2008 or early in 2009.



*The hydrographic advisers to the MEH-PSC and the meeting Chairman (L to R) :
Capt MAGHONI (JANHIDROS, Indonesia), Capt ZAAIM (National Hydrographic Centre, Malaysia), Capt WARD (IHB), Capt AHMAD
– Director-General Marine Department, Peninsula Malaysia (Chairman), Capt SAHAK (Hydrographer of Malaysia), Mr OEI
(Hydrographer, of Singapore) and Mr Low (Hyd. Dept, Singapore)*

XXXIst ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING (ATCM)

1 - 13 June 2008, Kiev, Ukraine.

The XXXIst Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting was held from 1 to 13 June in Kiev, Ukraine. On this occasion one Committee – Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) -and three Working Groups were created: the Legal & Institutional Working Group, Tourism and Non-Governmental Activities Working Group and the Operational Matters Working Group. There was also a two-hour seminar, organized by the IHO/HCA, on the “Importance of Hydrographic Activities in Antarctica”.

Representatives from 36 countries and 8 international organizations participated and considered 56 Working Papers (WP) and 126 Information Papers (IP) submitted by various countries and international organizations, together with 12 documents submitted by the AT Secretariat.

Dr. Valery LYTVYNOVIK, Director of the National Antarctic Center of Ukraine, opened the Meeting. Opening Addresses sent by the President of Ukraine and by the Minister of Foreign Affairs were read out. Mr. Serhiy KOMISARENKO, Ukraine was appointed Chairman of the XXXIst ATCM. The Government of the Principality of Monaco announced its recent signature of the Treaty, thus becoming the last country to have acceded to the Treaty. The IHO was represented by Captain GORZIGLIA, who attended the meeting from 2 - 10 June.

Amongst the documents presented, the following are specifically related to the IHO objectives. The WP and IP listed may be consulted on the following web page www.atcm2008.gov.ua.

- a) IP5 “Report by the IHO on Cooperation in Hydrographic Surveying and Charting of Antarctic Waters”.
- b) IP8 “ Rules governing ships in the Antarctic” submitted by Chile.
- c) IP41 “A decade of Antarctic tourism: status, change and actions needed”, submitted by ASOC.
- d) IP58 “Antarctic Shipping”, submitted by ASOC.
- e) IP61 “Report of the Depositary Government of the Antarctic Treaty and its protocol in accordance with Recommendation XIII-2”, submitted by US.
- f) IP62 “Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment: A Progress Report”, submitted by SCAR.
- g) IP74 “SCAR Annual Report 2007-2008”, submitted by SCAR.
- h) IP81 “ Summary Report and outcome of IAATO’s Marine Committee Meeting on Vessel Operations, Safety and Related Issues”, submitted by IAATO.
- i) IP82 “Update on the Antarctic Peninsula Landing Site Use and Site Guidelines”, submitted by IAATO.
- j) IP85 “IAATO Overview of Antarctic Tourism for 2007-2008 Antarctic Season and Preliminary Estimates for 2008-2009 Antarctic Season”, submitted by IAATO.
- k) IP99 “ Search and Rescue in the Antarctic”, submitted by COMNAP.
- l) IP 120 “ Report of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition”, submitted by ASOC.
- m) IP 127 “ COMNAP Report to ATCM XXXI”, submitted by COMNAP.
- n) WP36 “Report on the Intersessional Contact Group on Issues Concerning Passenger Ships Operating in Antarctic Waters”, submitted by Norway.
- o) WP38 “Improving hydrographic surveying and charting to support safety of navigation and environmental protection in the Antarctic region”, submitted by UK and Australia.
- p) WP48 “The Antarctic Treaty at Fifty Years: Planning for ATCM XXXII (Baltimore, 2009)”, submitted by USA.
- q) WP51 “ Developing a Strategic Vision of Antarctic Tourism for the next Decade”, submitted by UK.

A very productive meeting was held with Mrs. Denise LANDAU, Executive Secretary of IAATO, Antoine GUICHARD (COMNAP Executive Secretary) and Manuel CATALAN, Chair of the COMNAP Working Group on Ship Operations. It was agreed that during 2009 and 2010 similar seminars should be arranged when the COMNAP and IAATO general meetings take place. This idea will be further explored following the meeting scheduled for both organizations this year.

The XXXth ATCM accepted the IHO’s offer to hold a Seminar on “The Importance of Hydrographic Activities in Antarctica” at the XXXIst ATCM. The Seminar was opened by Captain GORZIGLIA (IHB), who explained the objective of the event. The content of the Seminar was as follows:

- 1.- *“Hydrography in Antarctica”*. Ian MONCRIEFF, Rear Admiral, United Kingdom National Hydrographer, former Commanding Officer of HMS Endurance (the RN Antarctic Patrol Ship) and former Commander of British Forces in the South Atlantic.
- 2.- *“Hydrography and its contribution to the protection of the marine environment in Antarctic waters”*. Manuel CATALAN, Rear Admiral, Spanish Navy, Scientist, Technical Secretary of the Spanish Polar Committee and Chairman of SHIPOPS. (Presentation as expert not institutional).
- 3.- *“Hydrography and its contribution to Antarctic Sciences”*. Dr. Hans-Werner SCHENKE, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Germany, IOC/IHO GEBCO, SCAR at the HCA, Chairman of SCUFN and IBCSO.
- 4.- *“Hydrographic and Cartographic Status in the Antarctica”*. Yves GUILLAM, Ingénieur en chef des études et techniques d’armement, Head of Plans, Policy and External Relations, SHOM.
- 5.- *“Practical initiatives to improve hydrography and nautical charting in Antarctica”*. Rod NAIRN, Commodore, Australian Navy, Australian Hydrographer, Vice Chair of HCA.

Over 300 persons attended the Seminar that was held as part of the ATCM Agenda, with no other activity taking place simultaneously. The event was received as a good contribution from the IHO/HCA to the AT System and contributed to raising awareness of hydrography and to encouraging strong support of WP 38 and its proposed resolution that recommends Governments to proceed as follows:

1. *encourage their national programme vessels and other vessels, as appropriate, to collect hydrographic and bathymetric data on all Antarctic voyages, as practicable;*
2. *cooperate with the HCA to improve hydrographic surveying and charting in the Antarctic region including working to:*
 - a. *clarify with HCA requirements for the collection of hydrographic data of sufficient quality for use in the development of electronic navigational charts and,*
 - b. *identify priority areas for the collection of additional hydrographic and bathymetric data;*
3. *forward any Antarctic hydrographic and bathymetric data collected to the relevant international chart producer for charting action;*
4. *endeavour to find additional resources towards improving hydrographic surveying and charting in the Antarctic region.*

It was decided to invite the IHO to report on the progress of hydrographic surveys and nautical charting in Antarctica at the XXXIInd ATCM which will be held in Baltimore, USA, from 6 to 17 April 2009. This meeting will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty.

It is important to note that the ATCM approved a very important resolution regarding the importance of hydrographic surveys and nautical charting in Antarctica and adopted the IHO report. The IHO Antarctic activity is very well known and its importance appreciated. The HCA made a positive contribution to the IHO objectives by holding the Seminar and thought will be given to organizing similar events for COMNAP and IAATO audiences in 2009 and 2010, respectively.



Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director and HCA Chairman at the XXXIst ATCM, Kiev, Ukraine, June 2008.

WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY – CELEBRATIONS IN LISBON

Lisbon, 24 June 2008

The International Hydrographic Organization, represented by the North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC) vice-chair, Ingénieur général de l'armement Gilles BESSERO (France), celebrated World Hydrography Day at the European Maritime Safety Agency on 24 June 2008. The event provided an excellent opportunity to inform the authorities, EMSA staff, public and media about the activities of National Hydrographic Offices and underlined the importance of capacity building, as a vital tool to assist the IHO in achieving its mission and objectives. A demonstration was provided by EMSA and PRIMAR staff on an ENC Web Mapping Service (WMS) that supports safety of navigation. The day before, the staff of the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute (IHPT) provided a very comprehensive tour and gave a very informative presentation on the Portuguese Hydrographic Service, followed by a reception.



Vice-Admiral José Augusto DE BRITO explains the role of IHPT to the President, IHB and other guests on World Hydrography Day in Portugal

OTHER BODIES

84th SESSION OF THE IMO MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC)

IMO HQ, London, 7-16 May 2008.

The 84th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) was held on 7-16 May, at the newly refurbished IMO Headquarters Building in London. The IHO was represented by the President, VAdm. A. MARATOS, and Lt. Cdr. S. SHIPMAN (PAH).

The report of COMSAR12, COMSAR12/15 which is available on the IHO web site was not discussed due to the close proximity of the two meetings. This will be considered at MSC 85 in November / December 2008. The urgent items emanating from NAV 53 had been considered at MSC 83 in October 2007 and only those remaining items were considered at this 84th session.

The full report of MSC 84, MSC84/24 when issued, will be available on the IHO web site.

58th IMO TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE (TC58) MEETING

IMO Headquarters, London, 10-12 June 2008.

The 58th session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee (TC58) was held at the IMO Headquarters Building in London, from 10 – 12 June 2008. The IHO was represented by Steve SHIPMAN (PAH).

The delegations welcomed Mrs. M N MBANEFO, in her new role as Director of the Technical Cooperation Division and as Secretary of TC58. The Committee reviewed the report on the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) for the period 2006-2007 and discussed the sustainable funding of the ITCP. The Committee also considered a consultant's report on "Impact Assessment of technical co-operation activities during 2004-2007".

A report on 20 years of the IMO's Women in Development (WID) programme was also received together with a report on developments and fellowships at the World Maritime University (Sweden) and the International Maritime Law Institute (Malta). The Italian delegation reported that they expected the International Maritime Academy to reopen in late 2008, either at Trieste or in Genoa.

Under Agenda Item 9 "Work of other bodies and organizations" the IHO reported on its Capacity Building Activities (TC58/9/1). This report was very well received with some 13 delegations speaking in support of the IHO's work on Capacity Building.

The Committee re-elected Mr. Ben OWUSU-MENSAH of Ghana as Chairman for 2009 and elected Rear Admiral OLIMBO of Italy as the Vice Chairman for 2009. The 59th session of the TCC will be held in June 2009 on dates yet to be decided. The full report of TC58 (TC58/13) will be available from the IHO web site when issued by IMO.

FIG WORKING WEEK

Stockholm, Sweden, 14 to 19 June 2008.

The International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) held their annual Working Week, WW2008, entitled "Integrating Generations" in Stockholm, Sweden from 14 – 19 June 2008. The IHO was represented by Steve SHIPMAN (PAH). Mr Svante ASTERMO, former Hydrographer of Sweden and Chairman of the FIG/IHO/ICA Advisory Board of Standards of Competence was Chairman of the Organising Committee / Conference Director. WW2008, which was held jointly with a UN-Habitat Seminar, was attended by almost 1000 delegates from 95 countries. The Opening Ceremony included Keynote Addresses by Mr Andreas CARLGREN, Swedish Minister for the Environment and Climate; Dr Anna TIBAIJUKA, Executive Director of UN-Habitat; Dr Ashraf GHANI, Chairman of the Institute of State Effectiveness (Afghanistan); and Professor Stig ENEMARK, President of FIG.

Commission 4 "Hydrography" held their annual meeting during which Gordon JOHNSTON, current Chairman of the FIG/IHO/ICA Advisory Board on Standards of Competence, reported on the outcome of the 2008 Board meeting. Steve SHIPMAN reported on the recent issue of the 5th Edition of IHO publication S-44. Two Working Groups of Commission 4 reported on the activities with respect to "A Marine Cadastre" and "Promoting the economic benefits of Hydrography". It was agreed that this WG would prepare a leaflet on the "Economic Benefits of Hydrography" for release during the next FIG Congress. The IHB will assist in the preparation of this leaflet. Further details and a full report will be available from the FIG website: www.fig.net. Commission 4 organised 3 sessions on "Coastal Zone Administration"; "Hydrographic Information Management"; and "Hydrographic Surveying in Practice". All papers presented are available from the FIG web site. Commission 4 also organised an interesting visit to the Swedish Maritime Administration's "Eastern Region's Vessel Traffic Service" which was led by Ulf OLSSON, the Swedish member of the Working Group which produced the 5th Edition of S-44.

The FIG WW2009 entitled "Surveyors Key Role in Accelerated Development", will be held in Eilat, Israel, from 3 – 8 May 2009 and the 2010 FIG International Congress will take place in Sydney, Australia from 11 – 16 April 2010. The 7th FIG Regional Conference "Spatial Data Serving People" will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam from 19 – 22 October 2009.

54th SESSION OF THE IMO SAFETY OF NAVIGATION SUB-COMMITTEE (NAV) IMO Headquarters, London, 30 June – 4 July 2008

The 54th session of the Safety of Navigation Sub-Committee (NAV) of the IMO was held at IMO Headquarters in London, from 30 June - 4 July 2008. The IHO was represented by Vice Admiral MARATOS, President, Captain WARD, Director, and Lt Cdr SHIPMAN (Professional Assistant – Hydrography) and many Heads and representatives of hydrographic offices also attended. The Sub-Committee had a very full agenda, of which:

- Routing of Ships, ship reporting and related matters;
- Amendments to the general provisions on ships' routing;
- Development of an E-Navigation Strategy; and
- Development of carriage requirements for ECDIS

were of most direct relevance. Relevant documents are available from the IHO web site: www.iho.int > INT Organizations > IMO.

The Sub-Committee decided to propose a mandatory carriage requirement for ECDIS to be phased in between 2012 and 2018 depending on class of ship and tonnage. An exemption for ships due for retirement within 2 years of the relevant implementation date was also agreed. Draft amendments to SOLAS Regulation V/19 and an SN/Circular entitled "Guidance on Transitioning from Paper Chart to ECDIS Navigation" were prepared. The Sub-Committee adopted the following definition for an Adequate ENC Coverage:

Sufficient ENC availability is equivalent to the best available paper chart coverage of either a Hydrographic Office providing global coverage or the Hydrographic Office of the coastal State.

The recommendations of the Sub-Committee will now go to the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) for adoption.

The Sub-Committee finalized a draft strategy for e-navigation for consideration by the MSC. A work programme item on the "Development of an e-navigation strategy implementation plan" for the period 2009-2012 has also been requested. ECDIS and the availability of ENCs are a major element of the strategy and the IHO was requested to continue providing the Sub-Committee with annual updates on ENC availability and capacity building activities for the provision of ENCs of the waters of developing States and Small Island Developing States.

The Sub-Committee approved 7 new / revised Traffic Separation Schemes, 5 other routing measures and 2 new / amended Mandatory Reporting Systems all of which will now go to the MSC for adoption at its 85th session in November 2008.

Following a proposal by Norway, the United Kingdom and the IHO, the Sub-Committee agreed to an amendment to the General Provisions on Ships' Routing (Resolution A.572(14) as amended) to align the symbology used for archipelagic sea lanes and routeing systems boundaries with those included in IHO publication M-4. This will now go to the MSC for adoption and approval by the Assembly.

The IHO informed the Sub-Committee, in document NAV54/INF.6, of its adoption of the following revised standards and specifications: the 5th Edition of S-44; Edition 3.4 of S-52 Appendix 2, Annex A; and Edition 1.1 of S-63 all of which are referenced in IMO Resolutions.

The 55th session of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation is provisionally scheduled to be held from 27 - 31 July 2009.



Capt. WARD, VAdm. MARATHOS and Lt. Cdr. SHIPMAN during the presentation.

Posters exhibition.



XLIst IOC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
24 June – 01 July 2008, Paris, France.

The XLI (41st) Executive Council (EC) of IOC met from 24 June to 01 July 2008 in Paris, France, to review the progress and to adopt resolutions pertaining to the IOC Programs. 40 Member States out of 136 have a seat on the EC. The Heads of the following Hydrographic Offices were also present: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany and Turkey. Other delegations included hydrographers and /or oceanographers from IHO Member States, such as Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Peru and Venezuela. The IHO was represented by Captain GORZIGLIA.

At the Opening Ceremony the IOC Executive Council was addressed by UNESCO's Director-General, Mr. Koichiro MATSUURA, and by Lic. Javier VALLADARES, President of IOC. UNESCO's decision to increase IOC resources for the 2008-2009 biennium by US\$ 500.000 was highlighted; the progress made in the establishment of a regional tsunami warning system; the assistance in determining the outer limits of Member States' continental shelf and the 50th anniversary of IOC in 2010. The IOC President stressed the importance of cooperation with IHO in the field of capacity building and looks forward to an active IOC participation in the capacity building coordination meeting with IHO and IMO scheduled for October 2008 at UNESCO in Paris.

Following the presentation of the report by the IOC Executive Secretary, Dr. Patricio BERNAL, the IHO representative requested the floor to highlight the existing cooperative activities being carried out by IOC and IHO under the current MoU, especially with regard to cooperation in the tsunami field, where bathymetry constitutes a vital component. The IHO confirmed its readiness to fully cooperate with IOC in the development of inundation maps and related coastal bathymetric activities required for the regions, in particular the Indian Ocean.

One of the key agenda items for the IHO was the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO), as new Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures for the GEBCO Guiding Committee and its two Sub-Committees were to be examined. The GEBCO GC Chairman, Mr. David Monahan, introduced this item. The IHO representative explained the procedure followed to obtain the final texts and informed the IOC EC that the IHO Member States approved these texts in March 2008. Captain Gorziglia stressed that despite these modern and updated texts, GEBCO's effectiveness and efficiency would continue to depend on the support provided by the two cosponsoring organizations, IOC and IHO. Several IOC Member States made positive comments on the new Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure and the Executive Council approved the revised texts for the GEBCO Committee and its two Sub-Committees. China expressed its willingness to provide an IOC representative to fill the vacancy on the Sub-Committee on Undersea Features Names (SCUFN).

Finally, and after the reporting process of the several regional tsunami warning systems, the IHO representative intervened to highlight the crucial importance of precise bathymetry to contribute to tsunami modeling and operation, as well as the importance of public awareness, and recommended that, at a regional level, tsunami warning systems might wish to consider contacting the appropriate IHO regional hydrographic commissions to obtain available bathymetry to support the tsunami community work. Also the IHO representative requested the IOC EC to consider keeping the Ocean Mapping Program going and properly funded, that includes both the GEBCO and the International Bathymetric Charts regional projects.

The IOC President and participants at the Executive Council appreciated the contribution made by the IHO.

NEW HYDROGRAPHERS



NEW HYDROGRAPHER AT THE NORWEGIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE

[As from 20th February 2008]

Captain Gerry LARSSON-FEDDE was born on 23 April 1966 in Bergen, Norway and, after working 2 years as an Able Seaman, studying at the Maritime Academy and at the Petty Officer school, he joined the Naval Academy in Bergen, Norway in 1988. He graduated in 1991 with the rank of sub-lieutenant.

From 1991 until 1997 he had various assignments in the Norwegian Navy, the last 2 years as commanding officer on fast patrol boats.

In 1997 he left the Norwegian Navy to work for the Norwegian Coastal Administration as a pilot apprentice, and for the next three years he worked as a pilot on the northern coast of Norway. During this period he also initiated a project on the use of portable laptops with electronic charts for the pilots. Today all pilots in Norway and Sweden are use laptops with electronic charts.

He then joined Royal Caribbean Cruises in 2000 where he worked as 1st officer, Chief Officer and Staff Captain before moving into a position as Sr. Superintendent for audits and training in RCI's cooperate office in Miami; after about a year in this position he moved on to become Director of Nautical Operations. In 2004 he returned to sea as Captain on Mariner of the Seas and then Voyager of the Seas, two of the worlds largest cruise ships.

On 20th February 2008 he took up the position as Director General for the Norwegian Hydrographic Service.

IHB VISITS

TECHNICAL VISIT TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

04 - 06 May 2008

In May 2007, the IHB held a meeting, during the XVIIth International Hydrographic Conference, with the delegation from the Kingdom of Bahrain and discussed the possibility of organizing Technical Visits to Bahrain. This task was included in the IHO Work Program for 2008 and Capt. Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director, Coordinator of the RSAHC and Director in charge of Capacity Building (CB) matters paid a visit from 04 to 06 May 2008.

The Hydrographic authority in Bahrain was established in 1978, as a Section within the Survey Directorate of the Ministry of Housing. The Kingdom of Bahrain joined the IHO in 1992. The former Hydrographic Survey Office (HSD), today the Hydrographic Survey Directorate (HSD), was established in 2004 as part of the Survey & Land Registration Bureau. The Head of the Survey & Land Registration Bureau is His Excellency Sheikh Salman BIN ABDULLA AL KHALIFA; the Director General of Survey is Mr. Naji Sabt SALIM SABB; the Acting Chief of the HSD is Mr. Khalid Abdulla AL-SAGER and the Head of Marine Survey is Cdr. (RDN) Ole GRAVGAARD. The mission of the HSD is to conduct hydrographic surveys, produce digital and paper nautical charts and prepare relevant nautical publications in support of the mariner.

The objective of the technical visit was to assess and prioritize the requirements and needs, as well as to raise awareness of the importance of hydrography and its contribution to development. During the three days, in-depth discussions were held with the Director General of Survey, the Acting Chief of the HSD and the Head of the Marine Survey, with regard to the organization's human resources, technology and infrastructure. Shortcomings were identified as well as potential solutions that could be implemented.

In order to raise awareness of the importance of Hydrography, a meeting with the main stakeholders was organized by the HSD. Representatives from the Central Planning Unit (Ministry of Works), Urban Planning (Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture Affairs), Survey & Land Registration Bureau, Public Commission for Protection of Marine Resources, General Organization of Sea Ports, Coast Guard Directorate, Royal Bahraini Navy, Hydrographic Survey Directorate, Middle East Navigation Aids Service (MENAS), APM – Terminals, BAPCO and the University of Bahrain attended IHO presentation.

A special visit was paid to the General Organization of Sea Ports and the General Directorate for Protection of Marine Resources to discuss in detail particular subjects of common interest.

To conclude the visit, a wrap-up meeting was held, where Captain GORZIGLIA provided a preliminary verbal report of the technical visit. This visit was very much appreciated by the host country, and the authorities there decided to start implementing immediately a few measures to help solve the extreme shortage of technical personnel.



Presentation by Capt. GORZIGLIA to stakeholders.



Participants at the IHO presentation.

TECHNICAL VISIT TO ROMANIA

8-10 July 2008

A joint IHB-France¹ team of experts conducted a technical visit to Romania, from 8-10 July 2008, to assess the Romanian hydrographic capacities and advise the competent national authorities on how to improve the collection and dissemination of nautical information, and to progress hydrographic matters through regional cooperation. The visit was sponsored by the IHO Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC) and funded by the IHO Capacity Building Committee (CBC). It was locally coordinated by the Romanian Hydrographic Office², with support from the French Embassy in Bucharest, and the team had the opportunity to meet with officials of various ministries and institutions in Bucharest and Constanta, and to explain the benefits of high quality hydrographic information.

Following its assessment, the team will make suggestions to improve Hydrography in Romania, e.g. through appropriate training courses and/or by forming a National Hydrographic Committee.



Meeting at the Maritime Hydrographic Directorate

¹ *Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (SHOM), Brest*

² *Maritime Hydrographic Directorate (MHD), Constanta*

VISITS TO IHB

VISIT OF THE CHILEAN HYDROGRAPHER TO THE IHB

20th June 2008

On the 20th June 2008 Captain Cristian SORO, Hydrographer of Chile, paid a visit to the IHB.

On that occasion, Captain SORO was received by the Directing Committee with whom he had a working meeting. The main topics discussed were the challenges the IHO is facing and the work being done by the IHB in this regard. Captain SORO explained the main activities in progress and the development programme of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy (SHOA).

On the occasion of a new celebration of the World Hydrography Day (WHD), Captain SORO offered to the IHB DC an interesting work conducted at SHOA entitled " Performance Indicators for a more Effective, Efficient and Modern Management", that develops the experience gathered by SHOA in the establishment of these very helpful tools to optimize internal working processes. The Directing Committee thanked Captain SORO for such a significant contribution and congratulated SHOA for the work done and its willingness to share this experience with other Hydrographic Offices. The work shall constitute a valuable information source for the IHO Strategic Planning Working Group, that is dealing with the "performance indicators".

Captain SORO was invited to sign the Visitors Book and also to participate at the event that the IHB organized on the occasion of the WHD. Afterwards, he met Captain GORZIGLIA, IHB Director, to discuss on punctual matters related to the SEPHC, Capacity Building Committee and the entry in force of the new IHO structure in January 2009.



Captain Cristian SORO, Hydrographer of Chile, with the Directing Committee.

VISIT TO THE IHB

11th July 2008

On Friday 11th July 2008, the Commanding Officer of the Japan Coast Guard Ship "KOJIMA", Captain Manabu SAKIYAMA, paid a courtesy visit to the IHB, accompanied by the Navigation Officer and Mr. Juichi TAKAHARA and Mr. Koji TAKAHASHI, Minister and First Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Paris, France, respectively. The delegation was received by Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director.

"KOJIMA" is a training vessel from the Japan Coast Guard and takes on board over 50 cadets in training. The cadets also visited the IHB and Captain GORZIGLIA made a presentation on the role and objectives of the IHO as well as the importance of hydrography to safety of navigation, protection of the marine environment and other important related activities. Several cadets asked questions regarding subjects such as the relation between IHO and IMO and the measures the IHO was taking to coordinate the ENC production and distribution worldwide. Commander Steve SHIPMAN (IHB) also contributed to the presentation.

A short tour of the IHB facilities was made and Captain SAKIYAMA was impressed by the coordination work carried out by the IHB. Finally, Captain SAKIYAMA and Captain GORZIGLIA exchanged crests of their respective units and the distinguished visitor was invited to sign the "Livre d'Or" (Visitors' Book).



Lt. Cdr. Shipman and Capt. Gorziglia with the staff of the Japan Coast Guard Ship "KOJIMA".