



**2009**

## **JUNE TO SEPTEMBER BULLETIN**

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### **REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSIONS**

#### **VISIT BY THE EAST ASIA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION TO THE VIETNAM'S MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY No. 2**

Vung Tau, Vietnam, 23 June 2009

Vietnam had expressed its desire to become a member of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the EAHC (East Asia Hydrographic Commission) in order to better meet its obligations as regards nautical charting and hydrography and to promote navigational safety and protection of the marine environment. The importance of Vietnam to the hydrographic community lies in the fact that some of the major shipping routes pass through Vietnamese waters, including linking its ports to the others in the region.

As a follow-up to an earlier visit to Vietnam's Maritime Safety Authority No. 1 in Hai Phong in April 2008, an EAHC delegation visited Vietnam's Maritime Safety Authority No. 2 in Vung Tau on 23 June 2009. The delegation was led by the Chairman of EAHC, Dr. Parry OEI (Singapore) and the Vice-Chairman of EAHC, Vice Admiral NAKORN Tanuwong (Thailand) with representatives from China and the Republic of Korea and met with representatives from both authorities in Vietnam. The visit emphasised the importance the EAHC attaches to enlarging its membership to further enhance navigational safety in the region through promoting trust, cooperation and capacity building.

The purpose of the delegation's visit was threefold:

- a) to continue to encourage Vietnam to expedite the process to join the hydrographic community through membership of both the IHO and the EAHC. The objective is for Vietnam to cooperate with the EAHC in regional nautical charting and hydrographic projects;
- b) to gain a better understanding of Vietnam's nautical charting and hydrographic capabilities and to establish how they could contribute to EAHC members' efforts to promote navigational safety and protection of the marine environment, in particular the improvement of ENC coverage in the region; and
- c) to introduce Vice Admiral NAKORN (Thailand) the present Vice Chairman, who will take over the Chairmanship from Dr OEI (Singapore) in Oct 2009 and to continue the work of facilitating Vietnam's entry to the IHO and the EAHC.

During the visit, EAHC learned that Vietnam has developed their own ENC production software and has used it to produce ENCs of the approaches to the port of Ho Chi Minh (Saigon). The ENCs have been validated by a third party, field checked and released for commercial use. Plans are in progress to produce ENCs of approaches to and waters of other major Vietnamese ports. At the meeting, Vietnam welcomed the EAHC's delegation's proposal to include their ENCs in the EAHC Chart Catalogue.

In addition to installing and maintaining traditional aids to navigation, Vietnam has set up AIS base stations along the approaches to Ho Chi Minh port along the Mekong River to facilitate the monitoring of AIS-enabled ships.

To cement the cooperation between Vietnam and the EAHC, Dr. OEI invited Vietnam to attend the upcoming EAHC capacity building training courses in August 2009 in the Philippines and the 10th EAHC Conference in October 2009 in Singapore as observers.

Noting Vietnam's capabilities and achievements, the IHO and EAHC would certainly benefit by having Vietnam join as a full member. We look forward to receiving Vietnam's application to join the IHO and EAHC. In the interim period, we anticipate that the cooperative spirit between Vietnam and the EAHC demonstrated during the visit will lead to significant contributions to navigational safety and marine environmental protection in the region through Vietnam's participation in the EAHC's projects.

## 14<sup>th</sup> BALTIC SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (BSHC) CONFERENCE

Copenhagen, 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC) Conference took place in September in Copenhagen. Nearly all BSHC Members were able to participate. The IHB was represented by Captain Robert WARD. The UKHO took part as an Observer. The Danish hosts provided excellent support and perfect surroundings for a successful meeting.

Under the Chairmanship of Dr. Matthias JONAS, Germany, and with the very active contribution of the member states, the Conference dealt mainly with the following topics:

- Information from IHB;
- Information and coordination of the national hydrographic activities in the Baltic;
- Co-operation at the international level through the different IHO bodies;
- Reports of the BSHC WGs and their further work, the WGs are:
  - ✓ Re-Survey Monitoring WG;
  - ✓ Chart Datum WG;
  - ✓ Baltic Sea ENC Harmonization WG (Implementation of Recommendations);
  - ✓ Depth Information Harmonization WG;
  - ✓ Baltic Sea INT Chart Committee;
- Harmonized resurveys according to the decisions of the Helsinki Commission;
- Development of a common height datum in the Baltic;
- Co-ordination of the processing and cartographic presentation of depth information in paper and digital nautical charts;
- Harmonization of the cartographic design of ENCs.

A new Working Group was created under the leadership of Sweden to implement a Baltic Sea Bathymetric Database.

Another important topic was the relationship of BSHC with the marine strategy of the European Commission, especially SDI (INSPIRE, EMODNET).

At the end of the Conference, Charlotte Wiin HAVSTEEN (Denmark) was elected as new Chairperson and Piotr PERNACZYNSKI (Poland) was elected as Vice-Chairperson. The 15<sup>th</sup> BSHC Conference will take place in Poland in 2010.

For further reading: IHB-website - Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> BSHC Conference.



*The participants of the meeting.*

## **7<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN AND ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SAIHC)**

La Réunion, 16-17 September 2009

The 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SAIHC was organized by France and held on 16-17 September 2009 in the Saint Denis Department of La Réunion, under the Chairmanship of Captain Abri KAMPFER, the Director of the South African Hydrographic Office. Thirty-seven representatives attended from the following countries, International Organizations and private companies: Angola, Comoros, France, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Norway, Portugal, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, UK, USA, IMO, IOC, GEE-WIO/MHD/CMC, CARIS, C&C Technologies, Jeppesen, Underwater Surveys. The meeting of the Commission took place immediately after a seminar that was organized and funded by the Organization for the Chairmen of National Hydrographic Committees. Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS represented the I.H. Bureau at both the seminar and the meeting of SAIHC.

Various hydrographic and charting issues of importance to this region were discussed, and in particular: the progress with the production of ENCs, the status of MSI, the outcome of the first meeting of the IRCC, the main issues discussed and decided at the 4<sup>th</sup> EIHC and the status of the Statutes of the Commission. The President of the IHB reported on the activities of the Bureau during the intersessional period and the progress of the approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention. RAdm Neil GUY, as consultant, gave a presentation on the progress of the MEH in the channel of Mozambique.

The next meeting of the SAIHC will be held in Angola under the Chairmanship of Captain Abri KAMPFER.



*The participants of the meeting.*



***From left to right:** Ing. Général Gilles BESSERO, Monsieur Pierre-Henry MACCIONI, Prefect of La Réunion, and Vice-Admiral Alexandros MARATOS.*

**16<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEAS  
HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MBSHC)**

Odessa, Ukraine, 22–24 September 2009

The 16<sup>th</sup> MBSHC Meeting was held at the Hotel Odessa in Odessa, hosted by the Ukrainian Hydrographic Office, under the Chairmanship of Tunisia.

Delegates from Algeria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Georgia, Italy, Malta, Romania, Russia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, UK, Ukraine and the IHB attended the meeting. Other international organizations were also present as observers. Israel had sent apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

The representative from Ukraine and host of the meeting informed the Commission that his country was unable to take on the Chairmanship of the Commission for the period 2009-2011.

The principal subjects included on the Agenda of the meeting were the following:

1. Intersessional activities, including the technical visits carried out by the Commission, the two meetings held by the Black and Azov Seas under the chairmanship of Turkey and the decisions of the XIV<sup>th</sup> International Hydrographic Conference.
2. Cooperation with Member States and international organizations, with reports on the International Sea Power Symposium and on the coordination of sea level measurement and prevention of tsunami and sea level related hazards (IOC).
3. Capacity Building matters, including the funding by the CB Fund of possible technical visits to Israel, Syria and Libya and the procedures for the submission of projects to the CBCS.
4. Nautical cartography, with the MEDINTCHART report, progress in national ENC production, development of an MBSHC ENC scheme and the V-RENC situation. France agreed to continue as the MEDINTCHART Coordinator, subject to the agreement of the French authorities. The MEDINTCHART Coordinator will convene a technical meeting of the appropriate members of the MBSHC International Charting Group to resolve pending technical issues.
5. Maritime Safety Information, including the report by NAVAREA III Coordinator  
and
6. General Organization Development, with the reports about the procedure for MBSHC to designate their representatives to the future IHO Council and the status of the ratification process of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention.

Turkey was elected as the new Chairman of the Commission, with Greece as Vice-Chairman.

The 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be held in Athens (Greece) in 2011. The dates will be agreed by correspondence.

## COMMITTEES / SUB-COMMITTEES / COMMISSIONS

### 32<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO/ICA INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS AND NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHERS

1. The 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the FIG/IHO/ICA International Advisory Board was held from 20 to 25 April 2009 at the "Circolo Militare" in Genoa, Italy, hosted by the Hydrographic Institute of the Italian Navy.
2. The following principal activities undertaken since the last meeting were tabled:
  - i) The lack of response from the two Russian institutions running recognized courses. The institutions should have re-submitted their courses and had been informed of the fact on several occasions. In accordance with the Board rules, both courses have lost recognition and will be informed by letter from the Chairman.
  - ii) The delay of one year granted to the Argentine Hydrographic School for the submission of its Course in Hydrography, due to a major re-organization of the Service.
  - iii) The new structure of the IHO which was implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009.
3. The Board reviewed and awarded recognition to the following courses:

COURSE	
<b>Royal Australian Navy H2 Hydrographic Surveying Course, Australia</b>	Re-recognized this course at Category 'B' with Options 1 & 6.
<b>Curso de Hidrografia para Oficiales; H.O. Ecuador</b>	Recognized at Category 'B'. Option 1
<b>Intermediate Course for Naval Officers and Civilians, Italian HO, Italy</b>	Recognized at Cat. 'B'
<b>Hydrographic survey for production of Nautical Charts. Pakistan HO.</b>	Recognized at Category 'B'
<b>Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers of Brazilian Navy, Brazil.</b>	Re-recognized at Cat. 'A' with Options. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7 upon receipt of complementary information
<b>Hydrographic Course at the Royal Naval Hydrographic School, HMS Drake, UK.</b>	Re-recognized at Cat. 'A'. Options 1 & 6 upon receipt of complementary information.
<b>Applied Hydrographic Education Certificate Programme. Middle East Technical University, Turkey.</b>	Recognized at Cat. 'B' and Options 1, 2, 7 upon receipt of complementary information
<b>MSc Course in Hydrographic Surveying of the University of Plymouth , U.K. and BSc (Honours) Ocean Exploration. University of Plymouth , UK</b>	Re-submission of the documentation requested for both courses. To finish by correspondence.

4. The proposed amendments to M-5 "Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors" were considered and it was decided to continue the work after the meeting and propose amendments to each section of the Standards to be considered at the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting in Trinidad.
5. The Board also approved the reviewing of M-8 presented at the meeting. The final draft will be provided to the Board Members for final inspection and approval of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of these Standards.
6. Following the mandate received from IHO and FIG *"to investigate a process for recognition of national, regional and industrial schemes of individual certification and the preparation of standards for such individual certification schemes"* the Board considered the document "Draft Guidelines for Recognition of Individuals", circulated by the Chairman before the meeting. The text of the Guidelines was refined by the Board Members who approved some amendments and finalized the text. These Guidelines will be included as a section of the "Standards of Competence" following approval by the three parent organizations.
7. The Board also discussed the methods of funding of the Board. The Board decided to also address this matter at the 1<sup>st</sup> IRCC meeting and to send a letter to the institutions with recognized courses to seek their opinion about establishing a fee for recognition and maintenance of courses.



8. The 33<sup>rd</sup> IAB Meeting will be held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and the dates will be decided as soon as possible.

**55<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE IMO SUB-COMMITTEE  
ON SAFETY OF NAVIGATION (NAV55)  
IMO Headquarters, London, 27-31 July 2009.**

The 55<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV55) was held at IMO Headquarters in London, from 27-31 July 2009. The IHO was represented by Vice- Admiral MARATOS, President, Captain WARD, Director and Lt. Cdr. SHIPMAN, PAH.

Under agenda Item 11 on the Development of an E-Navigation Strategy Implementation Plan, the IHO presented a report on ENC availability (NAV 54/11). The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), whilst acknowledging the increased availability of ENCs, stated that it still had some reservations that an “adequate” coverage of ENCs would be available by the 2010 date indicated by the IHO. The IHO has been requested to provide further updates at future NAV sessions and to confirm at NAV57 in 2011 that an “adequate” coverage has been achieved. A Working Group (WG) was established to consider the other documents submitted under this agenda item. The WG prepared preliminary detailed shipboard user needs and Terms of Reference for a Correspondence Group (CG) to continue the work inter-sessionally. The IHB will represent the IHO in the work of the CG but interested Member States are encouraged to participate as well.

NAV55 approved five new or revised Traffic Separation Schemes, four other routing measures and two amended Mandatory Reporting Systems all of which have been passed to the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) for adoption at its 87<sup>th</sup> session in May 2010. Implementation will be not less than six months after adoption by the MSC.

The Chairman of NAV, Mr. Michael SOLLOSI of the United States, and the Vice-Chairman, Captain Raja MALIK of Malaysia, were re-elected for 2010. The 56<sup>th</sup> session of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation is provisionally scheduled to be held from 26 - 30 July 2010.

## WORLD-WIDE NAVIGATIONAL WARNING SERVICE SUB-COMMITTEE

IHB, Monaco, 18-21 August 2009

The first meeting of the WWNWS Sub-Committee was held at the IHB, in Monaco, from 18 to 21 August 2009. The meeting was attended by 24 delegates from 14 IHO Member States, the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) and Inmarsat and included representatives of 12 NAVAREA Co-ordinators.

WWNWS1 reviewed the draft revision of the International SafetyNET Manual prepared by the Document Review WG and made some further amendments. This draft would be further reviewed by WWNWS prior to circulation to IHO Member States for approval and subsequent submission to COMSAR 14. Once the SafetyNET Manual has been forwarded to IMO the Document Review WG will start work on a revision of the NAVTEX Manual.

WWNWS reviewed progress on the expansion of the WWNWS into Arctic Areas and identified the information required to complete the tasks assigned to the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO CG on Arctic MSI Services in order to prepare the CG report to COMSAR 14. Two representatives from Iridium gave a presentation and answered questions regarding their company's satellite service capabilities. They indicated that Iridium was likely to request to become a GMDSS provider at MSC87 in May 2010

The Commission received MSI self assessments from all twenty one NAVAREAs. Reports were also received from the Chairman of the IMO NAVTEX Panel, the IMO SafetyNET Panel and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) all of whom attended the meeting.

It was noted that IMO COMSAR would undertake a "*Scoping Exercise to establish the need for a review of the elements and procedures of the GMDSS*". It was agreed that this was an important item which needed to be considered alongside e-navigation. It was essential that the WWNWS, and individual NAVAREA Co-ordinators participated fully in the debate at IMO.

The requirement for "Contingency Planning" was discussed. The importance of this matter was endorsed noting the need that it cover the whole MSI process from the point where information was sent to the co-ordinator to its reception by the mariner.



The meeting received reports on the preparations made, and those being taken, for the delivery of two MSI training courses: one for the EAtHC in Accra, Ghana, in September; and one for the NIOHC and RSAHC in Oman, in October. Further courses were being planned for 2010 and 2011.

The meeting unanimously elected Captain François LACROZE of France as its Vice-Chairman. WWNWS2 is scheduled to take place in Sydney, Australia, from 9 – 13 August 2010. The full report of the meeting and all meeting documents are available from the IHO web site at: [http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg\\_docs/com\\_wg/CPRNW/WWNWS1/WWNWS1.htm](http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/com_wg/CPRNW/WWNWS1/WWNWS1.htm).

## **IALA COMMITTEE ON E-NAVIGATION**

Paris, 21 - 25 September 2009

Captain WARD represented the IHO at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IALA Committee on e-Navigation where he contributed to the ongoing work of the Marine Information Systems Task Group. The IHO was assisted by two other hydrographers: Yves DESNOES, now Chairman of the French Institute of Navigation and former French Hydrographer, in Architecture Working Group 5, and Jean LAPORTE, SHOM, in Strategy Working Group 1.

The IALA Committee on e-Navigation has been formed to develop IALA policy and technical proposals for subsequent consideration by IMO, the organization that is developing the e-Navigation concept. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations, the IHO is providing IALA with advice and assistance in relation to hydrographic and nautical charting aspects.

## WORKING GROUPS

### IHO STANDARDIZATION OF NAUTICAL PUBLICATIONS WORKING GROUP (SNPWG)

The 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standardization of Nautical Publications Working Group (SNPWG) was held at the IHB, Monaco, from 7 to 11 September 2009. The meeting was attended by representatives from Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Korea, Japan, Norway, the UK and the USA. Industry participants from CARIS, Jeppesen and NOVACO also attended the meeting.



*11<sup>th</sup> SNPWG Meeting (IHB, Monaco)*

An important topic discussed during the meeting considered how ENC and Nautical Publications (NP) data could be integrated within an ECDIS – noting that certain ENC and NP feature classes will be delivered as separate products, and will have to be associated (linked) with each other.

In response to work tasks set at the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, Germany provided an outline of a data mode for waterways information. This also included the development of a draft product specification. Jeppesen provided a presentation on the development of a test-bed dataset for pilot information. This included the production of a feature catalogue, and product specification based on the SNPWG model, the S-100 standard and the S-101 draft specification. Japan also provided an example dataset showing how JHOD sailing directions information could be converted to the SNPWG data model.

The next SNPWG meeting is scheduled to take place in Tokyo, Japan from 21 to 25 June 2010.

## OTHER BODIES

### IHB DIRECTOR ATTENDS THE XXV<sup>th</sup> IOC ASSEMBLY

16 – 25 June 2009, Paris, France.

The Director General of UNESCO addressed the Assembly highlighting the importance of IOC and the main topics under consideration at a global level, mainly global change and its effects.

The Agenda covered a wide range of matters including statutory reports, general policy issues, management procedures and policies for the sustainability of coastal and ocean environment and resources, health of the ocean ecosystems, mitigation of the impacts and adapting to climate change and variability, prevention and reduction of the impacts of natural hazards and matters related to administration and management. Particular attention was given to subjects of IHO interest, such as capacity building, bathymetry and tsunamis, celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IOC, election of officers and selection of applicants for the post of Executive Secretary. 88 Member States out of 136 attended the Assembly. The Heads of the following Hydrographic Offices were also present: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Germany and Turkey. Captain Gorziglia represented the IHO.

In the field of capacity building it was emphasized that UNESCO's priority is Africa and SIDS, and the importance of having a country-driven approach in the definition of CB initiatives. The IHO representative underlined the strategic importance of CB and the excellent relationship between IHO and IOC in this matter. In line with IHO's approach, three levels were identified by the IOC Executive Secretary: assistance to governments in developing policies; assistance in setting up institutional arrangements and assistance to individuals in the field of education and scientific training. The Assembly requested Member States to provide additional human and financial resources to enhance CB activities.

It was reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Hazards Warning and Mitigation Systems Working Group underlined the need for high-resolution bathymetry data in coastal areas and for digital elevation models for tsunami warning and forecast operations. The IHO representative supported the report and suggested inputs to a resolution that in the corresponding part ended with the following text:

#### Resolution XXV-13

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission,

**Requests** GEBCO to give priority to the development of high-resolution bathymetric data in coastal areas and of digital elevation models and to report progress at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IOC Executive Council;

**Further requests** the IOC Regional Ocean Mapping projects to contribute to GEBCO to achieve these developments.

Between June 2010 and October 2011 the IOC will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. During this period it is anticipated that many activities of interest also to IHO shall take place.

The Officers elected for the next two years were as follows:

Chair	:	Mr. Javier VALLADARES (Argentina) (re-elected)
Vice Chairs	:	Mrs. Savithri NARAYANAN (Canada) (re-elected)
		Mr. Nicolay MIKHAILOV ( Russian Federation) (re-elected)
		Mr. Julián REYNA (Colombia) (re-elected)
		Mr. Sang-Kyung BYUN (Republic of Korea)
		Mr. Cherif SAMMARI (Tunisia) (re-elected)

Another election matter was the selection of a short list of six names of candidates to replace Dr. Patricio BERNAL as IOC Executive Secretary by the end of 2009. The names were passed to the UNESCO DG for his consideration.

The Assembly confirmed that the 43<sup>rd</sup> Executive Council will take place from 1 to 16 June 2010 and the XXV<sup>th</sup> Assembly, from 15 to 29 June 2011. The exact dates are to be confirmed.

The IHO representative took advantage of this event to meet with the Delegation from Haiti to discuss matters of common interest; the meeting was chaired by Ms. Marie Yvrose JEAN, Director General of the Maritime and Navigation Service of Haiti, the organization under which Haiti is creating a Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service. Also he met Captain Patricio GOYES ARROYO, the new Director of INOCAR and Delegate for Ecuador to IOC with whom discussions were held concerning initiatives to raise Ecuador's level of awareness and commitment to hydrography. Finally he had

discussions with the personnel of the IOC's Tsunami Unit, the leader of the Coast MAP-IO and the Head of the Capacity Building Section and recently nominated Deputy Executive Secretary in charge of capacity development. The general perception is that this was a very productive visit.

**16<sup>th</sup> ABLOS BUSINESS MEETING (ABLOS 16)**  
Bali, Indonesia, 4-5 August 2009

The 16<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Business Meeting was held in Bali, Indonesia, from 4-5 August 2009. The meeting, which was hosted by BAKOSURTANAL, the Indonesian Mapping Agency, was timed to coincide with an "International Seminar on the Technical Aspects of the Law of the Sea", the South East Asia Survey Conference (SEASC) and a meeting of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN). The IHB was represented by Admiral MARATOS and Lt.Cdr. SHIPMAN.

Revised ToR were agreed, a Capacity Building Course reviewed and initial planning for the 6<sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference undertaken. The Conference will be held in Monaco in October 2010 and will be titled: "Contentious Issues in UNCLOS – Surely Not?".

Admiral MARATOS took the opportunity of the co-located meetings to meet with Helen KERFOOT, the Chair of UNGEGN.

The full report is available from the ABLOS section of the IHO web site.



*Admiral MARATOS with Helen KERFOOT,  
Chair of UNGEGN.*

## CONFERENCES / SEMINARS

### SEMINAR AT THE 2009 COMNAP ANNUAL MEETING - COMNAP XXI Punta Arenas, Chile, 03- 06 August 2009

#### I. General Information.

The meetings of the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) are held annually to develop and promote the best practice in managing the support of scientific research in Antarctica. It is a forum to develop practices to improve the effectiveness of activities; it facilitates and promotes international partnerships; it encourages information exchange and provides the Antarctic Treaty System with objective and practical, as well as technical and non-political, advice drawn from the National Antarctic Program's pool of expertise.

On this occasion, COMNAP invited the IHO/HCA to make presentations in the form of a seminar referring to the "Importance of Hydrographic Activities in Antarctica".

#### II. Participants.

Out of the 29 COMNAP member countries, 26 were present with over 150 delegates in all. Four international organizations were also represented and the IHO was represented by the HCA Chairman and IHB Director, Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, together with Rear Admiral Ian MONCRIEFF and Commander Enrique SILVA, representatives of UK and Chile to the HCA, respectively.

#### III. Seminar.

The objective of the seminar was to raise awareness at the operational level of the importance of hydrographic activity in Antarctica, to achieve a better understanding within COMNAP of the existing risks linked to the present state of charting in the region and to explore ways to jointly improve the situation. The content of the Seminar was as follows:

##### First Presentation

Title: "Hydrography in Antarctica".  
Speaker: **Hugo GORZIGLIA**, Captain, Chilean Navy, former Chilean Hydrographer, Director IHB and Chairman HCA.  
Content: What is hydrography? Why we need hydrography? What are and why do the IHO and HCA exist and what they have been doing. INT Chart Scheme. Hydrographic priorities. SOLAS and the Antarctica. IHO/COMNAP relationship.

##### Second Presentation

Title: "Risks in Antarctic Operations related to Hydrography and Nautical Cartography."  
Speaker: **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. HCA Vice Chairman.  
Content: Antarctic Navigation and its risks. Extent of present coverage in and around the peninsula. Present approach to charting priorities based on observed routes used for different purposes. Work done to date and future work plans. Case studies. Liabilities, Paucity of SAR. How hydrography knowledge reduces the risk. Marine accidents and their impact on the marine environment. Role of hydrography in Antarctic operations. What is needed to operate with greater safety? Safe access to remote research areas.

##### Third Presentation

Title: "Practical initiatives to improve hydrography and nautical cartography in Antarctica."  
Speaker: **Enrique SILVA**, Commander, Head, Department of Operations, Chilean Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service, and Chilean representative to the HCA.

Content: A resumé of the problems based on previous presentations and the offer of concrete measures that could be jointly implemented by COMNAP and IHO to improve safety for National Program vessels. IHO contribution to COMNAP to achieve its objectives. Introduction of Guidelines for the Collection and Rendering of Hydrographic Data obtained by “Ships of Opportunity” in Antarctic Waters.

The event was very well received by the participants. Two questions were raised by the attendees: one related to the procedure of making available relevant information affecting safety of navigation and the other referred to the possibility of making processed bathymetric data available, as soon as it was validated, without having to wait for the release of a new chart that might take several years.

It was explained that the procedure for handling urgent Notices to Mariners was clearly regulated and widely known by ships' captains. The reporting practice of these anomalies was not a problem. With regard to the possibility of making processed data available, for example through chartlets or new editions of charts, this would have the merit of providing confidence to the mariner navigating in a particular area. This option will be explored by HCA considering the long time it takes to complete surveys and to produce a new chart. This matter will be considered for discussion at the next HCA meeting in South Africa, October 2009.

Finally, COMNAP agreed to use the “**IHO Collection and Rendering of Hydrographic Data Form**”, included in the document “**Collection and Rendering of Hydrographic Data obtained by Ships of Opportunity - SOO in Antarctic Waters**” submitted by the IHO/HCA, and to review and provide comments to the HCA Survey Prioritisation WG.



*IHO/HCA speakers at the seminar given at COMNAP on the “Importance of Hydrographic Activities in Antarctica”.  
From left to right: Captain GORZIGLIA (IHB Director and HCA Chairman),  
Rear Admiral MONCRIEFF (UK National Hydrographer) and Commander SILVA (SHOA).*

#### **IV. Other information.**

1. COMNAP is exploring a new way of working and this was given priority in the discussions held. The final outcome will be made available by COMNAP after the meeting.
2. At the end of this Meeting, Mrs. Michelle ROGAN-FINNEMORE will take over as Executive Secretary of COMNAP, replacing Mr. Antoine GUICHARD.

## INFORMATION OF INTEREST

### CELEBRATION OF WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY 2009 IN JAPAN

The Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department of Japan (JHOD) hosted the following events between 17 and 22 June to celebrate World Hydrography Day.

- 1) A meeting of Regional Directors of JHOD was held on 18 and 19 June to review current issues and the future outlook for Regional Hydrographic and Oceanographic Departments at JHOD in Tokyo. After the meeting, a reception, which was one of a chain of special events, was hosted by the Chief Hydrographer, Dr. Shigeru KATO, who welcomed the Commandant of the Japan Coast Guard (JCG), Teiji IWASAKI.



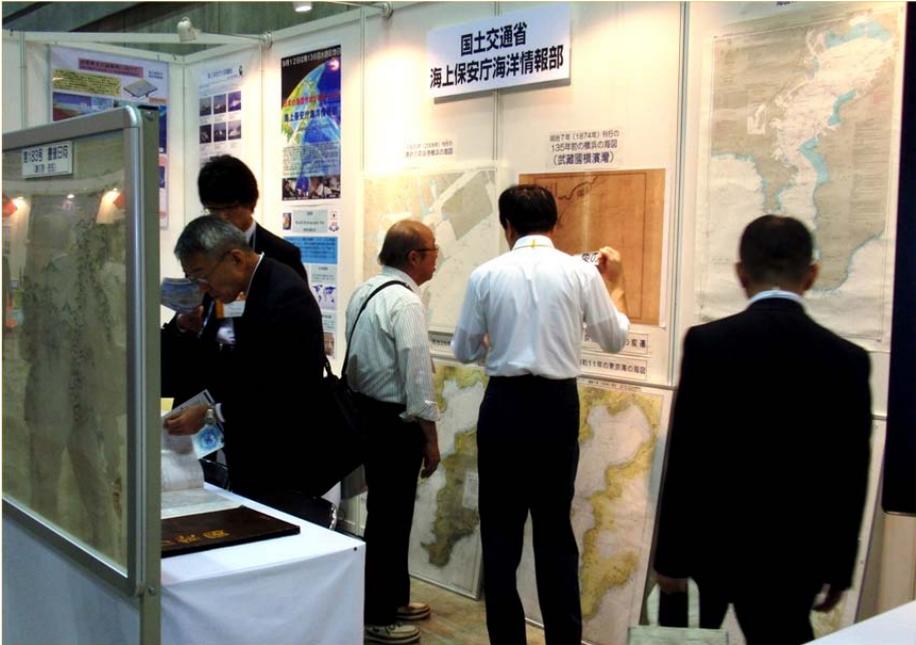
(Front row from left): Y. NAGAYA , S. SATOH, S. KASUGA, S. OSANAI , T. IWASAKI (Commandant of JCG), S. KATO (Chief Hydrographer), H. OGAWA, S. TANI, A. SENGOKU, Y. KATO

- 2) The Hydrographic and Oceanographic Museum was opened to the public from 17 to 22 June, where IHO publications, a poster and slideshow describing the IHO, "Ino-Zu (Japanese historical maps)", and old Military Charts, were on display.



*Hydrographic and Oceanographic Museum*

3) The GEOINFORMATION FORUM JAPAN 2009 which is Japan's largest forum and exhibition for survey, map design and related computer systems was held at PACIFICO Yokohama (Convention Complex in Yokohama) from 17 to 19 June. The JHOD provided an exhibition which highlighted its activities, the importance of hydrography, and the existence of World Hydrography Day 2009.



## EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAY

This year « European Heritage Day » was held on Sunday 27th September in the Principality of Monaco.

The special theme chosen for this year's event was « The Russian Ballets » and it was up to all participants to try to incorporate this theme into their own presentations.

The International Hydrographic Bureau, which has been participating in this cultural event for several years now, opened its doors to the public for a general overview of the Organization, followed by a presentation tracing the history of cartography, backed up by Russian charts and atlases. The IHB had approximately 50 visitors on this occasion.



## NEW HYDROGRAPHERS



### **NEW DIRECTOR OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC AND NAVIGATIONAL SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA**

On 17 April 2009, Rear Admiral Jesús Gerardo ORTEGA HERNÁNDEZ took up the post of Director of the Hydrographic and Navigational Service of the Republic of Venezuela.

Rear Admiral ORTEGA was born in Mérida, Venezuela, on 28 March 1963. He graduated in July 1984 from the Naval Academy of Venezuela as Lieutenant, and obtained a Degree in Naval Sciences. He currently holds the rank of Rear Admiral with effect from 5 July 2008.

During his career, he has held various posts amongst which the following:

- Commander of the Coast Guard launch ANB "LOS CAYOS" in 1990;
- Commander of the Coast Guard Patrol vessel "ALCATRAZ" in 1992;
- Commander of the Patrol boat ANB "CONSTITUCION" in 1997;
- Second in command of the Missile Frigate ANB "MARISCAL SUCRE" in 2001;
- Commander of the Missile Frigate ANB "MARISCAL SUCRE" in 2002;
- Commander of the main Coast Guard Station in the Atlantic Region in 2003;
- Director of Naval Communications in 2005;
- Director of the Naval Cadets School in 2007 and
- Second in Command of the Squadron Command in 2008.

He has also undertaken the following courses: Naval Command and Naval Staff, Master's Degree in Administration and Management, Resolution of Conflicts and Techniques of Negotiation and various courses in the domain of Computers and Telematics.

Since 2008, he has been a member of the Presidential Commission for Planning and Development of the Apure Orinoco Axis.



## NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF KOREA

**Mr. Jae Gil CHOI** was appointed General Director of the Korean Hydrographic and Oceanographic Administration of Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs on 26 June 2009.

He was born on 23 April 1955 in Iksan, Republic of Korea. In 1979, he graduated from the Korea Aerospace University.

His first job career was at Seoul Regional Aviation Administration in 1980. Thereafter, he had experience in various divisions, such as the Railroad Planning Division of Logistic Innovation Authority, Flight Safety & Security Division of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Planning Division of Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Location Planning Division of Territorial Policy Bureau of MLTM and so on.

### ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Feb. 1979 Department of Air Administration, Korea Aerospace University;

Feb. 1993 Department of Air Transport Management, Arizona State University.

### PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Jun. '09~	Director General, Korea Hydrographic and Oceanographic Administration
Mar. '08~Jun. '09	Director General, Pusan Regional Aviation Administration
Jul. '06~Mar. '08	Director, Railroad Planning Division, Logistic Innovation Authority Director, Flight Safety & Security Division, Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Dec. '01~Jul. '06	Director, Planning Division, Civil Aviation Safety Authority Director, Location Planning Division, Territorial Policy Bureau
Jul. '97~Dec. '01	Inspector General ; Director, Transport Investment and Development Division, Transport Policy Office ; Director, Administration Division, Pusan regional aviation Administration.
Dec. '92~Jul. '97	Director, International Tourism Division, Management Tourism Bureau Director, Administration and Management Division, Planning and Management Office.
May '80~Dec. '92	Deputy Director, Aviation Bureau Deputy Director, Tourism Bureau

## NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF CHINA



Captain CHEN Aiping was appointed as Executive Director-General of the Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) of the People's Republic of China on 8 June 2009, succeeding Captain LIU Gongchen.

Captain CHEN was born in Jiangsu Province of China in 1957. He obtained his bachelor degree in Dalian Maritime University in 1982 and master degree in Wuhan University of Technology in 2000.

His first job career began at COSCO Qingdao, from 1982 to 1988. He had served onboard numerous ships, with duties ranging from the third officer, the second officer to the chief officer. Thereafter, he served as ocean-shipping master in the Nanjing Tanker Corporation of China Changjiang National Shipping (Group) Corporation (CSC) during 1988 to 1990.

Captain CHEN was engaged in management as the Deputy Manager-General of CSC Nanjing Tanker Corporation between 1991 and 1995. At the same time, he took the second position as Deputy Captain-General in the Corporation in late 1995. From 1995 to 1998, he was assigned to CSC as Vice President.

His job Career in MSA started from 1998, served as Deputy Director-General of Shanghai MSA first, with responsibility for extensive maritime activities covering shipping safety, SAR and pollution prevention. In 2001, he was assigned to be Director-General of Jiangsu MSA. In 2003, he returned to Shanghai MSA as Director-General.

After severed more than ten years in local MSA as top administrator, Captain CHEN came to the headquarters of China MSA in Beijing, as Executive Director-General this June.

## NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF THE PAKISTAN NAVY

Captain Muhammad ARSHAD



The officer obtained commission in Operations Branch of Pakistan Navy on 01 Dec 86. After getting watch keeping from PN Frigate, joined Hydrography in Dec 90. During the course of survey assignments onboard SV BEHR PAIMA, he has performed various duties including, senior surveying officer, Executive Officer and command of the same vessel. He successfully qualified Physical Oceanography and Nautical Charting courses from Japan in 1995 and 1998 respectively. He is also graduate of PN War course. He is Charge Surveyor and qualified Advance HM Cat A course from HMS Drake, UK. He assumed duties of Hydrographer Pakistan Navy on 11 July 2009 after successful completion of Armed Forces War course from National Defence University Islamabad.

## † OBITUARY



Don VACHON

On 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 the hydrographic community lost a valued friend and colleague with the passing of Don Vachon, Director of the Integrated Science Data Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Don spent his career advancing the technology used by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) to develop, produce, maintain and distribute data holdings and products to the world.

Throughout his career, Don was a firm believer in the use of commercially available tools and the use of standards. After graduating as an electrical engineer Don joined the CHS in 1979, where he was first involved in chart production hardware and software, before moving into system development for Electronic Navigational Chart production, and more recently the implementation of SDI technology for Web mapping and the exchange of data. At the international level, Don was active in the

development of IHO S-57 and the development of supporting production systems, latterly serving as the Vice Chairman of the IHO Transfer Standards Maintenance and Applications development (TSMAD) working group. He led the charge for, and was actively involved in, the development of the enhanced standard for hydrographic data exchange based on ISO TC211, which is now known as IHO S-100.

Don was the creator of The GeoPortal, a project devoted to making Canadian geospatial data holdings available interdepartmentally and to all Canadians. In recognition of this outstanding contribution to information resources management, Library and Archives Canada and the Council of Federal Libraries selected Don Vachon as the winner of the 2004 Agatha Bystram Award for Leadership in Information Management.

In 2005 Don moved from a CHS role to become Director of a newly created Integrated Science Data Management Branch in the Department of Science. This was formed by merging his group at CHS, which managed digital chart production and distribution, with the Marine Environmental Data Service, the oceanographic data archive centre for the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Don served as a mentor to many and his professionalism, energy, enthusiasm and humour inspired all who worked with him. He will be greatly missed.