



31ST CONFERENCE OF THE NORTH SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 25-27 June

The 31st Conference of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC) was hosted by the Royal Netherlands Navy Hydrographic Office from 25 to 27 June 2014. The Conference was held in the Naval Barracks in Amsterdam and was chaired by Evert Flier, the Hydrographer of Norway. Twenty-five delegates, the Manager of the GEBCO Digital Atlas and three Observers from industry attended the Conference. The ten IHO Member States of the Region (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom) were represented as well as Italy. The IHB Directing Committee was represented by Gilles Bessero.



The Conference reviewed topical issues related to the three Programmes of the IHO.

Under Programme 1, “Corporate Affairs”, Director Bessero reported on the status of the ratification of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention and on the preparation of the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC-5). The Conference reviewed the latest developments and perspectives with regard to the European Union (EU). The Commission tasked the Chair of the NSHC Working Group on EU Marine and Maritime Policies with transferring the on-going activities of the Working Group to the IHO-EU Network Working Group formed under the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee.

Concerning Programme 2, “Hydrographic Services and Standards”, the participants shared views and experience on crowd-sourcing, airborne and satellite-derived bathymetry and marine spatial data infrastructures. The Chair of the Commission was tasked with proposing to the Chair of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC) to extend the BSHC MSDI Working Group to the North Sea Region.

The discussions in relation with Programme 3, “Inter-Regional Coordination and Support”, focused on the implementation of the principles for the Worldwide ENC Database (WEND), noting the progress since the XVIIIth International Hydrographic Conference and the remaining shortcomings as well as the concerns expressed by the representatives of industry in relation to the limited commercial availability of ENCs in certain areas and locations. The Commission invited the Chairs of the Primar Advisory Committee and the IC-ENC Steering Committee to submit a joint progress report on harmonizing the two Regional ENC Coordinating Centres to the EIHC-5. The Conference also reviewed the status of international charts in the Region, the development of ENC schemes, the development of C-55 and the activities of the NSHC Tidal Working Group, Dover Strait Survey Strategy Working Group and Re-survey Working Group.



The manager of the GEBCO Digital Atlas provided an update on the GEBCO Project and invited further contribution from NSHC Member States. The industry representatives shared their views on recent technological developments.

The Commission decided to establish a web site similar to the BSHC web site, with Germany as the administrator.

At the end of the Conference, Captain Peter Kortenoeven, The Netherlands, took over the chairmanship and Mr. Michael Purcell, Ireland, became Vice-Chair. The next Conference is planned for June 2015 in Dublin, Ireland.

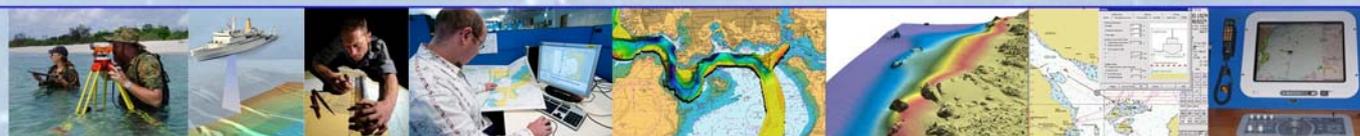


6TH MEETING BETWEEN THE IHO AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 25 June



Under the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission (EC) and the IHO on establishing co-operation on maritime affairs, the 6th EC-IHO meeting was hosted by the Royal Netherlands Navy Hydrographic Office at the Naval Barracks in Amsterdam on 25 June 2014. The meeting was chaired by France, as chair of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission Working Group on European Union Marine and Maritime Policies (NSHC/EU2MPWG). The meeting was attended by two representatives from the European Commission (DG Mare) and seventeen representatives from IHO Member States (France, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden). Director Gilles Bessero represented the IHB.

The meeting reviewed the development of a design study on a future joint European coastal mapping project in the perspective of a call for tender that should be issued by the European Commission in the second half of July. The meeting was informed about the consultation on seabed mining undertaken by DG Mare, the opportunities related to maritime issues in Horizon 2020 - the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation 2014-2020, and the objectives, contents and impact of the EU directive on maritime spatial planning which has been adopted by the European Parliament and is expected to come into force in September. The Vice-Chair of the IHO Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group, Ellen Vos, The Netherlands, reported on the significant contribution of the maritime community, including representatives from HOs, industry and academia, to the annual Conference on INSPIRE - the framework of the European Spatial Data Infrastructure, which was held in Aalborg, Denmark, on 16-17 June 2014.



CELEBRATION OF WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY AT THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERS Monaco, 18 June

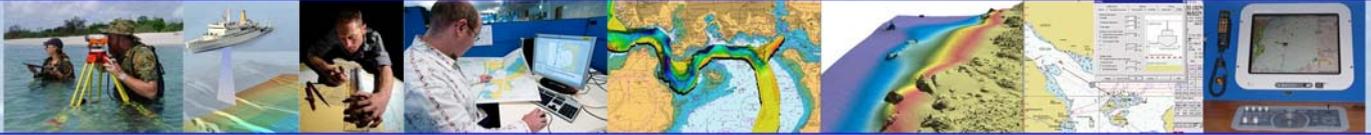
World Hydrography Day was celebrated in Monaco with a reception at the headquarters of the IHO on 18 June. The theme for this year's celebration is "*Hydrography - much more than just nautical charts*" - highlighting the significant value of hydrography to all human activities that take place in, on or under the sea.

Local dignitaries, government and diplomatic representatives, and other invited guests were graced with the presence of HSH Prince Albert of Monaco. The celebration also received a significant boost from the French Navy whose surveying vessel *La Pérouse* (Commanding Officer Christophe Thomassin) was berthed in Monaco's main harbour, Port Hercule.



President Ward addresses HSH Prince Albert and guests at the WHD celebration

The Hydrographer of France, Ingénieur général Bruno Frachon, also attended the celebration. In addition, the IHO was hosting a meeting of the IHO-IOC Sub Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN), which enabled the immediate past Hydrographer of Japan, Mr Shin Tani, and the Deputy Hydrographer-General of Canada, Dr Kian Fadiae, to be present, together with the other members and observers of the Sub Committee.



*HSH Prince Albert meets Dr Hans Werner-Schenke (Germany),
Chair and Ms Lisa Taylor (USA), Vice chair of SCUFN*

The welcoming speech delivered by IHO President Robert Ward presented the theme of this year's celebration and was concluded with a toast to all the world's hydrographers and their professional colleagues.



25TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS (FIG)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 16-21 June

The 25th Congress of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 16 to 21 June. The Congress attracted more than 2 500 participants from almost 100 countries. The Congress offered more than 170 technical sessions over the four conference days with around 550 presentations, 3-day exhibition, technical and social tours. Among the participants, the Hydrographers of Australia and Chile were present. The IHO was represented by Director Mustafa Iptes.

The theme of the 25th FIG Congress was “*Engaging the Challenges, Enhancing the Relevance*”. The Congress was opened by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Honourable Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak. In his opening speech, he highlighted the importance of geo-spatial information by stating that “We should work to improve the existing information infrastructure, including the spatial data infrastructure; and implement policies that ensure that spatial data is reliable, accessible for re-use, and can be easily integrated into collaborative environments”. The details of the Congress are available on the FIG web site (www.fig.net).



Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Honourable Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak delivering his welcoming address at the Opening Ceremony of the 25th FIG Congress

Director Iptes made a presentation on “*Hydrography, Nautical Charts, Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure and Blue Economy for the World We Want*” as one of the keynote speakers at the plenary session of the Congress. He mainly attended the FIG Commission 4 (Hydrography) programme which was chaired by Dr. Michael Sutherland (Canada, and Trinidad and Tobago) and provided briefings on “*Hydrographic Education, Training and Professional Development*” and “*Sustaining the Role of Hydrography in Support of the Blue Economy*”. It was confirmed that Ms. Angela Etuonovbe (Nigeria) will begin her term as Chair of Commission 4 in 2015 for the subsequent four years.



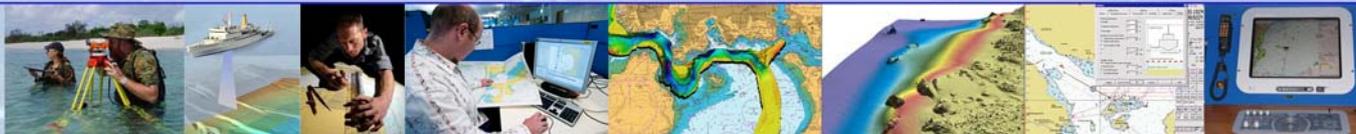
Key Commission 4 participants at the FIG Congress 2014

Director Iptes participated in the Young Surveyors Conference and gave the young surveyors a presentation on the “Importance of Hydrography, the IHO and its roles and the Blue Economy”.

The FIG General Assembly elected Prof. Chryssy Potsiou (Greece) as the new President of FIG for the term of 2015-2018 as successor of Mr. CheeHai Teo. The next FIG Event will be the FIG Working Week 2015 in Sofia, Bulgaria from 17 to 20 May 2015.



Rear Admiral Zaaim Bin Hasan, Hydrographer of Malaysia and guests at the WHD celebration held at the National Hydrographic Centre of Malaysia in Port Klang.



Taking advantage of their stay in Kuala Lumpur, Director Mustafa Iptes, the Hydrographer of Chile, Rear Admiral Patricio Carrasco, the Hydrographer of Australia, Commodore Brett Brace, and his Deputy Director, Mr Jasbir Randhawa, visited the National Hydrographic Centre (NHC) of Malaysia on 22 June in Port Klang and attended a celebration of World Hydrography Day (WHD). Local dignitaries, government representatives and some retired staff also participated in the WHD event. A welcoming speech delivered by Rear Admiral Zaaim Bin Hasan, Hydrographer of Malaysia was followed by an address on the theme of this year's celebration and highlights of the IHO activities by Director Iptes. The WHD celebration concluded with a reception.



27TH MEETING OF THE GEBCO SUB-COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES

IHB, Monaco, 16-20 June

The 27th meeting of the GEBCO Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) was hosted at the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) in Monaco, from 16 to 20 June 2014. SCUFN is tasked with selecting the names to appear in the products of the IHO-IOC General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO) project and on international nautical charts. The meeting, chaired by Dr Hans Werner Schenke (IOC representative) from the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI – Germany), was attended by 27 participants, including nine (four IOC and five IHO representatives) of the 12 SCUFN members, and 15 observers including Mr Shin Tani, Chair of the GEBCO Guiding Committee.

The meeting was opened by IHO President Robert Ward. He stressed the increasing importance of the tasks undertaken by SCUFN and its key role in progressively unveiling the mysteries of oceans and seas. He also took the opportunity in his welcoming address to thank the SCUFN members' and observers' supporting organizations.



Attendees at SCUFN-27, IHB, Monaco

SCUFN considered 74 new undersea feature names submitted by various bodies and supporting organizations: Brazil (3), China (19), Denmark (1), France (1), United Kingdom (3), Georgia (2), Japan (23), Republic of Korea (2), Malaysia (4), New Zealand (12) and Russian Federation (4). Thanks to the new on-line GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names, developed by the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (co-located at the US National Geophysical Data Center) and maintained by the IHB, and the provision of GIS files in advance, it was easier to review the proposals this year.

The new on-line Gazetteer (www.gebco.net → Data and products → Undersea feature names → view and download) is now fully operational and was used as part of evaluating the various proposals.



Most of the proposed names were accepted and will be included in the Gazetteer in the near future. Some others names remain undecided, awaiting additional information.

The meeting agreed to consider ways to more efficiently address the increasing list of pending names for which information, required in accordance with SCUFN standards, is generally missing. New interfaces for reviewing and submitting proposals were presented by Dr Hyun-Chul Han, SCUFN Member. The Sub Committee also decided to seek further information and guidance from the IHB and the GEBCO Guiding Committee before pursuing the possible development of a future product specification for undersea feature names based on the IHO S-100 geospatial data transfer standard.

Harmonization issues between procedures and definitions used by SCUFN and national/international organizations such as the NZGB¹ Undersea Names Committee, the ACUFN² and the Marine Regions project managed by the Flanders Marine Institute were discussed, in order to avoid duplication, and improve efficiency and interoperability in the future.

The meeting was closed with a vibrant tribute from the Chair of SCUFN and from the Members to Mr Michel Huet, IHB Assistant Director and SCUFN Secretary, who would be retiring shortly after the meeting, and who has been a cornerstone of SCUFN for some 24 years. Assistant Director Yves Guillam has now assumed the duties of Mr Huet.

The next SCUFN meeting is scheduled to take place in late 2015 and will be hosted by the DHN³ in Niteroi, Brazil.

¹ New Zealand Geographical Board.

² US Board on Geographical Names, Advisory Committee on Undersea Features.

³ Diretoria de Hidrografia e Navegação.



31ST MEETING OF THE IHO-IOC GEBCO GUIDING COMMITTEE (GGC XXXI)

IHB, Monaco, 13 – 15 June

The IHO-IOC GEBCO (General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans) Project is a joint project of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. The main objective of the GEBCO Project is to prepare and disseminate maps, grids, data files and other depictions of the ocean floor using all available bathymetric data by providing the most authoritative global dataset. The GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) has been appointed by the IHO and the IOC to manage and develop the Project within the framework of the IHO and IOC, to which it is responsible. The GGC supervises and guides its subordinate bodies, at present the Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM) and the Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) and the Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM). The 31st session of the IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC XXI) was held at the IHB in Monaco from 13 – 15 June. The President, Director Iptes and Assistant Director Wyatt represented the IHO Secretariat.



31st meeting of the IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC XXXI)

Three of the five appointed IHO representatives on the Guiding Committee were present. The Chair, Mr Shin Tani (IHO - Japan), reported the immediate retirement of Commander Paolo Lusiani (IHO - Italy) and the recent appointment of Ms Marzia Rovere (IOC - Italy) to an IOC vacancy. The Chair also noted the non-attendance of Mr Ngouanet Chrétien (IOC – Cameroon) and Commander Peush Pawsey (IHO - India), and both whose memberships would be reviewed.

The Chair and the President set the scene for the remainder of the meeting, asking members to focus on three key areas – awareness and profile of the Project, data and finances – so as to take the GEBCO Project forward and to maintain its role as the authoritative source and first place of search for ocean bathymetry. The growth in demand for data to support the ever-expanding development of the *Blue Economy* in the ocean domain was a repeated theme throughout the meeting. There was a clear understanding that data quality and coverage was the underpinning foundation on which the many uses and products would be



developed and that the GEBCO Project should be focused on obtaining and making bathymetric data available, and that it was for others to develop products and services from that data.

The GGC received brief reports from its Sub-Committees and endorsed the work which they had undertaken. The GGC also received reports from key personnel performing functions on behalf of GEBCO as well as reports from its parent bodies, IHO and IOC, on activities since the previous meeting. A detailed report was received covering education and outreach activities, the results of a year-long focused study.

The GGC devoted significant time considering its future direction and associated 10-year plan. It was agreed that the goals and vision should be guided by four main underpinning themes: human capacity, science and technology, outreach and education, and resources (human and financial), which in turn supported the three key areas of focus highlighted by the Chair and the President at the beginning of the meeting.

The Committee reviewed its work programme for the period 2013 – 2017 which had been approved by the IHO's Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) and commenced development of its Work Plan for 2015-2016. The Committee also reviewed its proposals to revise its Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for submission to IHO and IOC Member States for approval.

The 32nd meeting of the Committee will take place, together with meetings of TSCOM, SCRUM and the GEBCO Science Day, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, during the week 5 to 9 October 2015. Additionally Chile offered to host the 2016 meetings in Valparaiso with the dates to be advised.



64TH SESSION OF THE IMO TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE (TC64)

London, 11 - 13 June

The 64th session of the IMO Technical Cooperation Committee (TC64) was held at the IMO headquarters from 11 to 13 June 2014. The IHO was represented by Assistant Director Alberto Costa Neves.



*Mr Koji Sekimizu (left), IMO Secretary-General
and Assistant Director Alberto Costa Neves during IMO TC64.*

The IHO had submitted document TC64/INF.8 informing the Committee of the IHO Capacity Building Work Programme, including the training courses and technical visits made since TC63. The IHO had the opportunity to introduce the document during the discussion on Partnership for Progress. The IHO highlighted the activities jointly carried out by the IMO and the IHO, including training and a sub-regional seminar organized by the Maritime Organization of West and Central Africa (MOWCA), in cooperation with the Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (EAtHC) and the IHB. The IHO acknowledged the in-kind contribution from IMO and also from the Republic of Korea and Japan (through the Nippon Foundation) to the IHO Capacity Building Work Programme.

During the opening ceremony the IMO Secretary-General highlighted the need to take further action to improve the safety of domestic passenger ferries, following the tragic accident of the Sewol ship. The development of recommendations and guidelines for these domestic vessels should cover surveys, amongst other things. The Secretary-General also noted the progress made in the development of the Maritime Country Profile and the coming Mandatory Audit Scheme as key information to determine future allocation of technical assistance resources.

During the introduction of the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme Annual Report on 2013, the Committee acknowledged the in-kind support of the IHO in providing experts, logistical arrangements, administrative support and co-organization. The meeting was also informed on the cooperation agreement signed between the IMO and the IHO to provide a framework for the identification of common technical cooperation activities in Capacity Building.



TC64 provided the opportunity for the IHO delegate to meet and progress the planned joint activities with representatives of maritime administrations, regional organizations and members of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division.

Mrs Nancy Karigithu (Kenya) and Mr Zulkarnain Ayub (Malaysia) were re-elected as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Technical Cooperation Committee for 2015. The next session of the Technical Cooperation Committee is scheduled to take place from 23 to 25 June 2015.



19TH CONFERENCE OF THE BALTIC SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

Riga, Latvia, 10-12 June 2014

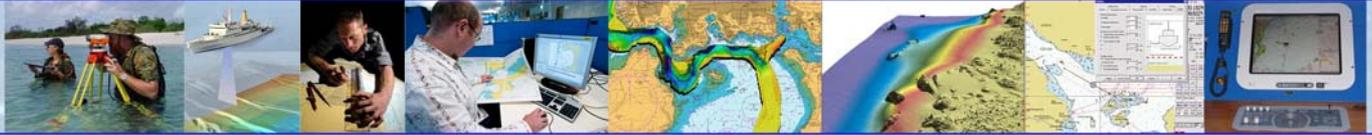
The 19th Conference of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC19) was held in Riga, Latvia, from 10 to 12 June, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Taivo KIVIMAE (Estonia). All full members of the Commission (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Sweden and Russian Federation) attended the conference. The United Kingdom also attended as an Observer and the IHB was represented by Director Mustafa IPTES.



The Participants at the 19th Conference of the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission

The BSHC19 covered a wide range of regional topics including the developments in each of the Member States, the latest status of hydrographic surveying and nautical charting including INT Charts, ENC production and BSHC cooperative projects. Following the opening of the conference by the Chair, and the review of the status of the list of actions from the previous meeting, Director Iptes briefed the Commission on current IHO issues and IHB activities and provided detailed information concerning the preparation of the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC-5). The members of the BSHC reported on their national activities since the 18th Meeting and reviewed on-going regional initiatives and projects such as the BSHC Working Group for Monitoring the Implementation of the Harmonized Resurvey Scheme (MWG), Baltic Sea Bathymetric Database Working Group (BSBDWG) and the Chart Datum Working Group (CDWG). The Commission also reviewed the outcome of the 6th meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) and the 4th meeting of World Wide ENC Database Working Group (WEND-WG).

The BSHC members agreed to finalize articles describing hydrographic developments in the Baltic Region for the next International Hydrographic Review (IHR) which will be a special Baltic-themed edition of IHR that will be published just before the EIHC-5.



At the end of the conference, Mr. Janis KRASTINS (Latvia) was elected as the new Chair of the BSHC and Captain Sergei Travin (Russian Federation), as the Vice Chair. It was agreed that the next conference of the BSHC will be hosted by the Russian Federation, in St. Petersburg, in September 2015. All the meeting documents are posted on the BSHC page of the IHO website.



MONACOLOGY-2014

Monaco, Principality of Monaco, 9-13 June

Monacology is an annual event held in Monaco and is aimed at raising school children's awareness about the environment and sustainable development. Monacology 2014 was held under the patronage of HSH Prince Albert II and HSH Princess Charlene of Monaco, and the Monaco Education Department, on Quai Antoine 1er, from 9 to 13 June, directly in front of the IHO Headquarters building.

The IHO Secretariat participated in Monacology for the second year running with an interactive display and stand. More than 340 pupils from local schools in Monaco and neighbouring France visited the IHO display and took part in activities guided by the IHB staff. Each visitor was able to discover the nautical charting dimension of one of the Adventures of Tintin, "The Shooting Star", or try their hand at completing a magnetic puzzle chart of the Mediterranean Sea. Each child received an IHO badge indicating they were a "Junior Hydrographer" in recognition of their efforts.

The IHO was honoured by a visit to its stand by HSH Prince Albert II on Monday, 9 June during the inauguration of the "Monacology Week" and Director Iptes explained the exhibits and activities related to Monacology. Monacology 2014 provided a good opportunity to raise public awareness of hydrography, to explain the role of the IHO to the local community and particularly to the younger generation. H.E. Michel Roger, Minister of State of Monaco, also visited the IHO stand on 13 June.



HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco visits the IHO stand



12TH MEETING OF THE BLACK AND AZOV SEAS WORKING GROUP (BASWG12)

Batumi, Georgia, 3-4 June

The 12th meeting of the Black and Azov Seas Working Group (BASWG12), which is a Working Group of the Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC), was held in Batumi, Georgia, on 3 and 4 June under the chairmanship of Captain (PhD) Erhan Gezgin, Hydrographer of Turkey. Twelve delegates attended the meeting. Five Black Sea States were represented: Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine. The IHB was represented by Director Mustafa Iptes. Director Iptes provided a briefing on current IHO issues and the work of the IHB, and also reported on the outcome of the 6th IRCC meeting held in Paris in May.



The participants at the 12th meeting of the Black and Azov Seas Working Group

The Member States reported on their national activities since the last meeting. The WG examined the INT chart and ENC schemes of the Black Sea and Azov Sea. New INT chart proposals and a draft ENC scheme proposed by Turkey were reviewed by the WG. The status of Maritime Safety Information coverage in the Black Sea was also discussed at the meeting. Georgia announced that it was considering the establishment of a new NAVTEX station in the region.



The WG reviewed the Capacity Building requirements of the Black Sea States for forwarding to the IHO Capacity Building Programme. World Hydrography Day activities and preparations for the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC-5) in October were also discussed at the meeting and Director Iptes provided the WG with detailed information.

The activities and the new developments of the BASWG will be reported to the next meeting of the MBSHC in Batumi, in June 2015.

Captain Gezgin was re-elected as Chair of the BASWG. The next BASWG meeting will be held in 2016. The venue and dates of the meeting will be determined later.



38TH ISO/TC 211 WORKING GROUP AND PLENARY MEETING Berlin, Germany, 2-6 June

The International Organization for Standardization's Technical Committee 211 (ISO/TC 211) is responsible for the development of the 1900 series of standards for geospatial information. The IHO is a liaison member of the ISO/TC211 Committee and participates in its standards development activities. These standards have been used for the development of the IHO S-100 framework standard and the IHO GII Registry. They are also relevant to the development activities of other HSSC technical working groups such as SNPWG and DIPWG.

The 38th ISO/TC211 Meeting was hosted by the German Institute for Standardization (DIN) and was sponsored by the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy and the Bavarian Administration for Surveying and Mapping. The IHO was represented by Barrie Greenslade (TSMADWG Chairman), Sue?? Marks (UKHO) and Anthony Pharaoh (IHB).



Participants at the 38th ISO/TC211 Meeting

The following two new projects of relevance to IHO standards development activities were approved and added to the programme of work:

- A new edition of the 19107 standard, dealing with spatial schemas is to be produced. The target date for the publication of this document as an International Standard (IS) is May 2018.
- A new standard (19157-2) which will include an XML schema implementation of ISO 19157 standard dealing with data quality will be produced. The target date for publication is May 2016.

The following documents were approved for publication as Draft International Standards (DIS):

19162 Well Known Text representation of coordinate reference systems;
and 19160-1 Addressing – Part 1: Resolution Conceptual model.



The IHO members participated in the work item activities dealing with the 19107 standard development, the work on imagery and coverage types, the development and implementation of a registry for geodetic codes and parameters, and the “Standards in Action” workshop that took place on the afternoon of 4 June and included presentations on the following topics:

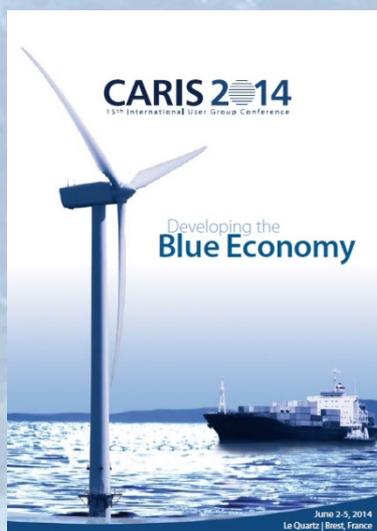
- Implementation of guidelines for African Mapping agencies (provided by Prof. Serena Coetzee - University of Pretoria).
- INSPIRE in practice: Experiences with INSPIRE data and services (Peter Parslow - Ordnance Survey).
- An Open-Source Registry Management Tool for the ISO Registry of Geodetic Codes & Parameters (Dr. René Thiele - Frankfurt Main University of Applied Sciences).
- Overview of ISO 19115-1 and what new (Dave Danko - ESRI).
- Service modelling with ISO 19119 – (Arne-Jorgen Berre - SINTEF).

All presentations and associated documents are available from the ISO/TC211 web site at www.isotc211.org.

The 39th Plenary and Working Group Meetings are scheduled to take place from 24 to 28 November in Shenzhen, China.



CARIS 2014 - 15TH INTERNATIONAL USER GROUP CONFERENCE Brest, France, 2-5 June



CARIS, a company well known in the hydrographic community for developing specialized geospatial software solutions, organizes a biennial User Conference to share experience and exchange on the latest technological trends and developments in data acquisition, processing and management with a variety of professionals from industry, academia and the public sector.

The 2014 edition of the User Conference took place in Brest, France, from 2 to 5 June 2014 and attracted more than 150 participants, including representatives of the following IHO Member States: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Iceland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal and United Kingdom. CARIS 2014 consisted of three components, a series of boot camps and user group meetings during the first two days, a plenary conference focusing on “developing the blue economy” during the last two days, in conjunction with an industry exhibition and a poster session. Director Gilles Bessero attended the plenary conference as one of the three keynote speakers.

The conference listened to about 25 presentations reviewing current issues related to the collection, processing and distribution of bathymetric and related data. Ingénieur général Bruno Frachon, the Hydrographer of France, opened the conference with a review of the current challenges facing Hydrographic Offices. Dr Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, opened the second day with a keynote address on the contribution of global ocean science to sustainable blue growth. In his closing keynote address, Director Bessero explained the role of the IHO in support of the blue economy and then reviewed the progress reported during the conference in relation to the issues relevant to the IHO. He concluded with an invitation for all participants to celebrate World Hydrography Day later in the month.