

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. RHC Involvement.

Note whether the country is an IHO member, YES /  NO and/or a member of the RHC. YES /  NO

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Note whether it was represented at the most recent Regional Conference YES /  NO

**Albania will send official request to participate as observer at the next conference of MBSHC (Kiev 2009)**

and whether a National Report was available to the RHC Study Team. YES /  NO

Where none of these apply, note whether there is any routine liaison with the HO of a RHC or IHO member nation.

**In 2003 Greece presented an Albanian National Report.**

### 2. Preliminary Liaison.

Record any local assistance with co-ordination of the visit.

**Maximum disponibility of all the personnel of Albanian Hydrographic Service**

### 3. Points of Contact.

Confirm the accuracy of details in the IHO Year Book of the local first point of contact for hydrographic and MSI matters.

**In 2007 was sent an update of email address as follows: [hydroal@gmail.com](mailto:hydroal@gmail.com)**

**Director: Commander Gezim KOCI**

**Tel. Number: 00355 52263192**

**Fax Number: 00355 52260243**

Comment on any recommendations for change.

**NONE**

Note any local difficulties in line accountability, and loss of top-level awareness and support for the national hydrographic capability, which will be discussed later in the report.

**NONE**

Report any changes in local legislation or organisation which will result in changes to information published by the IHO.

**Actually exists a "Manual of the laws on the seas" published in 2005, where referring at Albanese Law n° 9251 of 8 July 2004 (Naval Code of Albanian Republic, in article n° 14 is confirmed the existence of the Albanian Hydrographic Service (AHS)).**

## DESCRIPTION OF MARITIME ACTIVITIES

### 4. National Maritime Affairs.

Provide a thumb-nail sketch of the significance and salient features of the maritime sphere in the country visited.

#### **Commercial shipping**

#### **Ferry shipping**

**Randomly cruise ships (4 ships in 2007)**

**No leisure tourism**

**Local fishing boats**

**Petrol and gas ships in Vlore**

Note any individuals who have been especially helpful in building up this picture.

**Commander Gezim KOCI**

**Lieutenant Arian COPANI**

**Sub Lieutenant Nederim BAJRAKTARI**

**Commander Franco BRASILI (Italian Expert Delegation)**

### 5. Trade and Maritime Traffic.

Where possible provide statistics on shipping transit and port calls.

**NO knowledge from AHS, there is the intention to ask to the Minister of Transportation about this item.**

Describe the main components of sea-borne traffic, and the patterns of activity in national waters, under the following headings:

a. Through Routes. Note any regional through routes which pass through the country's waters.

**NONE**

b. Transshipment. Comment on the existence of any hub ports.

**DURRES. Main port in Albania, connected with Tirana by highway and railroad.**

**On construction and project highway connection to Shengjin and Vlore**

**Port of Vlore has less importance and traffic.**

c. Bulk Trades.

Comment on the significance of this element of international shipping and any impact on port development plans.

**NONE**

Note the existence of refineries and of bulk-loading facilities.

**There is a Off-Shore Terminal and Refinery near a fishery port (so called New Port) north westerly from port of Vlore.**

d. Feeder, Coasting and Local Trade.

Comment on volume and patterns, and list significant ports, including ferry ports.

**Ferry connection Durres, Vlore and Saranda (only passengers hydrofoil)**

e. Offshore Supply and Support.

Comment on significance and on any particular influence on MSI and GMDSS requirements.

**NONE**

f. Tourism - Cruise Liners. List all local ports of call and anchorages.

**Durres and in the gulf of Vlore (anchor).**

g. Tourism -Small Craft.

Comment on the significance of leisure cruising, and note major cruising areas and concentrations of marina developments. In some smaller island states this may be the most significant maritime segment of the economy.

**NONE**

**At the moment national leisure cruising is forbidden by a national law.**

h. Fisheries.

Note the volume and type of fishing in national and adjacent waters. Include both local artisanal and pelagic fisheries, and the presence of foreign vessels.

**Fishing Harbours: Shengjin, Durres, Vlore (NW), Himare, Saranda**

**Not knowlegde about foreing fishing boat.**

6. Responsibility for Safety of Navigation.

Record the authority which is responsible for the maintenance of channels, removal of wrecks, provision and maintenance of nav aids, and the promulgation of Notices to Mariners.

**Albanian Hydrographic Service is not responsible for the maintenance of channels and removal of wrecks. AHS is responsible for provision and maintenance of nav aids, and the promulgation of Notices to Mariners.**

Note any difficulties in conducting these tasks e.g. defective buoy-tenders.

**Very huge difficulties concerning lack of skilled personnel, equipment and fitted vessel; they own one small boat dedicated for lights and buoys maintenance.**

**No problems to advice competente Authorities (Coast Guard and Albanian Naval Forces) by letter, fax and messages about NtM.**

**Nowadays Coast Guard is dependent from Ministry of Transportation and not anymore from Albanian Navy.**

7. Defence Force Responsibilities.

Note the roles of the Navy/Defence Force Coast Guard (CG). e.g. SAR, fishery protection, and operations to counter traffic in drugs or illegal immigrants.

**The Albanian Navy is responsible for SAR and fishery protection.**

**Italian Custom Policy at the moment is responsible for counter traffic in drugs or illegal immigrants operations.**

**The Coast Guard has competence as Port Authority.**

Comment on any specific defence requirement for improved hydrographic data.

**It is intention of Albanian Navy to start with a complete restructuration of Hydrographic Service and to improve hydro survey in military ports (Shengjin, Durres, Saseno, Pasha Liman, Porto Palermo).**

8. Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Protection.

Note the existence of any marine National Parks or other management zones, and the existence of any climate monitoring stations.

**NONE.**

**It is forbidden fishing activity below 30 meters of depth.**

## OUTLINE S-55 ANALYSIS

### 9. Status of surveys within the National Maritime Zone.

Summarise the status of surveys within the territorial sea and EEZ, and comment on any areas of particular concern in the light of the foregoing description of maritime activities.

**NO ZEE. There isn't an official declaration.  
Limit of Albanian national water is 12 miles.  
Bilateral agreement with Montenegro Republic and Greece.**

Make particular note of any coastal areas which are charted purely from lead-line surveys.

**Before 1992 there was only explorative surveys made by AHS.  
From 1992 to 1994 US Navoceano performed littoral and coastal hydrographic surveys.  
From 2000 has taken place hydrographic surveys by Greece (as Project leader), UK and Italy sponsored by IHO in the Sea Power Symposium.  
AHS retain, up to now, to have detected sufficiently albanian waters.  
IHO Delegates has noted there are lack of information in littoral area South of Cape Linguetta. It is necessary to revise the data and coverage in compliance with new standards (S-44 5<sup>th</sup> edition – February 2008).**

Note any offshore banks or other shoal areas which require sidescan sonar coverage to bring the area to full modern standards.

**AHS report that exist a wrecks database and there are 2-3 shoal areas to shall be segnalized with bouys/navaids from AHS.**

Note the need to obtain co-ordinates for offshore oil and gas fields.

**AHS report that there are databases for pipe-lines, cables, platforms and oil/gas field.**

### 10. Collection and Circulation of Nautical Information.

Assess the effectiveness of this crucial process, based on information from the HO with charting responsibility as well as the national co-ordination point.

**If advised, AHS inform the competent authoties about nautical informations.  
AHS personnel report a very low attention in passing good information to AHS.**

Note any advice which has been given to local authorities, and detail any assistance which is required from the HO with charting responsibility.

**Not Available.**

### 11. Survey Capability.

Comment on the state of any local hydrographic service/unit, and draw attention to any supporting documentation in accompanying Attachments e.g. Mission and Output Plan documentation.

**Very very low survey capability.  
All AHS is involved in a deep restructuration.**

Summarise the future plans of the unit, and assess the sufficiency of manpower and equipment resources.

**Very very low sufficiency of vessels, manpower and equipment resources.  
It is planned that personnel attend to specialised courses (Cat A/B Hydrographic Surveyor) for 10 (ten) people in three years.  
Refitting of 1 hydrographic survey boat (provided by Italy in 2003) and 1 boat for navaids maintenance with portable equipment.**

### 12. Independent Chart Production Capability.

Note any charts which are being produced locally, and comment on their standard.

**NONE**

**In cooperation with Albanian Land Survey Department they printed three nautical charts with data provided by US Navy (surveys performed from Navoceano in 1992-1994).  
Do not exist Chart Catalogue, and the last survey was performed by AHS in 1987.**

Summarise discussion of implementation of the INT chart scheme in the region, noting. local comment on proposals for coverage.

**There is an INT Chart Scheme established during 2002 (Greece Project Leader) concerning:**  
- 4 INT Chart (1:75000)

- **4 INT Harbour Chart (Shengjing, Durres, Vlore, Saranda)**

Report clearly any local proposals for modification or extension of coverage of INT small-scale, large-scale and port schemes.

**AHS ask at nations involved in the Sea Power Symposium to send the charts published or data or repromat, in order to print by themselves or in coordination with the local Land Survey DPT.**

**AHS intend to improve data collection for military harbours for chart production.**

Report proposals for local surveys within the area of coverage of proposed new charts.

**As above**

## PROPOSALS FOR CO-ORDINATION AND CAPABILITY BUILDING

### 13. National Hydrographic Committee.

Note the existence of any high-level co-ordinating bodies, and assess their awareness of the contribution of hydrography to national policy-making.

**Since 1998 there is an Italian military Delegation of Experts (DIE) that is working to improve Albanian Defence and Police Forces, giving support in lots of field. This includes Hydrographic Service.**

State whether the Team has advised creation of a more focussed committee, and note any proposals for reporting route and frequency.

**IHO delegate note that could be necessary presence of tutors (specialized personnel) from other Countries.**

Note whether the local hydrographic service/unit is making a technical contribution to delimitation, offshore resource exploitation, environmental management, maritime traffic control, or any other areas of National Maritime Policy.

### **IN IMPROVEMENT.**

#### 14. MSI Organisation and GMDSS.

Summarise any proposals for improvement of liaison and effective passage of information between national and regional charting agencies.

**NOT AT THE MOMENT, MAYBE IN THE FUTURE.**

**AHS pass informations to neighbours countries, but do not receive any feedback.**

**GMDSS NOT AVAILABLE.**

Comment on the requirement for liaison with Transport Ministries or Port Authorities.

**AHS has link with Coast Guard concerning Lights/Nav aids and Wrecks. They need a link improvement.**

#### a. MSI (Navigational Warnings).

Note the existence of local navigational warnings and Notices to Mariners and other publications e.g.

**Existence of Sailing Direction (in Albanian language) dated 1992 (OUTDATED).**

Lists of Major Nav aids, Tide Tables. Comment on their reliability.

**There is a list of the lights (excel file), but not promulgated and dated 1992.**

**No Tide Tables and other documentation.**

Comment on discussions with local authorities, and summarise proposals offered for improvement of MSI in national waters.

**NOT AVAILABLE. IN IMPROVEMENT.**

#### b. Information on Ports and Harbours.

Comment on discussions with government representatives concerning the legal requirement and economic importance of timely supply of plans and co-ordinates of new development to responsible charting agencies.

**VERY LOW, IN IMPROVEMENT**

Note where the local hydrographic service/unit or port authorities need better top-level support in collation and dissemination of this information.

**VERY LOW, IN IMPROVEMENT**

Where there is no hydrographic unit comment on the capacity of the Land Survey Department to advise port authorities and other agencies.

**There was committed to a foreign company (Holland) collection of aerophotographs for land survey and chart production for land register office purposes.**

**In coordination with Italian Military Geographic Institute, in the past years and in 2007 were performed geodetic GPS surveys, to improve ITRS 89 geodetic net (WGS84) in Albania.**

c. GMDSS Status. Summarise the status of GMDSS in local waters, and any advice offered to local authorities.

**NONE**

15. Hydrographic Capability.

Comment on the adequacy of top-level support and resourcing for the local hydrographic service/unit.

**IT IS A VERY DEEP PLAN OF RESTRUCTURATION, that need to be approved by both Italian and Albanian Authority.**

Summarise any proposals which the Team has made for revision of line accountability of the unit.

**IT IS A VERY DEEP PLAN OF RESTRUCTURATION.**

Where there is no local hydrographic unit, comment on the requirement for independent capability.

**VERY LOW.**

a. Provision of Survey Data.

Clarify accountability for this task. Note any commitment to pass data to other Hos with INT or primary charting responsibility in the area.

**AHS has not capacity to accomplish to this task.**

**During Sea Power Symposium activity, hydrographic data were collected by:**

- **Greece (south albanian region) – Project Leader**
- **Italy (central albanian region)**
- **UK (north albanian region).**

List any data which has been passed to the Team for onward transmission.

**NONE.**

**USA passed reformat to print chart (some area of data are outdated 1992/1994)**

b. Survey Capability.

Summarise the Team's judgment of current and potential capability. Comment on advice given by the Team.

**CURRENT: NONE.**

**FUTURE: INCREASING (2-3 years)**

**IHO delegate suggest to AHS that personnel sent to attend specific courses (Cat A/B) need to remain performing hydrographic and cartographic activity for more than 8-10 years, giving stability in the improvement process of build up of the service.**

Identify areas where RHC members could assist by loan of experts or equipment.

**VESSEL/SURVEY BOAT, SURVEY EQUIPMENT, DATABASE/COMPILATION SW/HW FOR HYDROGRAPHIC DATA MANAGEMENT AND CHART COMPILATION/PRODUCTION if requested from AHS through main Authorities.**

**Training and Support in Italy under approval by Italian Defence Headquarters**

Note opportunities for regional collaboration.

**Italy if approved by Italian Defence Headquarters.**

c. Chart Production.

Summarise the Team's judgment on current and potential capability, and on viability of local chart production. Comment on advice given by the Team.

**No current capability and very low potential capability on chart production if not assisted by skilled nation IHO member**

**In improvement.**

Assess quality of routine data management, paying particular attention to such measures as assessment of density of sounding coverage and development of capability in plotting bottom contact detail from side-scan sonar.

**NONE. AHS has no capability**

Comment on the balance of effort devoted to data collection compared to local production of publications.

**NONE. AHS has no capability**

d. Potential for Regional Activity.

Comment on volume of work in local waters and remaining capacity to assist other states in the region.

**NONE. AHS has very low capability of work in local water and no capability to assist others in the region.**

Make recommendations on the ability of the hydrographic service/unit to provide technical hydrographic advice to neighbouring states.

**NONE. AHS has no capability**

Note any potential for regional burden-sharing e.g. DGPS provision.

**NONE. AHS has no capability or provision**

## PROPOSALS FOR ASSISTANCE

### 16. Training.

Identify training priorities, and comment on advice given by the Team.

**Main priority is to form 10 Surveyor (Cat A/B) from military personnel during next three years and personnel specialized in chart compilation and production.**

**There are 3 civilian personnel, but only 1 person is young enough (30 year old, topographer) with modern knowledge of automatic data processing.**

Note the status of any National Indicative Plan.

**IN IMPROVMENT by Albanian Ministry of Defence.**

Comment on response to any assistance offered by IHB e.g. reserved places on the IMA Cat B Course.

**Any assistance and proposal offered from IHB and/or other IHO member nations should be very positive and taken into account by AHS.**

Summarise proposals for training available from other RHC or IHO member states.

**Training course for 2 people in 2007/2008 offered by ITALY (with support and fund assessment from Italian Delegation of Expert)**

### 17. Equipment.

Summarise any advice given for equipment procurement options, or for technical advice.

**In every field and expecially for:**

- **New survey boat and equipment for Special Order and Order 1 hydrographic survey (S-44 5<sup>th</sup> Ed.)**
- **New Hydrographic Ship for littoral and coastal survey.**
- **Equipment for geodesy and topography (GPS and total station/level)**
- **Establish 1 or 2 permanent Tide Gauge station (complete absence)**
- **Creating and managing an hydrographic database (with SW/HW and Server/Lan connection)(**
- **Creating and managing a cartographic database for future digital and paper chart production (with SW/HW and Server/Lan connection)**

Note where any special conditions (e.g. local topography and disruptive masking of GPS) need to be taken into account.

**Not Available**

### 18. Funding.

Confirm that local authorities are aware of the information in IHO Paper M-2.

**CONFIRMED**

**IHO delegate released a pdf file of IHO publication M-2, AHS is evaluating the content.**

Note any specific proposals for advice or lobbying by RHC or IHB.

**AS CONVENIENT**

## FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

19. Encouragement of Formation of a NHC, Development of a National Hydrographic Strategy, and RHC Membership. Summarise recommendations for contacts, or supply of documentation. ACTION: **IHB; RHC Chairman.**

**Need to build in three years a minimum team of 10 Hydrographic Surveyor, trained with Cat A/B Courses.**

**A project sponsored by DIE is undergoing for approval from Italian Defence Head Quarters and Albanian Ministry of Defence.**

20. Encouragement of Effective and Timely Collection and Promulgation of Hydrographic Information.

a. Note any commitment by the Team to forward Hydrographic Notes with urgent MSI. Note where copies are to be supplied to Hydrographic Unit and Maritime Services/Port Authorities to give them a format for subsequent routine communication of updates. ACTION: **Study Team.**

**No comment available at the momente by IHO delegates.**

b. Note any requirement for MSI/SAR liaison with local authorities. ACTION: **NAVAREA Coordinator.**

**No comment available at the momente by IHO delegates.**

21. Encouragement of Development of Hydrographic Capability. Note areas where the Hydrographic Unit merits assistance:

a. Options for provision of consultative support including temporary secondments. ACTION: **RHC Members.**

**No comment available at the momente by IHO delegates.**

b. Options for transfer or loan of equipment. ACTION: **RHC Member States.**

**In 2003 Italian Hydrographic Institute give a survey boat fitted with DGPS and SB Echosounder for littoral surveys (nowadays IHO S-44 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. Order 1b compliant)**

**From 1998 it is on-going the support given by Italy with one ship, personnel and equipment in maintenance and built-up nav aids, lights and signals.**

c. Assessment of the case for regional investment in equipment purchase e.g. DGPS. ACTION: **RHC.**

**No comment available at the momente by IHO delegates.**

d. Recommendations for follow-up technical assistance in development of a National Indicative Plan for training funding. ACTION: **RHC and IHB.**

**Provided by DIE funds for training courses in hydrography and for lights/nav aids service and a main restructuration project for Albanian Hydrographic and Lights/Nav aids Service.**