

IHB File S3/8152

<p>CIRCULAR LETTER 31/2001 29 June 2001</p>

**STUDY OF THE AVAILABILITY AND COMPATIBILITY OF ENCS TO SATISFY
THE WORLDWIDE REQUIREMENTS OF SHIPPING**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The 6th IHO WEND Meeting, which was held from 18-19 May 2001 in Norfolk, Virginia, USA, recorded its serious concern that the provision of ENCs did not necessarily meet the requirements of the users. This concern related, in particular, to the number of ENCs that are commercially available and to whether those that are available, are of areas required by the maritime community.

WEND concluded that a study was urgently required and that this information should be collated and evolve into a plan that would address these issues. The study and plan would form a part of the WEND Report to the XVth International Hydrographic Conference to be held in April 2002. The study will be undertaken by the IHB with the assistance of Member States, Chairpersons of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC), if they exist, or Coordinators of INT Chart Regions if they do not exist, specialist consultants and give reference to both the PRIMAR and SHARED Chart Catalogues.

The information required is as follows:

- 1) The present situation of ENC coverage;
- 2) Future plans for intensifying ENC production;
- 3) The relationship of commercially available ENCs to the main shipping routes and ports;
- 4) Any need for assistance and support, including training to meet these requirements.

RHC Chairpersons and INT Coordinators have been requested to co-ordinate the collection of the data in regard to ENC coverage and Members of the various Commissions and INT Regions are requested to return the attached questionnaire (Annex A) to their Commission Chairperson or INT Coordinator. Information on major ports and shipping routes, if available, should also be directed to them.

While some national reports were submitted to the 12th CHRIS Meeting held during October 2000 and then updated at the 6th WEND Meeting of May 2001 (see Document WEND/6/7A "Worldwide ENC Production/Development", available from the IHO Website in the MS section), Member states are earnestly requested to ensure that the most recent and accurate information is submitted for this study.

RHC Chairperson and INT Coordinators have also been requested to obtain similar information on possible ENC production by non-Member States and, if possible, the important ports and routes of these States. Member States are requested to facilitate the work of the Chairperson or Coordinator in this regard.

As it is likely that much of the information related to ports and shipping routes is more readily available from other international organisations, the IHB intends contracting the services of a consultant, conversant with these issues, within the limitations of the current IHB budget.

The Portuguese Institute of Hydrography has also kindly offered the services of two of their staff to assist with the study.

Information on the Chairperson and Coordinator, and the composition of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions and INT Chart Regions are also attached (Annex B).

Members of the RHCs are requested to forward the completed questionnaires to their Commission Chairperson or INT Coordinator before **15 September 2001**.

The IHB is aware that a survey on "ENC Data Production Capability" for the MBSHC area has already been conducted based on a questionnaire prepared by the Italian HO. Responses received have been copied to the IHB. It is suggested however that the questionnaire be completed, as its format has been revised and there is a requirement for graphical indices.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Rear Admiral Neil GUY
Director

Encl: Annexes A and B

Country / Organisation:

Date:

QUESTIONNAIRE ON ENC DEVELOPMENT STATUS

1. Number of S-57 Edition 3 ENC's (listed by usage bands):

Usage Band	ENC Cells Produced	% Total ENC Coverage	Equivalent Paper Charts	ENCs in one year ahead	ENCs on the market (with updating service)
Berthing					
Harbour					
Approach					
Coastal					
General					

Note: Graphical indexes (digital if possible) displaying the areas covered by the ENC's produced and programmed are very necessary.

2. Software tools utilized for ENC production and Quality Control (please indicate system, producer and how many stations you have):

- ENC Production tools (capable of S-57 Exchange Set publishing): _____

- ENC Quality Control tools: _____

- ENC Maintenance tools (capable of S-57 Updating profile generation): _____

Are these tools considered sufficient for your current ENC production needs? If not, please indicate why and what additions and/or changes should be made.

3. Please classify capability and training level of hydrographers / cartographers or other HO personnel (indicate the number of personnel in each category):

Current level of Expertise	<i>Knowledge</i> of paper chart production	<i>Experience</i> in paper chart production	<i>Knowledge</i> in ENC production	<i>Experience</i> in ENC production
HIGH				
MEDIUM				
LOW				

Note: Personnel may be counted in more than one category as applicable.

Is current personnel know-how sufficient for ENC production needs? If not, are adequate training programs available for improving HO personnel? Please add any additional comments.

4. What are the primary obstacles to ENC's being commercially available?

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Comment</i>
Lack of quality source data?			
Lack of ENC production systems?			
Lack of expert personnel?			
Lack of adequate distribution mechanism?			
Other?			

5. View of ENC development in the future and intentions for pursuing it?

IHO REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSIONS**1. Nordic Hydrographic Commission (NHC)**

Chairperson: Mr. Å. MAGNUSSON (Sweden)

Members: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden.

2. North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC)

Chairperson: Mr. H. HAFSTEINSSON (Iceland)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. Å. MAGNUSSON (Sweden)

Members: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, UK.

3. East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC)

Chairperson: Mr. WANG JINFU (China)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. KIM HA JIN (Republic of Korea)

Members: China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand.

Observers: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, UK, USA.

4. US/Canada Hydrographic Commission (USCHC)

Co-Chairpersons: Captain D.B. MACFARLAND (USA (NOAA))
Mr. A.D. O'CONNOR (Canada)

Members: USA, Canada.

5. Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC)

Chairperson: Dr. Z. GRŽETIC (Croatia)

Members: Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Monaco, Russian Federation, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Yugoslavia.

Associate Members: Bulgaria, Georgia, Israel, Malta, Palestinian Authority, Romania, Slovenia.

Observers: UK, USA.

6. Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC)

Chairperson: Mr. T. PRELA (Estonia)

Vice-Chairperson: Adm. A. KOMARITSYN (Russia)

Members: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden.

Associate Members: Latvia, Lithuania.

7. Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (EAtHC)

Chairperson: Capt. J.M. NODAR CRIADO (Spain)

Vice-Chairperson: Vice Admiral J. TORRES SOBRAL (Portugal)

Members: France, Morocco, Nigeria, Portugal, Spain.

Associate Members: Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal.

Observers: UK, USA.

8. South-East Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SEPHC)

Chairperson: Rear Admiral Carlos Humberto PINEDA GALLO (Colombia)

Members: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru.

9. South-West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)

Chairperson: Capt. B. KAFER (Australia) (from 1 August 2001)

Vice-chairperson: Mr. F. MAHARAJ (Fiji)

Members: Australia, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, UK, USA.

10. Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico Hydrographic Commission (CGMHC)

Chairperson: Mr. Wyn WILLIAMS (UK)

Vice-Chairperson: Mr. C. FRANCIS (Jamaica)

Members: Colombia, Cuba, France, Jamaica, Netherlands, Trinidad and Tobago, UK, USA, Venezuela.

Associate Members: Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Santa Lucia.

11. Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)

Chairperson: Mr. A. GOVE (Mozambique)

Members: France, Norway, Republic of South Africa, UK.

Associate Members: Angola, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Portugal, Seychelles, Tanzania.

12. ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC)

Chairperson: Mr. M.R. GHADERI (Iran)

Members: Bahrain, Iran, Oman, United Arab Emirates.

Associate Members: Kuwait, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom.

Observers: Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), Middle East Navigation Service (MENAS).

13. South West Atlantic (INT Charting – Region C1)

Coordinator: Vice Admiral Ivan PEREIRA ARÊAS, Hydrographer of Brazil

(¹): Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Suriname, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA.

14. Indian Ocean (INT Charting – Region J)

Coordinator: Rear Admiral K. R SRINIVASAN, Hydrographer of India

(¹): Egypt, France, Germany, India, Japan, Pakistan, Russia, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, USA.

(²): Bangladesh, Djibouti, Erytraea, Israel, Jordan, Maldives, Myanmar; Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen.

15. IHO Hydrographic Committee on Antarctica

Chairperson: Rear Admiral N.R. GUY (IHB)

Members: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of South Africa, Russian Federation, Spain, UK, Uruguay, USA (NIMA & NOAA).

¹ IHO MS publishing charts or hydrographic information in the region.

² Non-MS in the region which have a genuine interest in nautical charting and which could become associate members of regional groups.

Observers:

Ukraine; Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP); Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR); IHO Data Center for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB); General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO); Standing Committee on Antarctic Logistics and Operations (SCALOP); Australian Antarctic Division; Antarctica New Zealand; International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators (IAATO).