

REPORTS ON OCEAN MAPPING

Dear Sir,

We are pleased to send you herewith, for your information, one copy of each of the following Reports:

1. Eighteenth Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee, Kobe, Japan, 23-25 April 2001 (also including the Eighteenth Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Digital Bathymetry, Tokyo, Japan, 18-20 April 2001).

Your attention is particularly drawn to the following sections of the Report:

§ 5.1 (13)	Future of GEBCO
§ 5.2 (23 & 33)	Commercial sponsorship
§ 5.7 (49)	GEBCO Strategic Planning Committee
§ 6.1 (50) and Annex X	GEBCO Digital Atlas
§ 6.5 (96 & 98) and Annex XI	IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry
§ 6.5 (101)	GEBCO Plotting Sheets
§ 6.9 (113)	Print-on-Demand and 6 th Edition of GEBCO
§ 7 (128)	Promotion of GEBCO
§ 8 (134)	Undersea Feature Names
§ 9 (135)	Global ocean-floor mapping project
§ 11.1 (139 & 140)	Continental margin data
§ 12 (148 & 151) and Annex VII	GEBCO Centenary Conference

The next GEBCO Meetings will take place at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, USA, from 15 to 21 May 2002. They will consist of:

- GEBCO Officers: Afternoon of 20 May and all day 21 May;
- GEBCO Sub-Committee on Digital Bathymetry: All day 16 May and morning of 17 May;
- GEBCO Strategy Planning Committee: All day 15 May and afternoon of 17 May; and
- GEBCO Centenary Organising Committee: Morning of 20 May.

The GEBCO Guiding Committee is chaired by Sir Anthony Laughton (UK). More information can be obtained on the GEBCO website (www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/gebco/gebco.html). This Report can also be downloaded from the GEBCO website.

2. Eighth Session of the IOC Consultative Group on Ocean Mapping (CGOM), St Petersburg, Russian Federation, 10-14 May 2001.

CGOM is the umbrella body for GEBCO and all International Bathymetric Chart (IBC) projects.

This Report includes summaries of the status of IBC projects: IBCM (§ 4.2), IBCCA (§ 4.3), IBCEA (§ 4.4), IBCWIO (§ 4.5), IBCWP (§ 4.6) and IBCAO (§ 4.7). A GEBCO Report is also provided in Annex VI.

It should be noted that Recommendations in Annex IV and the draft Resolution in Annex V were adopted by the IOC Assembly in July 2001. This included the establishment of a new IBC project for the South East Pacific, the inaugural meeting of which took place at the Chilean HO (SHOA) in October 2001.

Please note that a diagram illustrating the status of development of IBC projects has been included in the November 2001 issue of the International Hydrographic Bulletin.

The CGOM is chaired by Dr. Gunter Gierman (Germany).

This Report can also be downloaded from the GEBCO website (see para. 1 above).

3. Third Meeting of the Editorial Board for the International Bathymetric Chart of the Arctic Ocean (IBCAO), Durham, NH, USA, 27-28 May 2001.

IBCAO is a very dynamic ocean-mapping project established in 1996. Its activities culminated with the recent production of a gridded data set covering the Arctic Ocean at 2.5 km interval (see p. 20). IBCAO is seen as a model for future bathymetric compilations and for other IBC projects. The main points in the report are mentioned below:

§ 1 (p. 2, 1 st para.)	Beta gridded data set
§ 4.3.0	Conversion to general GIS formats
§ 4.4.0 (pp. 17 & 18)	Inclusion of IBCAO data in the GDA
§ 5 (pp. 19 & 20)	Estimation of errors in sparse bathymetric geophysical data sets
pp 20 & 21	IBCAO version 1.0
pp 21 & 22	The future of IBCAO

IBCAO is chaired by Mr. Ron Macnab (Canada). More information on this project is available on the IBCAO website (www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/bathymetry/arctic/arctic.html). The attached IBCAO Report can also be downloaded from this website (19 Mb).

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,



Rear Admiral Neil GUY
Director

Encl: (3)