



IHB File No. S3/8152

CIRCULAR LETTER 49/2005
11 May 2005

9TH WEND MEETING, 7-8 APRIL 2005, MONACO

Final Minutes

Ref: Circular Letter 39/2005 dated 18 April 2005

Dear Hydrographer,

1. The 9th Worldwide Electronic Navigational Chart Database (WEND) Committee meeting took place at the IHB, Monaco, on 7-8 April 2005, under the Chairmanship of Captain Roger L. Parsons, USA-NOAA. Forty-eight representatives from twenty-five Member States and five observing organizations deliberated on numerous issues of importance relating to the production and distribution of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC). The full proceedings are summarized in the minutes that can be found on the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr > Committees > WEND). A list of actions arising from this meeting is provided in **Annex A**.

2. The meeting took a focused view of the obstacles to ENC and ECDIS use from the mariner's perspective. The concerns specifically addressed were:

- World-wide ENC coverage at appropriate scale;
- Simple and unencumbered distribution system;
- A reasonable licensing and pricing policy.

The perspective of the mariner was offered by representatives of the shipping industry (International Council of Cruise Lines) and a navigation institute (UK Royal Institute of Navigation), and by Capt. Paul HAILWOOD, whose report was contracted for by the UKHO. While each of the presentations had a slightly different point of view, in total the issues of most concern to the mariner were availability, both in coverage and in access, and a sensible pricing and licensing policy.

3. The WEND Task Group reported on its activities over the year and proposed numerous changes to the WEND Principles that placed greater emphasis on, and suggested more concrete actions toward, attaining sufficient coverage, efficient distribution and common-sense pricing and licensing. These changes were submitted to Member States, for their approval, by Circular Letter 39/2005. The Committee also approved the continuation of the WEND Task Group under their current Terms of Reference.

4. Reports from Regional Hydrographic Commissions, RENCs and Member States indicated progress in several areas. Of note is the availability, free of charge, of four small scale ENCs, produced by the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC), covering the South China Sea.

Australia reported on the ease with which they arranged for distribution as a satellite or "icicle" of IC-ENC. Japan (JHA) announced their new pricing policy for ENCs.

5. The meeting provided an excellent forum for discussion of new concepts. A "pay per use" model of licensing ENCs was introduced and the USA-NOAA policy of distributor certification was explained.

Specific dates and venue for the 10th WEND were not set and pending a Member State's offer to host the next meeting, the IHB is planning to host it in April 2006.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Barbor", written in a cursive style.

Rear Admiral Kenneth BARBOR
Director

Encl: Annex A - Action Items arising from the 9th WEND Meeting

ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE 9th WEND MEETING

Action Number	Paragraph Number	Subject	Action(s)	Status (May 05)
1	2	WEND Chair and Vice Chair	IHB to inform Member States that Capt. Roger PARSONS (USA-NOAA) and Capt. Abri KAMPFER (South Africa) have been confirmed as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the WEND Committee, respectively.	Done (see CL 39/05)
2	3.2	ECDIS Software Testing	France to contact IEC TC80 regarding recommended changes to ECDIS type-approval testing.	Ongoing
3	3.2	Submission of documents to WEND meetings	IHB to post on the IHO website the “Guidelines for the Submission of Reports and Proposals for Consideration by WEND”, as contained in Doc. WEND9-3D.	Done
4	3.2	ENC production assistance and QMS	MS to seek / provide ENC production assistance and Quality Management System implementation.	Ongoing
5	4.2.2	Revision of the WEND Principles	IHB to seek MS’ approval of the revised WEND Principles, as contained in Annex E to the Minutes of WEND/9.	Done (see CL 39/05).
6	4.2.2	ENC Distribution	MS to work with the existing two RENCs.	Ongoing
7	9	WEND Task Group	WEND TG to continue its work to stimulate cooperation within RHCs and monitor ENC development (e.g. small-scale ENC schemes).	Ongoing