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21 December 2007

1st EXTRAORDINARY WEND MEETING, 30 OCTOBER 2007, MONACO

MEETING OF IHO MEMBER STATES, 31 OCTOBER 2007, MONACO

References: a) CL70/2007 dated 20 July
b) CL79/2007 dated 4 September
c) CL85/2007 dated 25 September

Dear Hydrographer,

I. EXTRAORDINARY WEND MEETING

1 The 1st extraordinary meeting of the Committee on WEND (X-WEND1) took place at the IHB on 30 October 2007 under the Chairmanship of Captain Abri Kampfer (South Africa) to examine the status of production of ENC's and the possible problems that are connected with this and to discuss and decide the actions that are required for the IHO to fulfil its commitments to achieve adequate coverage, availability, consistency and quality of ENC's by 2010, in accordance with the relevant Resolutions approved at the 17th International Hydrographic Conference. The meeting was attended by representatives from 31 Member States, both RENCs, a number of accredited Non-Governmental International Organizations (NGIOs), and the Directing Committee of the IHB. The full proceedings are summarized in the [minutes](#) that can be found on the IHO website (www.iho.int > Committees > WEND).

2 Various presentations were made to the meeting, including estimates on the current global coverage of ENC and the reported ENC coverage forecasts for 2010. Areas where there is limited or no current ENC production plans were identified. Information related to ENC consistency and ENC pricing was provided.

3 The Committee was briefed on the discussions at this year's meeting of the IMO Sub Committee on the Safety of Navigation (NAV 53) regarding carriage requirements for ECDIS. The WEND Committee was briefed on the comments made by delegates at that meeting and on the significant importance to the IHO of ensuring that it presents a comprehensive and persuasive report of the status of global ENC coverage and availability at the next meeting of NAV (NAV 54) in July 2008, where a decision on mandatory carriage requirements for ECDIS will be made.

4 The Committee then drew up a list of topics that IHO and its Member State Hydrographic Offices must address to ensure that the IHO can provide an appropriate report to IMO NAV at its next meeting. Principal amongst these topics was a priority to ensure adequate ENC coverage for the world's major trading routes and ports, improving the consistency of ENC's, and acknowledging that the price of ENC's is a factor in the uptake of ECDIS.

5 The Committee also strongly encouraged Hydrographic Offices to follow the IHO guidelines on consistency of ENC data, especially the use of SCAMIN and noted that RENCs and RHCs have a vital role to play in ensuring consistency of ENCs.

6 The Committee agreed that ENC producer nations should take account of the comments made during the meeting regarding mariners' feedback on ENC pricing when they next consider their ENC pricing and distribution policies.

7 The Committee also provided outline guidance to the IHB on how the IHO's position should be presented at NAV 54.

8 The outcomes from X-WEND1 are summarized at **Annex A**. Member States are invited to act as appropriate on the outcomes in Section 1. The IHB will take action as soon as possible on the outcomes listed in Section 2.

9 The 11th WEND will be held in Tokyo, Japan, on 1-5 September 2008, in conjunction with the 4th ECDIS Stakeholders Forum (3-4 September).

II. MEETING OF IHO MEMBER STATES

10 A meeting of IHO Member States was held at the IHB on 31 October 2007 to consider the outcomes of the 1st Extraordinary Meeting of the Committee on WEND (X-WEND1) held the previous day. The meeting was attended by the representatives from 31 Member States who had attended the Extraordinary Meeting of the Committee on WEND and the Directing Committee of the IHB. The full proceedings are summarized in the [minutes](#) that can be found on the IHO website (www.iho.int > Committees > WEND). These minutes have been put on the "Member States only" section of the IHO website and are therefore password protected.

11 The UKHO provided a detailed brief on its proposals to help increase the rate of ENC production and ENC consistency in those areas around the world where the major trading routes will otherwise not be adequately covered by ENCs in the near future. The UKHO identified that 90% of the world's international shipping trades between 800 ports. 107 of these 800 ports together with certain areas along the routes between these ports are likely to require some form of production assistance if continuous ENC coverage is to be achieved relatively quickly. The meeting agreed that the UKHO proposals have some merit and should be brought to the attention of all Member States for consideration. The UKHO explanatory paper (Doc. [MSonly.INF1](#)) is available from the password protected section of the IHO website (www.iho.int > Committees > WEND > MS only Docs). Member States' attention is also drawn to the associated UKHO paper "Proposals for supporting the IHO on ENCs and promoting the uptake of ENCs by SOLAS users" which was referred to at the meeting (Doc. [MSonly.04A](#)).

12 The meeting discussed the outcomes of the X-WEND1 meeting and then added more detail to those outcomes. Specific actions required prior to NAV 54 were identified. These included that the IHO report to NAV 54 should include:

- ENC coverage progress and predictions.
- the various IHO and other plans and initiatives that are in hand for ENC coverage.
- illustrations of some examples routes that are or will soon be covered by ENC.
- practical examples of the progress and improvements that have lately been made in harmonizing data.
- an explanation of ENC pricing policies including pricing trends and history.
- the increasing take-up rates for ENCs.

13 The meeting identified some specific actions that Member States could undertake including:

- participation in regional assistance programs.
- ensuring that their national maritime administrations were well informed on ENC and ECDIS.

14 The meeting agreed that the IHB should arrange an IHO information session/seminar at NAV 54 (supported by UKHO, RENCs and others) prior to discussion in plenary. This should take a similar form to ones delivered to earlier sessions of NAV.

15 A summary of the actions / outcomes from the meeting of IHO Member States is at **Annex B**. The IHB will act on them as soon as possible. A meeting of the WEND Task Group has been planned on 28-29 January 2008 to coordinate preparations for NAV 54.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Ward', with a period at the end.

Captain Robert WARD
Director

Annex A- Outcomes from the 1st Extraordinary WEND Meeting
Annex B- Actions / Outcomes from the Meeting of IHO Member States

OUTCOMES FROM THE 1st EXTRAORDINARY WEND MEETING (X-WEND1)

1. X-WEND1 encourages all IHO Member States to:
facilitate global ENC production through:
 - Regional Hydrographic Commissions and the active monitoring of progress and the coordination of cooperative programs between members and others in their regions, and
 - through assistance programs as part of individual bi-lateral arrangements.
2. X-WEND1 invites the IHB to:
 - Contact those States that have been indicated as unlikely to achieve adequate ENC coverage by 2010 or whose intentions are unknown, and then;
 - to approach the relevant authorities (including at senior governmental levels) using appropriate diplomatic, inter-governmental or other points of contact to raise the levels of awareness and commitment to provide appropriate hydrographic services, especially ENC coverage,
 - Monitor and report on the production and availability of ENCs,
 - Foster appropriate regional cooperation through RHCs,
 - Encourage IMO delegations to liaise with their relevant hydrographic authorities concerning ENC coverage,
 - Seek assistance through capacity building measures where appropriate and available, and
 - Advise States in seeking loan or grant aid.

MEETING OF IHO MEMBER STATES, 31 OCTOBER 2007

ACTIONS / OUTCOMES

I. ACTIONS

1. Preparations for NAV 54

IHB to coordinate the preparations for NAV 54, based on the outcomes in section II below and on the outcomes from the Extraordinary WEND Meeting of 30 October 2007.

2. UKHO Proposal

IHB to issue a Circular Letter to bring to the attention of all Member States a proposal by the UKHO, with the aim of increasing the rate and consistency of production of global ENC coverage.

II. OUTCOMES

1. ENC Coverage

- What is the key message to aim for and report to NAV 54?
- Provide a report on progress and an accurate prediction based on the IHO interpretation of “adequate coverage”.
- Indicate the various IHO and other plans and initiatives in hand for ENC coverage, including:
 - ✓ IHO Resolutions
 - ✓ RHC coordination
 - ✓ INT chart coordinators
 - ✓ IHO Work Program
 - ✓ UKHO initiative
 - ✓ Capacity building program
- Provide illustrations of some examples routes that will/are be covered.
- What practical measures can HO's take to achieve the desired (promised to IMO) coverage?
- Participate in regional assistance programs.
- Educate and lobby national maritime administrations.
- How can we ensure coverage is achieved by non-IHO MS?
- UKHO and others to report on assistance to non-IHO MS.
- Maintain a list of ports and routes/States that are not yet covered by ENC (as defined in the definition of adequate coverage).
- RHCs to report on ENC coverage.

2. Consistency / Quality

- What is the key message to aim for and report to NAV 54?
- Acknowledge that inconsistencies exist and highlight that action is being taken through tighter guidelines and implementation through RENCs, RHCs and regional coordination.
- Provide a practical demonstration / indication of the progress and improvements that have lately been made in harmonizing data.
- What practical measures should the IHO and HOs take to ensure ENC compilation consistency?
- Coverage and consistency are of equal priority.
- Encourage compliance with the IHO guidelines, especially the use of SCAMIN. RENCs and RHCs have a vital role in ensuring consistency.

3. Pricing

- What is the key message to aim for and report to NAV54?
- Do we agree that the perception of high costs will be an impediment to ECDIS? If so, what should be done?
- Demonstrate and cite examples of realistic pricing policies and indicate progress.
- Indicate increasing take-up rates.
- ENC producer nations to take account of the comments made during the meeting when they next consider their ENC pricing and distribution policies.

4. NAV 53/54

- Is a demonstration required? How should it be made? By whom?
- IHO information session / seminar at IMO (supported by UKHO, RENCs and others) prior to discussion in plenary.
- MS to lobby and educate their IMO delegations (and their regional neighbours) prior to NAV 54 and provide feedback to IHB to assist NAV 54 preparations.
- Topics listed in X-WEND1-07D need to be incorporated in the NAV 54 action plan. In addition, the other topics covered by Norway and UK and others should be included. IHO paper to be provided to MS as soon as possible.