



IHB File No. S1/1001

CIRCULAR LETTER 102/2008
12 December 2008

STATUS OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING AND
NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHY WORLD-WIDE
(IHO PUBLICATION S-55)

- References:
- a) CL 4/2004 dated 19 January
 - b) CL 35/2004 dated 18 June
 - c) CL 86/2004 dated 13 December
 - d) CL 59/2006 dated 6 September
 - e) CL 17/2007 dated 5 February

Dear Hydrographer,

1 The 3rd edition of S-55 was established in 2004 as an electronic database from which various reports are generated and published on the IHO web site. The database format allows for the continuous updating of S-55 and the published reports, thereby allowing access to the latest data and statistics.

2 However the validity and currency of the reports based on S-55 will diminish unless coastal States provide regular updates to the information held within the database. The IHO web site contains a report showing the dates when each S-55 entry was last updated. This information is also included within the composite reports. Despite requests at the references and the inclusion of this topic on the agenda of Regional Hydrographic Commission Meetings (RHCs) numerous entries in S-55 edition 3 have not been updated since their initial inclusion. All States are requested to provide updated information whenever there is a significant change and also to **provide an annual update even if there is no change to the data**. The receipt of a confirmation that there has been no change will allow the date of the information to be updated thereby ensuring and visibly demonstrating that S-55 is up-to-date.

3 S-55 3rd Edition has been widely publicised and is referred to by many international bodies. It is particularly useful in identifying needs for Capacity Building initiatives. The widespread use of S-55 has shown that two additional pieces of information would be useful:

- The percentage of published paper charts that show depths in metres; and
- The percentage of published paper charts that are referenced to a satellite datum i.e. WGS 84 or PZ90.

4 Consequently the S-55 updating questionnaire has been amended accordingly and it is requested that the revised version is used in future. A copy of the revised questionnaire is attached and can also be downloaded from the IHO web site. The reports based on the S-55 database available from the IHO web site have also been amended to display this additional information where relevant.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

Hugo GORZIGLIA Director,
Captain Chilean Navy

IHO SPECIAL PUBLICATION S-55
“STATUS OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING AND NAUTICAL CHARTING WORLD-WIDE”
QUESTIONNAIRE

Country:

Date of validity of information:

Are any amendments required to your entry in the IHO Year Book? If so, enter below.
Update is particularly important on your outsourcing strategy and on your ability to provide contract survey or charting support to other states in your RHC area.

1. HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYING

1.1 Status of hydrographic survey of all navigable waters, including internal waters, out to the limits of the EEZ. (Please refer to the guidance given in the introductory text “Analysis of the Status of Surveys”.)

Survey coverage, where:

A = percentage which is adequately surveyed.

B = percentage which requires re-survey at larger scale or to modern standards.

C = percentage which has never been systematically surveyed.

	A	B	C
Depths < 200m			
Depths > 200m			

Amplifying information:

1. Special national circumstances which influence the statistical break-down above (e.g. geographical factors such as narrow continental shelf or fringing reefs, or constraints such as areas of unstable seabed which require a routine resurvey programme):

2. Significant shortfalls in sea areas of high priority for maritime traffic:

a. Maritime Shipping Routes:

(1) International (i.e. between hub ports):

(2) Regional (i.e. between hub ports and feeder ports):

(3) Internal (i.e. from feeder ports to other national ports; cruise liner routes):

b. Ports and Approaches:

c. Other (fisheries; offshore industry):

1.2 Status of hydrographic survey of all navigable waters, including internal waters, out to the limits of the EEZ of dependent territories:

Territory:

Survey coverage, where:

A = percentage which is adequately surveyed.

B = percentage which requires re-survey at larger scale or to modern standards.

C = percentage EEZ which has never been systematically surveyed.

	A	B	C
Depths < 200m			
Depths > 200m			

Amplifying information:

1. Special national circumstances which influence the statistical break-down above (e.g. geographical factors such as narrow continental shelf or fringing reefs, or constraints such as areas of unstable seabed which require a routine resurvey programme):

2. Significant shortfalls in sea areas of high priority for maritime traffic:

a. Maritime Shipping Routes:

(1) International (i.e. between hub ports):

(2) Regional (i.e. between hub ports and feeder ports):

(3) Internal (i.e. from feeder ports to other national ports; cruise liner routes):

b. Ports and Approaches:

c. Other (fisheries; offshore industry):

1.3 Status of hydrographic survey of all navigable waters, including internal waters, out to the limits of the EEZ of developing countries where surveys have been, or are being carried out by your hydrographic service:

Country:

Survey coverage, where:

A = percentage which is adequately surveyed.

B = percentage which requires re-survey at larger scale or to modern standards.

C = percentage which has never been systematically surveyed.

	A	B	C
Depths < 200m			
Depths > 200m			

Amplifying information:

1. Special national circumstances which influence the statistical break-down above (e.g. geographical factors such as narrow continental shelf or fringing reefs, or constraints such as areas of unstable seabed which require a routine resurvey programme):

2. Significant shortfalls in sea areas of high priority for maritime traffic:

a. Maritime Shipping Routes:

(1) International (i.e. between hub ports):

(2) Regional (i.e. between hub ports and feeder ports):

(3) Internal (i.e. from feeder ports to other national ports; cruise liner routes):

b. Ports and Approaches:

c. Other (fisheries; offshore industry):

2. NAUTICAL CHARTING

If you do not have a nautical charting capability, but know which country/countries has/have assumed responsibility for the charting of your sea areas, please indicate details here:

If you do have a nautical charting capability, complete the details below (*Please refer to the guidance given in the introductory text “Analysis of the Status of Charting”.*):

2.1 Status of nautical charting within the limits of the EEZ

Coverage of charts published by your organisation, where:

A = percentage covered by INT series, or a paper chart series meeting the standards in M-4.

B = percentage covered by Raster Navigational Charts (RNCs) meeting the standards in S-61.

C = percentage covered by ENCs meeting the standards in S-57.

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

2.2 Status of nautical charting within the limits of the EEZ of dependent territories

Coverage of charts published by your organisation, where:

A = percentage covered by INT series, or a paper chart series meeting the standards in M-4.

B = percentage covered by RNCs meeting the standards in S-61.

C = percentage covered by ENC's meeting the standards in S-57.

Territory:

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

Territory:

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

Territory:

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

2.3 Status of nautical charting produced by mutual agreement within the limits of the EEZ of other coastal states

Coverage of charts produced by your organisation, where:

A = percentage covered by INT series, or a paper chart series meeting the standards in M-4.

B = percentage covered by RNCs meeting the standards in S-61.

C = percentage covered by ENC's meeting the standards in S-57.

Country:

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

Country:

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

Country:

Purpose/Scale	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small			
Landfall and Coastal passage/Medium			
Approaches and Ports/Large			
Percentage of Group A showing depths in metres			
Percentage of Group A referenced to a satellite datum			

Amplifying notes:

Significant gaps in coverage:

3. MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION (MSI)

Fill in the tables to indicate the status of implementation of the services: Yes, No, Partial.

Use the Notes Columns to indicate services which are provided by another state, and facilities co-ordinated and/or shared with other coastal states.

(Please refer to the guidance given in the introductory text “Analysis of the status of MSI”).

NAVIGATIONAL INFORMATION (S-53)

SERVICE	Yes	No	Partial	NOTES
LOCAL WARNINGS				
COASTAL WARNINGS				
NAVAREA WARNINGS				
INFORMATION ON PORTS AND HARBOURS ¹				

GMDSS IMPLEMENTATION (IMO Publication 970 - GMDSS Handbook²)

SERVICE	Yes	No	Partial	NOTES
Master Plan				
A1 Area ³				
A2 Area ³				
A3 Area ³				
NAVTEX				
SafetyNET				

¹ Confirm that a system exists for passage of information on changes in ports and harbours to the responsible charting authority.

² See also the guidance in Navigational Publications published by Hydrographic Offices e.g. ALRS 5.

³ For description of Sea Areas A1, A2 and A3 see S-55 “Status of MSI” on the IHO web site.

4. NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL AND OR REGIONAL CO-OPERATION OR ASSISTANCE.

4.1 If international or regional projects are underway in your waters, please indicate here:

4.2 Indicate below any priorities for co-operation or assistance:

a. Projects meriting IHO liaison with international funding agencies:

(1) Regional co-operative projects:

- indicate involvement of RHC, or other Member and non-Member states.

(2) National projects:

- indicate any bilateral co-operation with Member or non-Member states.

b. Requirements for training assistance:

- use M-5 and S-47 to identify level of qualification and course required.

(1) Hydrographic surveying:

(2) Nautical cartography:

(3) MSI:

c. Requirements for assistance with procurement of equipment:

(1) Technical advice on procurement options:

(2) Transfer of equipment:

5. GENERAL COMMENTS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Signature:

Date: