

## Industry Stakeholder Presentation

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### ABSTRACT

At the IRCC4, held in Singapore 7-8 June 2012, representative companies of the international hydrographic industry submitted a paper suggesting the roles and support which Industry could provide in the fulfillment of the IHO's Capacity Building (CB) initiative. The paper addressed ways to overcome resource limitations in various regions which were (are) over and above the capacity for leading industrial national governments to address. The paper (CBSC 10-15C) can be accessed at: [http://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/com\\_wg/CBC/CBSC10/CBSC10.htm](http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CBC/CBSC10/CBSC10.htm)

Developed to meet the IHO's 3-Phase strategy and within the framework of the 4-step process of Awareness, Assessment, Analysis and Action, Industry suggested solutions in the following key areas necessary for the successful implementation of an enduring CB policy:

#### **Funding**

It was considered that Industry association with donor organizations such as the World Bank, USAID, IADB and the OECD would permit more effective lobbying of these agencies on behalf of major national governments. These close associations and lobbying ability could be leveraged to support the IHO in its own pursuit of funding support by supplying the key points of contact enjoyed by industry.

A key point to funding and sustainability is that the program recognizes the contribution that must be made by the Host Nation to the overall effort. Eventually, the Host Nation must assume the role as principal stakeholder, with its contribution continuing to increase from minimal to majority in funding, personnel, and infrastructure support.

#### **Education**

It was proposed that IHO should adopt a distance learning paradigm to support regional and independent national capability. This facet of CB is viewed as a fundamental element, essential for the generation and maintenance of an organic capacity at the national level.

Industry could also provide bespoke, in-country education materials pertinent to specific equipment, systems, operations or procedures over and above the fundamental level of understanding to assist in the proper functioning of a tailored hydrographic capability.

#### **Training**

Industry could readily support the equipment and continuation training until operators are confident and qualified to conduct these functions independently. Capital costs of equipment and training support could be raised through donor organisations or via successfully lobbied regional survey schemes, conducted under the auspices of the IHO through the RHCs with input and guidance from the CBSC, whereby each contains a mandatory element of regional or national training included within the successful tender bid.

## **Organic Capability**

In supporting the 2003 United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/58/240 on Oceans and Law of the Sea, the IHO was encouraged to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for small island developing states (SIDs) and coastal African states to improve hydrographic services, including the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community. The IRCC4 Industry paper suggested that the provision of equipment, software and services, already trialled and outlined within the CB framework initiative, could be a carefully controlled, funded and maintained technology and capability transfer mechanism through a regional, collaborative survey framework. It was also emphasised however that Industry cannot lead CB and that it must remain under the auspices of the IHO.

## **Sustainability**

It was effectively argued that Industry is well placed to react to and deliver the hydrographic needs of nations in order to assure a sustainable capability. A long-term program of collaboration within a structured framework is again essential to deliver this key area.

In order to re-emphasise the considerable contribution that the commercial international Hydrographic Industry could make to the successful enactment of the IHO's CB programme, this abstract aims to introduce an updated review of the current global CB status from an Industry perspective and seems to underline some crucial key points leading to successful implementation of a sustainable and meaningful program.