

**14TH MEETING OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
IHO CBSC-14**

ABU DHABI, 24-26 MAY 2016

Report of the IHO Secretariat

Submitted by:	IHB
Executive Summary:	This paper provides a summary report of matters of interest related to the work of the IHB.

Status of Approval of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO

- As of 14 May 2016, 47 of the minimum number of 48 Member States have formally approved the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO.
- In the event that the required majority of Approvals of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO are received by the Government of Monaco before 23 January 2017, the XIXth International Hydrographic Conference will, instead, take place as the First Session of the Assembly of the IHO (see Conference Circular Letter (CCL) No. 1 dated 21 April 2016).

Status of Approval of New Member States of the IHO

- Bulgaria, Haiti, Mauritania and Sierra Leone have all received the required number of votes to be accepted as a Member State of the IHO. However, the Government of Monaco has yet to receive the required instruments of accession from these countries which will formalise their membership. The Directing Committee has continued to be in communication with the authorities of these States to encourage them to complete this final formality.
- Malta, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Republic of Congo have applied for membership of the IHO. As of 14 May 2016, the status of approvals was as follows:

State	Voting Status
Malta	31 of 53 required
Vanuatu	31 of 54 required
Solomon Islands	32 of 55 required
Republic of Congo	32 of 55 required

Suspended Member States

- Serbia, Congo and the Dominican Republic remain suspended. The Directing Committee is taking every opportunity to work with these States to expedite their return to full membership as soon as possible. The Directing Committee is also monitoring the situation for some other Member States that have fallen behind on payments of their annual subscription.

IHO GIS and Databases (including C-55)

- Work has continued on the development of the IHO GIS which is composed of two main parts: a country information database and a regional information database.
- The country information database has been progressively upgraded to include additional administrative information and facilitate the maintenance of the Yearbook (IHO Publication P-5) and related lists posted on the IHO website.
- An Esri-based GIS solution is being implemented to develop further the regional information database. This will

enable access to various layers of information through the IHO website and through cloud-based on-line GIS options. The IHO ENC Catalogue and the IHO GIS for Antarctica have been transferred to this new environment.

9. Work has continued on developing a GIS database application to support C-55 - *Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide* and the work of the IHO. In addition to the current composite indicators (percentage of areas adequately surveyed / requiring re-survey / not surveyed), the inclusion of CATZOC polygons will provide an initial geo-referenced quality layer (see IHO CL 52/2105). IC-ENC and Primar have agreed to provide the IHB with the CATZOC polygons of their Members through Primar.

Capacity Building Programme

10. The level of activity of the IHO Capacity Building (CB) Programme continued to increase. Expenditure in the IHO 2015 CB Work Programme (930,907 Euros) was 118% greater than the budget for the previous year. This was a result of the ongoing financial support provided by the Nippon Foundation of Japan and the Republic of Korea, supplemented by a contribution from the IHO budget and in-kind support from Member States and from industry. The Directing Committee is continuing its campaign to find additional donor States and funding organizations. In 2015, 86% of the budgeted work program was executed and paid for. Some planned CB activities could not take place because of administrative and other issues in host nations, the unavailability of nominated personnel, or other late changes to the planned events. Most of the activities that could not take place were postponed and transferred to the 2016 CB Work Programme for execution.

Preparation of the next International Hydrographic Conference / IHO Assembly

11. The next International Hydrographic Conference or first IHO Assembly is scheduled from 24 to 28 April 2017. It is likely that the meeting will be the first session of the Assembly, subject to the ratification of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention by the required two-thirds majority not later than three months before the opening day of the meeting (23 January 2017). In accordance with the General Regulations of the IHO that will enter into force once the Protocol of Amendments is ratified, the first Assembly will have to approve the list of the members of the IHO Council.

12. The agenda of the Conference/Assembly will include a review of the IHO Strategic Plan and consideration of the IHO Work Programme for the next 3-year or 5-year cycle (CCL 01 dated 21 April refers). In accordance with IHO Resolution 12/2002 as amended, the relevant documents will be prepared by the IHB in consultation with the HSSC, the IRCC and the Member States. The IHB has invited Member States, HSSC and IRCC to submit proposals to update the Strategic Plan (CL 17/2016 dated 31 March refers). These proposals are expected to be circulated to all Member States in August 2016.

IHO Outreach

13. World Hydrography Day. The theme for World Hydrography Day 2016 is ***“Hydrography – the key to well-managed seas and waterways”*** (CL 81/2015 dated 26 November refers). This theme will enable all stakeholders involved in hydrography to highlight the significance and importance of their particular activities which could include, but is not limited to, the support of safety of navigation, protection of the marine environment, coastal zone management, marine spatial data infrastructures, defence, resource exploration, and all other components of the blue economy. A brief is available on the IHO website.

14. International Hydrographic Review (IHR). The IHR provides an ideal opportunity for Regional Hydrographic Commissions and Member States to publicise technical and other achievements in the region. An editorial board comprising a representative from each region has been established. Papers for consideration for publication in the IHR should be forwarded directly to the editor (ihreview@iho.int, copy to ian.halls1@defence.au.gov). The deadlines are:

- End of January for the May Edition;
- End of July for the November Edition.

Action Requested of CBSC

15. CBSC is invited to:
 - **Note** this report,
 - **Take any actions** as considered appropriate.