

**FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE CBSC (CBSC14)**  
**24-26 May 2016 – Abu Dhabi, UAE**

**Summary Report of the**  
**South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)**

1. **Chair:** CDRE Brett Brace (Hydrographer of Australia)  
**Vice Chair:** Mr Nicholas Pion (Hydrographer, Papua New Guinea)  
**CB Coordinator:** Mr Adam Greenland (Hydrographer of New Zealand)

2. **Membership**

Members	Australia, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Kingdom of Tonga, United Kingdom, United States of America
Associate Members	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
Intergovernmental Observer Organization	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
Observers	New Caledonia
IHB Representatives	President Robert Ward, Asst. Director Alberto Costa Neves
Note	Vanuatu and Solomon Islands have applied for IHO membership.

3. **Current SWPHC Working Groups**

SWPHC International Charting Coordination Working Group (SWPHC-ICCWG)  
SWPHC Capacity Building Working Group (SWPHC-CBWG)

4. **Meetings**

As reported during CBSC13 the 13<sup>th</sup> SWPHC Meeting was held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands on 25-27 February 2015. It was attended by more than 40 participants - representing all 8 Member States of the Commission, 6 Associate Members, Observer States, international/regional organizations, industry and the IHB.

Since the meeting review of the 5 year CB Work Plan, current and following year's CB activities has been carried out via tele-conferences and correspondence.

The 14<sup>th</sup> SWPHC Meeting to be held in Noumea, New Caledonia from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 will be preceded by a 2-day technical workshop.

5. **Activities completed since CBSC13**

5.1 **IHO CB Activities**

The following IHO-funded CB activities were carried out in the region since the last CBSC Meeting:

5.1.1 Vanuatu Technical Implementation Visit (2015 CBWP – A-01)

Mr Samuel Harper (International Hydrographic Projects Manager, UKHO), accompanied by a SPC representative, undertook the visit in November 2015. Initial development tables have been submitted to Vanuatu, SWPHC CB Coordinator and the IHB. The Technical Visit Report is currently being finalized.

#### 5.1.2 Kiribati Technical Implementation Visit (2015 CBWP – A-02)

Mr Samuel Harper (International Hydrographic Projects Manager, UKHO), accompanied by a SPC representative, undertook the visit in November 2015. Initial development tables have been submitted to Kiribati, SWPHC CB Coordinator and the IHB. The Technical Visit Report is currently being finalized.

#### 5.1.3 Tides & Water Levels Technical Workshop, (2015 CBWP – P-06)

The workshop was held at the Australian Hydrographic Office, Wollongong, Australia on 26-30 October 2015. A total of 10 participants attended – 8 representatives from the Pacific Islands Countries and 2 from the Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC), one of which was funded by SPC. In addition to providing participants with a basic knowledge of tides and water level variations; the workshop also trained participants on the application of tides and water levels to hydrographic surveying. The workshop encouraged greater collaboration between Pacific Island States on exchange of tidal information pertaining to the marine environment in the region.

### 5.2 IHO - NIPPON Foundation Chart Project

#### 5.2.1 7<sup>th</sup> Course in Marine Cartography and Data Assessment (Category B)

One candidate from the SWP region, i.e. from Fiji, attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Course in Marine Cartography and Data Assessment (Category B) at the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office from 7 September to 18 December 2015.

### 5.3 Non-IHO CB Activities

#### 5.3.1 Japan international cooperation Agency (JICA) Group Training Course on Hydrographic Survey

One candidate from the SWP region, i.e. from Tonga, attended the JICA Course on Hydrography for Charting and Disaster Management (internationally accredited Category B) in Japan during June-December 2015.

#### 5.3.2 Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) New Zealand Aid Programme – South West Pacific Regional Hydrography Programme (SWPRHP)

The full reports (Inc. synopsis) for the following have been published (on LINZ & IHO websites):

- (i) Tonga Hydrography Risk Assessment
- (ii) Cook Islands Hydrography Risk Assessment
- (iii) Vanuatu Hydrography Risk Assessment

(IHO website:

[http://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=623&Itemid=407&lang=en](http://www.iho.int/srv1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=623&Itemid=407&lang=en))

This activity is now closed; see Activity Completion Report, Executive Summary (NZ SWPHP Report to CBSC14)

#### 5.3.3 MFAT New Zealand Aid Programme - Pacific Regional Navigation Initiative (PRNI)

Commenced in April 2015, PRNI is a 5 year programme focusing on navigation-related aspects of maritime safety, and builds on the success of the SWPRHP. It is a partnership between MFAT, LINZ and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

LINZ has a focus on five Pacific Island Countries (PICs) where it is the Primary Charting Authority (PCA) - Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tonga and Tokelau.

PRNI has 5 output areas: Pacific-wide Data Discovery, Hydrography Risk Assessments (Niue, Samoa and Tokelau), Capability/Capacity Building, Mitigation Measures and Pacific-wide Partnerships

To date, LINZ has engaged with:

- Cook Islands (October 2015) and

- Tonga (November 2015) in relation to Capability/Capacity Building and Mitigation Measures.
- Niue (February 2016) to raise awareness of obligations under SOLAS V/9 – IHO Technical Visit
- Niue (March 2016) Hydrography Risk Assessment

The Niue Hydrography Risk Assessment will be completed by June 2016. This activity has been led by LINZ utilizing in-house GIS expertise; GIS assistance from a PhD candidate registered with University of the West Indies (UWI); and contracted Maritime domain expertise. It will deliver the risk model implementation in a GIS, as well as the spatial data inputs that feed into it and the results it creates.

This work will form the preliminary investigation/materials for a PhD at UWI to conduct a Hydrography Risk Assessment of the Caribbean.

## **6. IHO 2016 CBWP Activities to be completed**

- 6.1 A-01 – Technical Assessment & Advice – Samoa  
Planned for August 2016 (LINZ lead)
- 6.2 A-03 – Technical Assessment & Advice – Tuvalu  
Planned for July/August 2016. (UKHO lead)
- 6.3 P-08 – Technical Workshop for PICTs in Formulating and Implementing Strategic Development Plans for Hydrography  
To be held in Noumea, New Caledonia on 28-29 November 2016 – linked with SWPHC14. (LINZ lead)
- 6.4 P-14 – MSI Regional Workshop  
Planned for August 2016 (LINZ lead)

## **7. Conclusions**

SWPHC is committed to carrying forward hydrographic, nautical cartographic and capacity building activities in close alignment with IHO objectives and goals.

## **8. Actions Required from CBSC14**

CBSC members are invited to note:

- this report
- the high level of engagement and capacity building activity being undertaken in the SWPHC region