

**16th MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
IHO-CBSC16
Goa, India, 30 May - 1 June 2018**

Paper for the Consideration by CBSC18

MBSHC report

Submitted by:	MBSHC CB Coordinator
Executive Summary:	This document provides a summary report of the CB activities at MBSHC
Related Documents:	MBSHC CB Plan 2018-2020
Related Projects:	

1. Introduction / Background

A three-year plan for CB activity in the MBSHC region was approved by the membership in MBSHC20. This plan covers the period 2018-2020 and is reviewed annually to ensure it meets regional requirements. The plan is based on assessing the phase of development of each of the coastal states within the MBSHC region (as determined by the IHO's three phases of CB) and arranging training activity to build the necessary capability to meet SOLAS treaty obligations and to meet the needs of Hydrographic Offices.

2. Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States

See CBSC16-08.6A

3. Activities completed since CBSC15

- Technical Visit was undertaken to *Republic of Azerbaijan* (December 2017).
- A five-day Workshop on ENC Production and Distribution was delivered in Istanbul-Turkey, in October 2017 for the following coastal states:
Georgia, Romania, Montenegro, Malta (2), Tunisia, Turkey
- A five-day Workshop on Technical Aspects of Maritime Boundaries was delivered in Istanbul-Turkey, in November 2017 for the following coastal states:
Georgia, Romania, Montenegro, Malta, Tunisia, Croatia (2), Turkey (2)

4. Activities planned for 2018

- Follow -up Visit to Albania
- Follow -up Visit to Georgia
- A five-day Port and Shallow Water Survey Course
- A three-day Workshop on MSI

5. Challenges faced in the region

MBSHC Member States were invited to review their respective CB requirements for the years 2019-2020-2021 and submit them with their comments to the MBSHC CB Coordinator. The results of the survey were circulated with MBSHC Letter 03/18 (Annex A).

One of the remarkable results of the survey was related with the long courses. There is an extensive need for long courses mostly for the CAT-B hydrography and cartography. Countries provided their respective requirements and the results are as follows;

- Category "A" Hydrographic Programme: 5 Countries
- Category "B" Hydrographic Programme: 7 Countries
- Category "A" Nautical Cartography Programme: 5 Countries
- Category "B" Nautical Cartography Programme: 9 Countries

The survey also showed that Phase 1 skills improved and hydrographic awareness raised in the region and the training requirements mostly switch from Phase 1 to the Phase 2&3 skills. This is challenging for the region because it will be more difficult for MBSHC to benefit from CB Resources. It should be noted that the results of the survey may be misleading because states who responded to the survey are the states mostly who follows and participates the CB activities. Although it may be misleading the survey was the only actual reference that could be used to update the regional CB requirements.

Although we do not receive enough responses, we know that there still exists big demand for the CB Activities. Most of the participants believe that CB activities really worth to allocate resources. They believe that CB activities raise the awareness, build necessary capability, increase level of knowledge and cooperation in the region. In each CB activity we clearly observe this issue. But it is clear that member states need tools to implement the IHO standards (mostly software, additional licences or software updates which is challenging especially for small hydrographic offices) in addition to that non-member states needs to reach Phase 2&3 trainings.

Another challenging issue is to keep communication channel open with some of the hydrographic offices and agencies in the region.

6. Achievements and lessons learned

Georgia, with the IHO Membership and clear support of CB activities, is a success story in the region starting as a small hydrographic office to becoming a medium one fulfilling the requirements of Phase 1, 2&3. Malta is another country who benefits from CB activities which help them to raise the awareness and build the necessary capability to meet the SOLAS requirements.

Azerbaijan is a potential IHO Member state and wants to build a hydrographic and cartographic capability so they want to benefit from CB activities, especially from long courses. MBSHC is also following Bulgaria, Lebanon and Albania in the region for the IHO Membership.

Cyprus, Georgia, Russian Federation and Tunisia were invited to participate in the Republic of Korea's (ROK) CAT-B Hydrographic Survey Programme. Croatia in 2018 and Algeria in 2017 were invited to participate in the UKHO's CAT B nautical cartography training courses.

7. Conclusions:

MBSHC Region countries regularly benefit from CB Activities but need for long courses, mostly for the CAT-B hydrography and cartography, seems like a persistent requirement and the requirement for the short courses switch from Phase1 to Phase2&3.

8. Actions required of CBSC:

The CBSC is invited to:

- a. note the report
- b. take any action consider appropriate.

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Annex: MBSHC Letter 03/18

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