

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

Paper for the Consideration by CBSC18

SAIHC report

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

1. Introduction / Background

A three-year plan for CB activity in the SAIHC region was approved by the membership in August 2017. This plan covers the period 2018-2020 and is reviewed annually (during SAIHC meetings) to ensure it meets regional requirements. The plan is based on assessing the phase of development of each of the coastal states within the SAIHC 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. There is a great deal of 'SOLAS awareness' required in this region.

2. Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States

See accompanying Excel file

3. Activities completed since CBSC15

- In conjunction with the NIOHC an MSI Training Course was delivered in Fish Hoek, South Africa, in September 2017 for the following coastal states: -

Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa (2)
Together with *Gambia* and *Nigeria* from the EAHC and ten members of the NIOHC

4. Activities planned for 2018

- Seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography (to precede this year's SAIHC15 meeting)
- MBES Processing and Data Basing Training for Mozambique
- Development of a Regional MSDI Workshop

5. Challenges faced in the region

The Southern Africa & Islands (SAIHC) region contains three of the world's 64 major large marine ecosystems - the Benguela current, the Agulhas current and the Somali current. Some of the species and habitats of these currents are unique.

The main traffic to the west of the region are the routes from ports in NW Africa to the Cape of Good Hope together with the transatlantic routes for traffic between North and South America and the ten ports in this area.

The shipping lanes along the East Africa coast carry over 30% of the world's crude oil supplies. This region contains thirteen important commercial ports serving as hubs for traffic emanating from, and destined for Europe, Asia, the Americas and the east and western coasts of Africa. In addition to the large cargo ships travelling internationally, many smaller boats serving local needs ply the coastal waters and harbours. Oil and gas exploration programmes operating throughout the region bring additional risks.

One of the most significant challenges the SAIHC faces is generating engagement from the Associate Member (AM) states. In the recent past engagement was assured because some Member States sponsored AM attendance but as this line of funding dried up, AM attendance diminished. To address this problem, this year the SAIHC will host its inaugural Hydrographic Awareness Seminar with the AM states funded to attend and to stay on for the SAIHC plenary meeting. Much work is required in building and developing sustainable Hydrographic services in most of the AM states.

Apart from Portugal, none of the AM states are IHO members so don't qualify for the higher-level training opportunities which are only available to members.

6. Achievements and lessons learned

With the onus on the development of Phase 1 capability – the 2017 MSI course followed a Phase 1 Skills course in 2016 – Phase 1 skills are slowly being improved (although feedback from the NAVAREA VII Coordinator post the 2017 MSI course doesn't support this).

The SAIHC CB Coordinator performs a similar role in the adjoining NIOHC and joint activities e.g. last year's MSI training course in South Africa (where x2 EAtHC members also attended) delivered a dual benefit of using the IHO's financial resources prudently and widening the network of personnel in the MSI domain.

India has been active over many years in developing hydrographic services in Mauritius and this also applies to several other SAIHC nations, while Portugal performs a similar role for the Lusophone African states.

7. Conclusions:

In an attempt to generate greater engagement from the Red Sea maritime states the SAIHC will follow the example of the SWPHC and MACHC by organizing a hydrographic awareness seminar to precede this year's SAIHC meeting. Previous experience has proved that funding the attendance of Associate and Observer nations not only guarantees attendance but also showcases the importance of regional hydrography and how all coastal states have a part to play, irrespective of size.

The Indian, Portuguese and UK Government's contribution to regional capacity building has augmented the IHO's efforts and undoubtedly improved both the education and data gathering regionally.

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: Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States (Excel file)