

Contribution to IHO Workprogram 2008 – 2012

Explanatory Note of Robert Ward, Chairman of CHRIS

Gentlemen,

You may recall that last year I discussed how we might make our submission to the 2008-2012 IHO Work Programme. The final proposal must be circulated to M/S by the IHB in November this year for approval at the XVIIth International Hydrographic Conference in May 2007.

Unfortunately, our CHRIS meeting is only just before the final deadline. I have agreed with Capt Hugo Gorziglia that we will finalise our proposals during the CHRIS/18 meeting and this will form our submission to the IHB. This will leave him with less than a month to incorporate our proposals into the Conference proposals. Accordingly, we need to be sure that we have made all the necessary preparations so that things go smoothly at CHRIS/18.

I therefore ask you to begin considering what items you think need to go into the 2008-2012 IHO WP. For those who are holding WG meetings shortly, can you find time to consider not only your immediate WG work programmes but also to think forward to 2012.

You do not need to list work items in detail for the IHO WP, but we must identify all the major objectives that we wish the IHO to tackle in the next five years.

I have enclosed a copy of the current IHO WP and have highlighted those areas that fall to the CHRIS. However, I ask you to "think outside the box", rather than to slavishly revise or review only those things that appear in the current programme. It will probably be better to draw up a separate list rather than attempt to replace or revise items in the current WP. Hugo can fit any proposals into the right place in the five major programme areas later.

What is really important is that we identify and list all those key areas that we should be tackling in the next five years. It is also likely that we will identify items that overlap with topics currently undertaken by other groups. That is not a problem - Hugo can resolve any overlaps.

I would be most grateful if you could provide a list of your proposed items for the 2008-2012 IHO WP to the CHRIS Secretary (and me) as soon as possible and in any case, in advance of the CHRIS meeting. If you send info copies to all addressees, we can all review and add to the list via email.

(See attached file: Work Prog 2003 2007 revised.doc CSMWG16-9.2B)

Robert Ward
CAPT, RAN
COS HMFEAG / Deputy Hydrographer of Australia

Ph 02 42 218 685
Fax 02 422 18 599
Email robert.ward1@defence.gov.au