

## REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION MEETINGS

Submitted by GEBCO Secretary

### SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides details of forthcoming IHO Regional Hydrographic Commission meetings.

Action to be taken: See paragraph 4

Related documents: GGC ToRs and RoPs dated 11 September 2015

1. The current Terms of Reference (ToR) and Rules of Procedure (RoP) for the Joint IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee include, in the goals, the GGC is to:
  4. Encourage and facilitate ocean mapping cooperation leading to the exchange and preservation of bathymetric data and associated metadata;
  5. Foster collaboration among individuals and organizations with established and developing expertise so as to assist local and regional mapping efforts to attain a global standard of quality;
  6. Identify oceanic areas that are insufficiently mapped and recommend to appropriate ocean-going organizations and institutions that such areas are surveyed;
  7. Promote education and training in ocean mapping through high level courses in Ocean Bathymetry acknowledged by the IHO and IOC; and
  8. Bring together the ocean mapping community and users of bathymetry thereby leading to products that are more widely used.
2. The ToR also state, in articles, that the GGC shall:
  5. Stimulate the flow of data relevant to the GEBCO Project by actively identifying sources of new data and encouraging and promoting the release of data to appropriate data banks, with the objective of ensuring that maximum available data are provided to the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB);
  11. Engage with regional mapping projects to encourage their compatibility with, and eventual inclusion in, GEBCO products; and
  14. Take all practical opportunities to advocate the scientific and societal benefits of mapping the seafloor.
3. The Secretariat of the IHO encourages targeted participation of appropriate GEBCO personnel in Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) meetings to achieve these goals and obligations. Details of recent and forthcoming RHC meetings are at Annex A.
4. The GGC is invited to:

- a. **Note** the information provided;
- b. **Identify and prioritise** RHC meetings at which participation is deemed advantageous;
- c. **Identify** appropriate individuals and **allocate** the necessary resources to support their participation; and
- d. Take any other **Action** deemed appropriate.

Annex:

- A. Table of recent and forthcoming RHC meetings.

Commission	2019			2020			2021		
	Location	Date	Attending	Location	Date	Attending	Location	Date	Attending
Arctic	<i>Murmansk, Russia</i>	<i>17-19 Sep</i>		Anchorage & Nome, Alaska	10-14 Aug				
Baltic Sea	<i>Gdańsk, Poland</i>	<i>10-12 Sep</i>		Stockholm, Sweden	23-24 Sep				
East Asia	-	-		Tokyo, Japan	5-7 Feb				
East Atlantic	-	-		Lisbon, Portugal	28 Sep-2 Oct		-	-	
Meso American and Caribbean	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic	2-6 Dec							
Mediterranean and Black Sea	<i>Cádiz, Spain</i>	<i>18-20 Jun</i>		-	-	-	tbc, Slovenia	tbc	
Nordic	<i>Helsinki, Finland</i>	<i>9-11 Apr</i>	No	Reykjavik, Iceland	30-31 Mar	No			
North Indian Ocean	<i>Muscat, Oman</i>	<i>25-28 Mar</i>	Yes	Colombo, Sri Lanka	18-22 May (tbc)	Yes			
North Sea	-	-	-	Reykjavik, Iceland	26-27 Mar		-	-	
ROPME Sea Area	<i>Islamabad, Pakistan</i>	<i>18-20 Feb</i>	Yes	-	-	-			
South Africa and Islands	<i>Cape Town, South Africa</i>	<i>2-5 Sep</i>		Mauritius	7-10 Sep				
South East Pacific	-	-		Valparaiso, Chile	30 Mar-3 Apr	-	-	-	
South West Atlantic	<i>Buenos Aires, Argentina</i>	<i>25-26 Apr</i>		Brazil	5-6 Mar				
South West Pacific	<i>Alofi, Niue</i>	<i>13-15 Feb</i>		Wollongong, Australia	12-14 Feb				
USA and Canada	<i>Biloxi, Mississippi, USA</i>	<i>19-22 Mar</i>	No	Québec, Canada	24 Feb	No			
Antarctica	<i>Prague, Czech Republic</i>	<i>3-5 Jul</i>		-	-		Monaco/Paris	tbc	

*Meetings in italics have already taken place.*