

19th CHRIS MEETING
Rotterdam, Netherlands, 5-9 November 2007

TRANSITION TO HSSC
(IHB – November 2007)

SUMMARY

Executive summary:	This document provides a brief summary of the steps required for CHRIS and its WGs to transition to become the HSSC
Actions to be taken:	The meeting is invited to take note of this paper
References:	17 th IHC Decisions 8, 9, 10 and 11 Final Report of the SPWG

Introduction

1. Decision 8 of the 17th IHC approved the establishment of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC). Decision 9 approved that the HSSC be established “*no later than 1 January 2009*”. Decision 10 approved that the current Chairman of the CHRIS assume the chair of the HSSC when it is established. Decision 11 approved that “*the IHB, in consultation with the Chairmen of CHRIS and CBC, will take the appropriate actions for the implementation of the re-structuring of the IHO Committees and other Groups no later than 1st January 2009.*”

2. The HSSC will oversee all the current work programs of the CHRIS. In addition, the work of the IHO Tidal Committee, the Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea, the S-44 WG and the Hydrographic Dictionary will be overseen by the HSSC.

Implementation

3. The IHB proposes that the HSSC (and its sister IHO committee, the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) be established on 1 January 2009. This means that the 20th meeting of CHRIS must be its last meeting. This meeting will be an important meeting to ensure that all mechanisms and documentation are in place to enable the existing CHRIS WGs to continue their work without disruption. In effect, the only significant changes should be changes in title of the relevant bodies.

4. Draft Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the existing CHRIS WGs have already been drawn up and reviewed by CHRIS at its 17th and 18th meetings. There is little practical difference between the current and the draft editions. The Chairs of the other subsidiary bodies destined to join the HSSC are now drawing up ToRs and RoPs based on CHRIS templates.

Need for HSSC Sub Committees

5. One key difference in the approved structure of the HSSC compared to the CHRIS is the recognition of two intermediate sub committees: the Data Acquisition and Transfer Standards Sub Committee (DATS) and the Symbology and Data Presentation Standards Sub Committee (SDPS). These sub-committees are intended to act as coordinating bodies to ensure that the two main streams of technical work: data standards and data presentation are efficiently carried out. However, in recent years, this coordinating activity has in effect been successfully achieved through the informal Chair Group meetings that have preceded each CHRIS meeting. It may well be that this could be continued under the HSSC – thereby avoiding the introduction of an extra level of bureaucracy and the need for

additional meetings. The initial views of CHRIS would be useful in determining whether this part of the new structure is required in the first instance.

Action Required of CHRIS

6. The CHRIS is invited to:
 - a. **note** this report.
 - b. **agree** that there is no need to establish the DATS and SDPS when the HSSC is established in 2009.