

Paper for Consideration by HSSC
OUTCOMES FROM THE 4TH EIHC

Submitted by:	IHB
Executive Summary:	This paper summarises the principal outcomes of the 4 th EIHC that may be of relevance to the HSSC.
Related Documents:	4EIHC documents: CONF.EX4/REP/01 – ISPWG Report CONF.EX4/REP/02 – HCIWWG Report CONF.EX4/REP/03 – MSDIWG Report CONF.EX4/REP/05 – Report on ENC Developments

Introduction / Background

The 4th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (4EIHC) met in Monaco in June 2009.

Analysis/Discussion

The primary purpose of the 4EIHC was to consider the reports of a number of Working Groups; in particular:

- The Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures WG
- The Hydrography and Cartography of Inland Waters WG
- The IHO Strategic Plan WG

In addition, the 4EIHC considered and discussed a report of the status of global ENC availability. The Chair of HSSC also provided a situation report on the status of development of S-100.

MSDIWG The MSDI report and recommendations were accepted without amendment. As a result, IHO Resolution K4.7 – *Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) Policy* has entered force. A draft version of an MSDI handbook was circulated to delegates for information. Further discussion of this handbook will be covered under HSSC1 agenda item 6.7.

HCIWWG The HCIWWG report and recommendations were accepted with a small editorial amendment to the diagrams showing the disposition of respondents. As a result, IHO Resolution K4.6 - *Hydrography and Cartography of Inland Navigable Waters* has entered force. The Hydrographic Dictionary WG have developed a definition of *inland navigable waters*, as recommended in the HCIWWG report. This will be discussed under agenda item 6.9.

ISPWG The ISPWG report and recommendations were accepted without amendment. The proposed revised definition of *hydrography*, that includes inland waters and that increases the range of potential uses of hydrography, was adopted. The IHO definition of hydrography is now:

Hydrography is the branch of applied sciences which deals with the measurement and description of the physical features of oceans, seas, coastal areas, lakes and rivers, as well as with the prediction of their evolution, for the primary purpose of safety of navigation and all other marine purposes and activities, including economic development, security and defence, scientific research, and environmental protection.

The 4EIHC agreed with the ISPWG proposals to include risk management as part of the strategic planning process and to include performance monitoring against which the progress of implementing the strategic directions could be assessed. The 4EIHC also agreed to amendments to Resolution T5.1, which outlines the planning and review cycles for the Strategic Plan and the Work Programme. This will involve committees, including the HSSC formulating and proposing input to the IHO strategic plan and the work program on an annual basis in the future, commencing not later than April 2011. This means that input from HSSC must be considered at HSSC2 in the latter half of 2010.

The 4EIHC agreed that the IHO Work Programme be described under three sub-programs, rather than the current five programs. The three programs are:

1. Corporate Affairs
2. Hydrographic Services and Standards
3. Inter-regional Coordination and Support

The work of the HSSC is contained under sub-program 2.

At the 4EIHC, the Directing Committee expressed its concern that there may be resource implications in implementing the recommendations of the ISPWG – particularly with regard to the increased emphasis on direct involvement of committees and WGs in the formulation of both the IHO Strategic Plan and the IHO Work Plan, and in the information gathering, reporting and performance monitoring required for the 52 performance measures being proposed.

The IHB reported that it does not have the expertise or the resources to develop a detailed implementation plan for the ISPWG recommendations. As a result the 4EIHC agreed that the IHB should further consider the implementation issues and report back to MS before the end of 2010. Furthermore, MS were asked to assist the IHB with expertise to carry out this study. Norway has subsequently volunteered to provide such expertise. Work has yet to commence on the study.

ENC Availability. 4EIHC delegates were updated on the availability of ENCs. In general progress was reported as being in line with predictions – however there were certain areas that needed to be watched. The 4EIHC agreed that all coastal States should be asked to report whether ENC's would be available by 2010 to support vessels engaged on international voyages. CL35/2009 was issued subsequently. So far (August 2009), the response rate has not been good. Those States that have responded have provided mostly positive answers.

Action Required of HSSC

The HSSC is invited to

- a. **note** the potential implications on HSSC and its WGs of the strategic planning and performance measurement principles approved at 4EIHC, and
- b. **note** this report.