

4th IHO-HSSC Meeting
Taunton, UK, 25-28 September 2012

Paper for Consideration by HSSC

Proposed Revision to S-99 - *Operational Procedures for the Organization and Management of the S-100 Geospatial Information Registry*

Submitted by:	TSMAD
Executive Summary:	This paper invites the HSSC to endorse the first revision to S-99 and to recommend its adoption by Member States
Related Documents:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended - <i>Principles and Procedures for Making Changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications</i> 2. Draft S-99 edition 1.1.0 (available for download at www.iho.int/iho_pubs/IHO_Download.htm#Draft_S-99)

Introduction / Background

1. In January 2010 the IHO adopted S-100, a framework geospatial standard for hydrographic and related data. S-100 is underpinned by a Registry and component Registers based on ISO 19135 - *Procedures for registration of items of geographic information*. The IHO owns and manages the Registry.
2. S-99 - *Operational Procedures for the Organization and Management of the S-100 Geospatial Information Registry* describes the roles, responsibilities and procedures for operating and managing the S-100 Geospatial Information Registry and its component Registers. S-99 edition 1.0.0 was adopted by Member States in January 2011.
3. TSMAD, at its 24th meeting in May, considered a number of revisions and minor editorial amendments to the current edition to take into account feedback and experience in the practical use of the S-100 registry. A draft copy of S-99 edition 1.1.0, showing the proposed amendments, is available for review on the IHO website publications section at www.iho.int/iho_pubs/IHO_Download.htm#Draft_S-99.

Analysis/Discussion

4. A number of revisions to S-99 are proposed as a result of the practical use of the S-100 registry. These come from the experience of the registry manager and from observations made by other organisations outside the IHO that are beginning to use S-100, such as the International Association of Lighthouse and Marine Aids to Navigation Authorities (IALA). The proposed revisions are primarily theoretical in nature rather than substantive and concern the way of conceptualising the notion of domains. The one substantive change is to extend the time allowed to raise objections to proposals from 30 days to 60 days in order to allow stakeholders a longer period to circulate the documentation and consider their responses, if any.

Ending the concept of *main* and *supplementary* registers

5. In the current version of S-99, the registry is described as a structure containing two classes of information - arranged in *main* and *supplementary* registers. This description was introduced as a means of indicating to potential users of S-100 and to potential Submitting Organisations that the IHO S-100 registry was open to non-IHO users on an open and non-restrictive basis. In reality, the database structure of the registry has never had such subdivisions - all relevant data in the registry merely being flagged with the identity of the originator of any submission. This allows the relevant organisation to be consulted specifically in the event that a proposed change to an existing entry requires particular consideration. It has no other purpose.

6. IALA, through its preliminary work to develop appropriate S-100-based product specifications for its own use, has observed that the artificial subdivision of the registry into “main” and supplementary” registers is misleading and could lead to unnecessary confusion and even deter some potential users of the registry. This is because, in reality, all entries in the registers are available to all users. Furthermore, proposals to amend any entries in the registers, except the Data Producer Code register, can be submitted by any of the Submitting Organisations recognised by the IHO. This observation is agreed by TSMAD, the IHB and the registry manager.

7. The exception is the Data Producer Code register. This is because the Data Producer Code register contains producer codes allocated according to the status of the applicant arranged as follows; Part 1 - *Producer Codes Allocated to State Authorities for Use in Products Authorised by the Parent State*, and Part 2 - *All Other Producer Codes*.

Extension of the time limit for raising objections to proposals for changes in the registers

8. The existing time limit for raising objections to proposal to include new or amended entries in the registry is 30 days. It is proposed to extend this time limit to 60 days to allow for more thorough consideration by the relevant stakeholders represented through the Domain Control Bodies.

Impact

Ending the concept of main and supplementary registers

9. As described above, combining the main and supplementary registers is only a conceptual change. It will have no detrimental effects. It will not change the function or contents of the registry in any way. The only material change will be to enable a simplification of the web pages that allow access to the relevant registers.

Extension of the time limit for raising objections to proposals for changes in the registers

10. Extending the time limit for Submitting Organisations to consider proposed new entries to the register will have no detrimental effects. The additional time will allow for a wider circulation of proposals by the Submitting Organisations. It will also provide more time to respondents to overcome absences due to extended holiday periods or other commitments.

Recommendations

11. The HSSC is recommended to endorse S-99 edition 1.1.0 and to recommend its adoption by Member States.

Action required of HSSC

12. HSSC is requested to:

Endorse S-99 edition 1.1.0.

Recommend to MS that S-99 edition 1.1.0 be adopted forthwith to replace the existing edition 1.0.0 dated January 2011.