

Paper for Information

Restructuration of HSSC

Submitted by:	France
Executive Summary:	Last concerns on the HSSC restructuration as proposed by CGHR
Related Documents:	HSSC6-04.2A
Related Projects:	

Introduction / Background

France agrees that HSSC restructuration is vital for IHO to be in better position to face the current new user needs and to best use limited resources of experts.

France recognizes the very substantial work that the CGHR did and congratulates all its members.

But the benefits of the new HSSC organization don't appear explicitly in the report of the CGHR and some new arrangements should be subject to further discussions.

Analysis/Discussion

Like some other Member States, France considers that merging the SNPWG and the CSPCWG could be not relevant, as the SNPWG is now addressing the hydrographic MSP services listed by IMO with e-navigation perspectives, and the CSPCWG is making fewer and fewer distinction between paper chart and ENC. It would be perhaps preferable to merge the new ENCWG with the ex CSPCWG. In particular France is wondering how the NIPWG will manage the huge scope it has been tasked for.

Moreover, for some aspects the SNPWG seemed to be in better position than the future S-100WG to maintain an overall S-100 master plan, to develop new S-100-based PS, well aligned with the SIP of IMO, and to liaise with IALA and all actors of e-navigation.

Before the merger of the TWLWG and the SCWG, France recalls that at the beginning the SCWG was not designed to become a WG but rather a time limited CG group.

Recommendations

The CGHR should perhaps not be disbanded too early. If some issues appear during the transition phase or if new thoughts demonstrate that the proposed arrangements are not as pertinent as expected, in particular those pointed out above, it seems important to study alternatives and to review the HSSC organization before its final adoption.

Justification and Impacts

The new HSSC organization could be less efficient than expected, and some primordial goals addressed by the restructuration should not be reached.

Action Required of [HSSC] [Relevant HSSC WG]

The [HSSC] [Relevant HSSC WG] is invited to:

- a. note this paper
- b. take any appropriate actions to achieved the best possible HSSC restructuration.