

OPENING STATEMENT - Chair

Dear IHO Members, Canadian Hydrographic Service, Vice-Chair, Secretary of TWCWG, I would like to thank the Canadian Hydrographic Service for hosting the meeting of the International Hydrographic Organization's Tides Water level and Currents Working Group here at Victoria Island. I would like to thank Neil Dangerfield and Denny Sinnott for the organizational work for the WG. Thank you to all of you for participating to our meeting TWCWG-2, here.

We salute Bodo De Lange Boom who after several years of contribution to IHO WG (from Canadian Hydrographic Service), retired recently.

As a short introduction, I'd like to say that we will review, debate, progress on various topics in the IHO framework requiring different expertise on ocean and hydrography (tide gauges used by IHO Member States review, resolutions, exchange of harmonic constants and prediction, determining ellipsoidal height of MSL, on-going actions on standard constituent list, training materials, capacity building, specifications for future e-navigation products for water level and surface current).

From 2016, TWCWG-1 at Nitéroï, Brazil, we can highlight the progress done on product specification. Now, keeping this momentum and the interactions with group members make 2018 a deliverable milestone for PS. I'd like to mention that the work on S-1xx is also reflected in the direct involvement of the S-100WG Chair who is archiving a great job, useful for a lot of WGs.

This week is a good opportunity to try to bring some solutions to fit the actions we've been tasked or the need we identify, in an international framework.

This is this type of meeting that ease the work for a sharing of knowledge in marine and hydrographic topics.

This is this type of meeting that contributes to the definition of international reference documents. This is feasible because we share a large range of professional experiences. So, we should not hesitate to speak during these meetings' sessions. We have some issues and this year, after the progress done in 2016, we need to lay/identify all the points that still needed to be clarified.

Thank you again to Canadian Hydrographic Service, Neil, Denny and Colleagues.

Thank you to the Chateau Victoria team who welcomed us.

Now, I would like to welcome you all in this meeting and I wish fruitful deliberations on the issues to be debated.

*Gwenaële Jan
Chair of TWCWG*