A preliminary meeting between the representatives of EU/EEA¹ Hydrographic Offices and IHB took place in Paris (Saint-Mandé) 26 June 2013, just before the third IHO-EC² meeting.

Participants:

- Gilles Bessero, IHB,
- Paul Canham, UKHO (United Kingdom)
- Guido Dumon, MDK, Flemish hydrography (Belgium)
- Guillermo Coll Florit, IHM (Spain)
- Bruno Frachon, SHOM General Director (France)
- Yves Guillam, SHOM (France),
- Gerhard Heggebo, NHS (Norway),
- Spyridon Mazarakis (Greece)
- Yves-Henri Renhas, SHOM (France).
- Noralf Slotsvik, NHS (Norway)
- Magnus Wallhagen, SMA (Sweden).

Summary report and decisions:

1-Welcome

Bruno Frachon welcomes the participants in the "Pôle Géosciences" building. This building accommodates staffs of Météo-France, IGN (French geographic Institute) and SHOM.

2-Establish a IHO European Union Network

Bruno Frachon reports on the future of EUM2 WG of NSHC. Sweden submitted a paper to IRCC on behalf of NHC (attached file). This paper was presented at IRCC5 by France. It aims at establishing an IHO European Union Network (IHO EU Network) under the umbrella of IRCC, which will supersede EUM2 WG. The proposal was supported by IRCC which tasked France to develop the ToR.

IHO EU Network will be inclusive; it will be open to RHCs outside EU/EEA.

France will prepare draft Terms of Reference (ToR). This draft will be circulated amongst member states which have been represented to one of the first three IHO-EC meeting and to the Chair of BSHC (i.e.: Belgium, Finland, Germany, Greece, Norway, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom). The revised draft will then be circulated amongst all IRCC members. It will then be submitted to the formal approval of all IHO Member States through Circular Letter from the IHB.

It is not necessary to wait until the next IRCC meeting.

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¹ EU/EEA: European Union / European Economic Area.

² EC: European Commission

3- Considerations on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) implementation

The group discusses the need to be involved in the implementation of Inspire in the maritime domain and the need to get support from MSDI WG included in its work plan. This group reports to the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC).

Norway and Denmark (agreed post-meeting by Denmark, as it was not represented at the meeting) will draft a submission paper to HSSC in order to task MSDI WG regarding Inspire and other EU related matters. Deadline for the draft: mid-August; (deadline for substantive submissions to HSSC: 17th September).

4- Study of a European Programme of Hydrographic Knowledge 2020

France sent a draft for a submission paper and a feasibility study on a "European Programme of Hydrography". Several highly valuable remarks have been received.

The title of the study will be study of a "European Programme of Hydrographic Knowledge 2020". Remarks will be taken into account and discussion will be pursued without waiting the formal establishment of the IHO EU Network.