

**FIRST MEETING OF THE IHO INTER REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE
IHO-IRCC1
Auditorium Rainier III, Monaco, 05 June 2009**

CBSC Report

1. Background

Capacity building is a vital component of the efforts of intergovernmental technical organisations to support the development goals of the United Nations (UN). The IHO is committed to matching its efforts to those of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and other organizations working in allied fields.

The IHO Capacity Building Committee was established in 2002, due to the change to the new structure of IHO starting from 01st January 2009 CBC became Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC).

The main objectives of the CBSC:

- continuously assess the hydrographic surveying, nautical charting and nautical information status in nations and regions where hydrography is developing,
- establish and maintain close relationships with national agencies and international organizations, which may provide funding or other support for technical assistance projects, and study the procedures to access the funds for Technical Assistance available from such organizations,
- cooperate with Regional Hydrographic Commissions in the creation of Study Teams or Action Groups to carry out assessment studies in identified areas.

To support the Capacity Building process and to provide resources for activities, Capacity Building Fund was created within IHO budget. Main categories of support have been stated as follows:

- Technical assistance - to support technical visits to Member States to assess hydrographic surveying, nautical charting and nautical information status; provide guidelines for the development of local hydrographic capabilities and/or to discuss and advise on technical matters pertaining to hydrographic projects.
- Training and education – to support the implementation of hydrographic, nautical cartography and other related training and education initiatives consistent with the IHO Work Programme.
- Financial assistance for participation in IHO events - to support Member States' representatives to attend courses and/or technical meetings as necessary in the interest of the Organization, consistent with the IHO Work Programme.

- Start-up funding for hydrographic elements of projects - to support the very first steps of the implementation of high priority hydro-cartographic projects consistent with the IHO objectives.

The funding of large projects was considered an activity for specialized agencies and not the IHO. Resources of CB Fund are combined by annual contribution from IHO budget and contributions from donor countries and institutions. So far Republic of Korea has provided direct financial contribution to CB Fund according to MOU signed. Other countries have contributed to capacity building activities providing resources on a basis of Bilateral Agreements or through other funding institutions.

2.- Work conducted before 01 January 2009.

CBSC has had six annual meetings till the 01st January 2009. To enhance the work process and decision taking with in the Sub-Committee, its members have developed Capacity Building Strategy. Complete document is posted on IHO webpage. Following principles of strategy have been laid down:

1. Individual national needs for infrastructure, together with a nation's capacity for infrastructure development, should be assessed firmly against the 3 phases of development as defined in M-2.
2. Skill and technology transfers must leave solutions in place, which are appropriate and sustainable.
3. Wherever possible, capacity building projects should be coordinated regionally and be supported through regional co-operation.
4. The national administration of a State with developing hydrographic services must embrace and support the concept of capacity building as being in its national interest.
5. The focus should be on achieving enduring output which will benefit safe navigation, safety of life at sea, protection of the marine environment and economic development, rather than on creating enabling infrastructure per se.

IHO has expressed long term objective of Capacity Building:

To enable all states which have navigable waters to achieve phase 1 of development (i.e. timely collection and promulgation of hydrographic information for their national waters), and to develop a national plan to put in place appropriate elements of phases 2 and 3 or alternative co-operative regional or bilateral arrangements.

Two main documents have been developed by the Members of the Sub-Committee – CBSC Work program (includes all activities of the CBSC for appropriate year) and Management Plan (includes specific proposals and requests for support from RHC).

CBSC have provided a strong indication to RHC Chairman to submit proposals and requests for support not later than 01st April of each year, so giving enough time for the members of CBSC to prepare for discussion in the annual meeting of the Sub-Committee. It has also been decided by CBSC to organise annual

meetings in late May or latest the first week of June, so as IHO budget process can be informed.

To facilitate and provide transparent work of the CBSC it was decided at the 5th Meeting of the Sub-Committee to develop set of procedures:

1. Procedure and model for submitting requests of support to the CBC.
2. Procedure to be followed by RHCs before submitting requests of support to the CBC.
3. Reviewing process to be followed by the IHB, prior to include request in the Draft Management Plan.
4. Procedure to be followed by the CBC when considering submission requesting support.
5. Procedure for performance assessment.

Following an initiative from the IHB, the responsible officers for Capacity Building matters in the IMO, IOC and IHO decided to hold annual meetings to consider matters such as the procedures established in each organization, their Work Programmes and Funding mechanisms, the experiences gained in the provision of CB, the experience with Funding Agencies and Organizations, the Status of joint co-operation projects and the areas of common interest. Two meetings between IHO, IMO and IOC have been held up to date in October 2007 and October 2008. IALA will be invited to joint the other parent organizations at the next meeting.

3.- Work conducted after 01 January 2009.

CBSC had the 7th Meeting from 11th to 13th May 2009 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. Among several reports on activities conducted both in 2008 and already in 2009, progress achieved, Sub-Committee agreed on final versions of the Procedures. Those will be posted on the web after finalisation. CBSC also came to common agreement that first two procedures shall be provided to IHO Member States both in French and Spanish additionally to the original in English.

CBSC tasked Chair to address Chairmen of RHC with strong indication to submit in proposals and request due in time (not later than 01st April). RHC Chairmen are also invited to follow the PROCEDURES 1 and 2 provided.

Sub-Committee decided that digital database would be the best tool to replace existing Management Plan currently maintained in Excel Worksheets. Small WG was established to lay down the Technical Specification for web based digital database that would include history, actual plan and submitted requests. Members of the Sub-Committee agreed to invite IHB to find appropriate resources to develop the database.

CBSC has considered as a high priority coordination of CB activities with relevant international organisations. Chairman has been tasked to ensure continuous contact between CBSC and IMO/IHO/WMO/IOC coordination board aiming at synergy between organizations' programs, and preventing duplication.

Necessity for simple paper describing the benefits of being an IHO Member has been indicated several times. CBSC has agreed to review and provide comments to the draft paper provided by IHB.

Members of the Sub-Committee invited IHB to investigate possible use of video conferences, as travelling to the meetings require both time and resources. Utilisation of modern technologies would allow to participate in the discussion process even not being able to attend all the meetings. HOs or RHC requesting support would also be able to follow up the discussions and provide additional comments if decided necessary.

At the end of the meeting CBSC elected new Chairman – Mr. Janis Krastins (Latvia) and Vice-Chair - Cdr. Brian CONNON (USA). Sub-Committee thanked Capt.Hugo Gorziglia for excellent chairmanship and indicated that it shall be a challenge to maintain the high standard of CBSC work and activities.

CBSC also took a common decision to request IHB to provide permanent support to the Sub-Committee by assigning permanent Secretary of CBSC.

CBSC also tasked newly elected Chairman to provide the report to the IRCC1 and invite to consider the strategic aspects and avoid the duplication of activities and reporting requested.

=====The End=====