

REPORT ON
NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

1. The 9th NIOHC meeting, which was held at Seychelles during on 25-26 February 2009, took a stock of the activities of the NIOHC during the last one year.

2. The status of important activities of the NIOHC during the past year is as follows:-

- (a) Mauritius joined the NIOHC and signed the statutes.
- (b) Issues about ENC coverage, usage bond, and chart catalogue were highlighted.
- (c) The NIOHC disaster response contacts and plans were updated.
- (d) A comprehensive two hour session on disaster management experience was conducted during the 9th NIOHC. Bangladesh, USA and India presented.
- (e) S-55 database was updated.
- (f) An updated status report on INT chart production in area 'J' was compiled by India and IHB advised.
- (g) A Regional Survey Team prototype operation in Seychelles was undertaken with Pakistan in the lead.
- (h) A four weeks CBC sponsored Multibeam course was conducted at National Hydrographic School, Goa, during November 08.
- (j) A four weeks IOC sponsored Multibeam course was conducted at National Hydrographic School, Goa, during April 09.
- (k) Indian representative in CBC has taken on the element of NIOHC CBC staff officer's role.

3. Through the National Reports forwarded by the MS there appears to be generic requirement for survey and training assistance. The highlights of other activities of the MS are: -

- (a) India has undertaken surveys in Mauritius and Seychelles and given on job training to the local Hydrographers.
- (b) Pakistan is going in for IHO certification for its Hydrographic School and has offered to carry out hydrographic training.
- (c) Thailand has commissioned a new survey vessel.
- (d) UK is likely to offer new training courses to be conducted in Singapore. UK also undertook a bilateral survey for Bangladesh.

(e) USA undertook a bilateral survey in Maldives and check surveys in Sri Lanka and Abu Dhabi.

4. Efforts are in hand to further streamline Navarea VII and VIII information dissemination. Issue of mismatch between Navarea VIII limits and Area `J' (International Charting Region) is also under consideration. Since the RHC does not have a mandate in this regard the President IHB has been requested to look into this aspect

5. The net requirement of training in the region is as given below:-

(a) ENC course for 10/12 personnel

(b) Cartography course for 5/6 personal. Additional request for cartography course through Nippon foundation.

(c) Multibeam course for 10 personnel.

(d) Dedicated survey effort for charting, which the countries would discuss bilaterally.