

**REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA AND  
ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SAIHC)  
By the Vice Chairman, Captain Abri KAMPFER, South Africa**

- 1. Chairman:** Mr Albano GOVE, Mozambique (1999 – 2003)  
Captain Abri KAMPFER, Hydrographer South Africa (2003 - 2007)  
Mr Augusto Bata, Mozambique (since 2007)
- 2. Membership:** France, Mozambique, Mauritius, Norway, South Africa and United Kingdom.

Associate Members: Angola, Kenya, Malawi, Madagascar, Tanzania, Portugal and Seychelles.

Observers: Brazil, USA

**3. Meetings:**

The 6<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Meeting was held Malawi, Mangochi 27 – 28 August 2007.

**4. Agenda Items - 6<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Meeting**

The following are the principal agenda items dealt with during the above-mentioned meeting.

- Report from IHB
- Feedback on 2007 Regional Advisory Visits (Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique & Tanzania)
- 17<sup>TH</sup> IHC : Conference Decisions
- INT chart scheme for Region H: Progress made since last meeting; actual Charting status (S-55); ENC production status; new requirements and modifications proposed to the scheme.
- Regional Capacity Building Management Plan
- Approvals of Candidate Bids from SAIHC
- MSI Training Course: Maputo
- Presentation of National Reports: Hydrographic surveying, nautical charting, nautical publications and information status.
- Hydrographic Survey status (S-55)
- Feedback on Marine Highway Project
- Feedback on Lake Victoria Survey
- SAIHC Statutes
- Granting of observer status to USA
- Marine SDI

- IHO Publication M-2

## Conclusions

Main conclusions were as follows:

- Urge Member States to contribute towards the development of the IHO Capacity Building strategy. RHCs have an important role to co-ordinate requests for training and assist Member States in obtaining specialized training. Member States are to identify what funding possibilities exist for regional projects.
- The importance of the review and reissue of S-55 was highlighted. RHCs are to encourage and provide assistance to Member States to complete and to render the questionnaire for updating of S-55 information. All nations are to complete the section on Maritime Safety Information (MSI).
- Western Indian Ocean Marine Electronic Highway and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project, funded by the World Bank will be a standing agenda item for feedback on the progress and training opportunities.
- IALA should be invited to future SAIHC meetings due to their involvement with Aids to Navigation in the region.
- Encouraged the exchange of relevant hydrographic information and communication among Member States. The training opportunities offered by IHO Memberstates is of particular importance to assist with building of Hydrographic capacity in the region.
- All future National reports to include National Capacity Building requirements to assist in the drafting of the Regional Capacity Building Plan and the generation of prioritised Capacity Building requirements for SAIHC input to the IHOCBC.
- MS requested to sign the Statutes. Minor changes to the Statutes will be made and will be reflected as '*Change 2*'. However, this does not change the nature of the Statutes.
- A formal invitation should be issued to USA to join the next SAIHC meeting in 2009 as an observer.
- The importance of S-55 was re-iterated as it forms the basis of establishing capacity building needs in the various regions. All Member states were urged to keep S-55 up to date by online corrections or with the annual S-55 Questionnaire.
- *Progress on Marine SDI Development and Land-Sea Data Integration*” to be a standing agenda item of SAIHC meetings.
- Associate member states were encouraged to join the IHO. IHO-M2 publication provides valuable information regarding the procedures to obtain membership. M2 can be downloaded from the IHO web site [www.iho.int](http://www.iho.int)

## 5. Venue and date of next meeting

Seminar for NHC Chairmen and the 7<sup>th</sup> SAIHC meeting will be held in Saint Denis, French Département of La Réunion, on 14-17 September 2009.