

**10<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
IHO-IRCC10  
Goa, India, 4-6 June 2018**

**NORTH SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION**

**NSHC report to IRCC10**

**1. Chair**

**Chair:** Declan Black, (IE) from June 2016  
Virginie Debuck, (BE) from March 2018

**Vice-Chair:** Virginie Debuck, (BE) from June 2016  
Hilmar Helgason (IS) from March 2018

**2. Membership**

Members: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom.

**3. Meetings:**

Following NSHC meetings have taken place:

33<sup>rd</sup> meeting NSHC – Oostende, (BE), (27-28 March 2018)

Next meeting: 34<sup>rd</sup> NSHC will take place March 2020 in Iceland

**4. Current NSHC Working Groups:**

- a) North Sea ENC Harmonization Working Group (NSEHWG, chaired by UK)
- b) North Sea International Chart Coordination Working Group (NSICCWG, chaired by UK)
- c) Baltic Sea and North Sea MSDI Working Group (BSNSMSDIWG, chaired by DK)
- d) Resurvey Working Group (RWG, chaired by UK)
- e) Tidal Working Group (TWG, rotating chair, currently BE)

**5. Status of IRCC actions (relevant for the NSHC):**

<b>Nr.</b>	<b>Action (Agenda item)</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Status</b>
2	to engage with Member States in their regions to identify potential instructors to accompany MSI trainings in order to become MSI trainers and report back to IRCC	RHC Chairs	IRCC10	Requirement to identify new people who can support and deliver MMSI training
3	to consider using Trainer for Trainers (TFT) and e-learning methods to support the development of CB Phase 1 for developing coastal States and report back to IRCC	RHC Chairs	IRCC10	Feedback from CB working group to IRCC
4	to encourage the attendance of Member States and Observers at WWNWS-SC meetings, to highlight the use of the Joint Manual on MSI to ensure correct terminology and formats are used in MSI	RHC Chairs	IRCC10	Not relevant

	messages, to encourage closer engagement of the National MSI Coordinators of Member States with the relevant NAVAREA Coordinator(s) and report back to IRCC			
10	to invite Member States to investigate the possibilities of fund raising and engagement in CB via national organizations and report back to the IRCC	RHC Chairs	IRCC10	Capacity Building (Chair invites NSHC members to engage with CB WG Chair on this matter. (GERMANY: Comments that Many states doing this already e.g. Norway and the UK), States that it is good if national agencies can be used to get involved and progress CB matters.
33	to encourage the use of satellite derived bathymetry and risk assessment methodologies for developing survey priority areas as part of attracting donor funding using the project rationale as presented in doc. IRCC9-08C (8)	RHC Chairs	IRCC10	Satellite Bathymetry Workshop is noted to have been deferred until September 2018, members encouraged to engage with workshop
36	to note the list of events organized by other intergovernmental and stakeholders indicated in <i>doc. IRCC9-09B</i> , consider how the IHO might be represented in those events that are considered relevant and liaise with the IHO Secretariat for the appropriate and report back to IRCC (9)	RHC Chairs	IRCC	Netherlands states that this is going nicely

## 6. Agenda Items:

### A. IHO Bodies

NSHC member states have actively participated in IHO bodies. The outcome is shared with and reported to all members.

SPRWG: Opportunity for NSHC to give input.

IENWG: NSHC stays represented by Germany.

WEND: NSHC discussed ENC use to all vessels. Suggestion that this topic should be addressed in the Strategic Plan with a view towards establishing IHO opinion in relation to ENC data dissemination.

NSICCWG: INT charting changes since NSHC32. New TOR is approved.

TWG: WP 18/01: North Sea wide realization of reference surfaces. NSHC decides that the TWG has to continue to investigate and to reduce differences between the LAT surfaces of member states.

### B. Survey

RWG:

- ✓ Group's risk assessment, agreed to concentrate on the Dover Strait area
- ✓ The RWG member are sharing Catzoc data and resurvey frequency.
- ✓ WG considered the status of autonomous vehicles as survey platforms noting that so far there have been few trials and that these have not been overly successful
- ✓ WG shared experiences on LIDAR, SDB and CSB.
- ✓ Each member state is asked to comment IHO CSB paper

- ✓ NSHC tasks to RWG to investigate how CSB can be used to support survey/resurvey activity in the North Sea region and to write a paper about it.

#### GEBCO and Nibbon Seabed 2030

The plan is to make a map of maps in order to see where data is available and using this as a resource; countries will get involved in order to task surveys in areas where data gaps exist.

#### C. Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure

BSNSMSDI: MSP will be a useful tool once implemented. An effort will be made to build a list for MSDI for circulation of NSHC members.

Bathymetry in support of Blue Economy: use of bathymetric data-sets into other areas as there is Blue Economy.

MSP in Norway: The tool aims to provide a service based approach based on long stakeholder engagement and facilitates the integration of statistics and geospatial information.

New Routes in the North Sea: Project between Denmark and Sweden: new vessel routing system.

#### D. General Developments

Automated Contour Algorithm: a workshop on this topic will be organised

Some presentations of industry are held.

#### E. National Developments

Production of Nautical Publications – Norway

New survey ship in Denmark

Infomar.

### **7. NSHC cooperation with stakeholders (organizations, industry, etc.):**

NSHC continues to encourage the active participation of industry and academia in our meetings.

### **8. Conclusions:**

- NSHC will keep on with bi-annual meetings. In between there can be online/skype meetings if necessary.
- No North Sea Risk Assessment : Risk assessment is for the time being continued on the levels of data exchange and mutual assessment of each other's policies using relevant datasets. There will be no North Sea wide Risk assessment, but the RWG will reconsider this for the DSSS area due to its specific characteristics
- Keep on sharing experiences also in between the meetings.
- Keep on cooperating on shared projects as for example automated contour algorithm.
- Continue to investigate and reduce the differences between the LAT along boundaries in accordance with the action items of TWG WP 18/1. Publication of those differences is paused until the outcomes of the investigations are available.
- Encourage the use of HO's datasets on different areas.
- To investigate how CSB can be used to support survey/resurvey activity in the North Sea region.

**9. Achievements and lessons learned:**

- Keep on sharing experiences.
- New Routing System in Kattegat will be established 1 July 2020.
- Members have actively support the IHO and its committees and working groups.

**10. Actions required of IRCC:**

The IRCC is invited to note the report of the NSHC.

Virginie Debuck

NSHC Chair