NORDIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NHC)

NHC report to IRCC11 Genoa, Italy 3-5 June 2019

1.	Chair:	Mr Georg Lárusson (IS) from April 2019		
		Mr Rainer Mustaniemi, (FI) from April 2018		
	Vice-Chair:	Mr Árni Þór Vésteinsson (IS) from April 2019 Mr Jarmo Mäkinen, (FI) from April 2018		
2.	Membership			

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Members:	Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden			
Associate member(s):	None			
Observers:	IHO representative, Secretary General, Dr Mathias Jonas			

3. Meetings:

Since last IRCC10 meeting there has been one NHC meeting: NHC63 in Helsinki, Finland 9-11 April 2019

Next meeting (NHC64) will be in Reykjavik, Island, March 2020.

4. Current NHC Working Groups:

- a) Nordic Survey Expert Group (NSEG)
- b) Nordic Chart Production Expert Group (NCPEG)

5. Status of IRCC10 actions (relevant for the NHC)

No	Action (Agenda item)	Responsible	Deadline	Status
3	To submit draft IHO Resolution 2/1997 as	RHC Chairs	October	DONE
	amended (Annex C) to the RHC Members for		2018	
	comments and report back to IRCC (6.2)			

6. Agenda items

The main subjects dealt with during the reporting period were the following:



Agenda items cont.

- Status and development plans of nautical publications
- E-Navigation and future needs for improved hydrographic services and Standards
- Outcome of the Nordic strategic workshop.
- Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Nordic Chart Production. Development of new chart production systems
- Validation of Chart Production Tools
- Development of new Bathymetric Database
- IHO EU network
- Outcome of WENDWG9
- Digital products for the leisure market
- S-100 product developments
- RENC operations
- New Routeing System in Kattegat
- Harmonized chart datum
- Crowd Source Bathymetry- Seabed 2030
- Data Policy for HO's
- Reorganisation in HO's
- Open session for industry
- Selection of the Council member.

7. New ship route system in the Skagerrak and Kattegat

The maritime authorities in Denmark and Sweden have since 2008 worked closely together on a major route initiative in order to increase navigational safety in the Skagerrak and Kattegat. A modern ship routing system can reduce the risk of accidents and oil spills, thus protecting the marine environment. IMO gave the final approval in May 2018 with implementation on July 1, 2020. See document C1.3

https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/rhc/NHC/NHC63/NHC63_2019_C.1.3_White_paper_New_shi p_route_system_DK.pdf

8. NHC cooperation with stakeholders (organizations, industry, etc.)

NHC is represented in the IHO-EU Network Working Group. The IHO-EU Network Working Group (IENWG) has been established by the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) to monitor and deal with the activities and processes related to hydrographic aspects under the aegis of the European Union (EU).

After NHC63 meeting took place open session with industry participants from Fugro and Meritaito ltd.



9. NHC strategic workshop - The future role of the Nordic Hydrographic Offices

In the end of 2018 the MS of the NCH agreed to arrange a Nordic strategic workshop in order to discuss the Nordic long term strategic views regarding where the Nordic HO will have to be from year 2026/2030 and beyond. The aim of the NHC strategic workshop was to establish a strategic framework for the NHC MS in a Nordic perspective within the timeframe 2026/30 and to harmonize strategic milestones towards 2030.

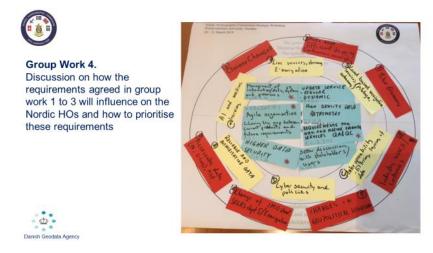
The strategic workshop was arranged by the Danish HO and hosted by the Swedish HO in Malmoe March 2019. Before the workshop each NHC MS had to prepare a presentation and to complete a questionnaire about the present status and expectation for the future.



Danish Geodata Agency

At the end of the workshop the participants agreed on the 3 to 5 most important demands/requirements and the most important initiatives/developments from an outside perspective and the actions from the national HO to meet the demands /requirements. At the workshop it was agreed that Denmark should prepare an input paper in order for the NHC63 meeting to discuss the challenges and the role of Nordic Hydrographic offices in a forward looking perspective.





In order to develop the Nordic strategic approach and to concretize the results from the discussion the NHC63 meeting agreed to continue the strategic process and to arrange a NHC Strategic workshop in Norway in January 2020.

10. NHC Conclusions:

- Member states to follow IHO Res2/1997 recommendations in their national reports to RHC.
- Nordic member states to establish CATZOC policies and provide information to DQWG
- To make a proposal (Sweden) to WENDWG about extended buffer limit for ENC overlaps (today 5 m), especially in smaller scale bands (1, 2 and 3).

11. Achievements and lessons learned

- White paper- New Ship Route System in Kattegat (1 July 2020.
- To prepare an information paper about different licence models about data for leisure market.
- Related to IHO strategy review to prepare and send common questionnaire to the end users on their future requirements.

12. Actions required from the IRCC11

• The IRCC11 is invited to take a note of the NHC report.