



NORDIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

NHC input to IRCC03
Niteroi, Brazil, 26-27 May 2011

1. General

The 55th meeting of the NHC took place on 4-6 April 2011 in Stavanger (Norway). The meeting report will be available shortly on the IHO website.

The main issues of the meeting were:

- Discussions on progress of the WEND WG(see the proposal item 3.)
- Relations to other RHCs. NHC decided to support the area of interest to the ARHC to be coinciding with the new NAV Areas for the Arctic region. NHC finds no conflicts in the subject, as NHC interests are not limited to a specific geographic area.
- Improved data exchange implementation.
- Presentations of joint hydrographic projects in the region.
- Joint actions for harmonisation of Nordic bilateral agreements with UKHO.

The NHC has formed the following Working Groups:

- Multibeam validation Workshop. Yearly meeting.
- Nordic DQWG Chaired by Finland,
- Nordic Nautical Publication WG (new),
- Nordic Paper Chart Expert Group.

2. Status of IRCC actions (relevant for the NHC)

IRCC02/01: Adopt objectives to accelerate the process of ratification of the protocol of amendments to the IHO Convention in order to meet the end of 2011 deadline. RHCs Permanent. Report results to IRCC3

All NHC member states have approved the protocol of amendments to the IHO Convention

IRCC02/02: Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership. RHCs Permanent. Report results to IRCC3

Not relevant for this commission.

IRCC02/05: a/ Report to IRCC3 on a/ the methodology used for assessing and displaying survey status, taking into account navigational and MSDI requirements. RHCs 20 APR 2011

There are no coordinated methodology for assessing and displaying survey status for NHC at the regional level. Several NHC member states contribute to the EMOD-NET database of hydrographic metadata, which covers most of the region. Other NHC member states display



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survey status on national web pages and in other regional commissions, such as the BSHC/HELCOM resurvey database.

IRCC02/05: b/ the implementation of the guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International chart schemes (CL 23/2010 of 3 March 2010). RHCs 20 APR 2011

Nothing to report for NHC.

IRCC02/05: c/ their experience in dealing with marine disasters in relation with IHO guidelines (TR 1/2005). RHCs 20 APR 2011

Nothing to report for NHC.

IRCC02/05: d/ strategies to involve non-IHO MSs in RHC's activities. RHCs 20 APR 2011
Not relevant for this Commission.

IRCC02/06 Nominate a representative to the IHR Editorial Board and report to the IHB. RHCs (which have not done so) 30 DEC 2010.

New NHC representative to the IHR Editorial Board is Mrs Charlotte Wiin Havsteen from Denmark

IRCC02/09: Consider the invitation of observers to the meetings of the RHC to be established in the Arctic Region, in accordance with article 4 of TR 2/1997 as amended. ARHC (in establishment process) Permanent

Completed. The Statutes of ARHC contain rules for associated membership and observers.

3. Proposals

Status on the progress of the WEND WG

The Nordic Hydrographic Commission at its 55th Conference reaffirms the importance of the WEND principles and states its full support for the WEND principles. For that reason the NHC looks upon the WEND WG as the vital instrument to monitor and implement the WEND principles.

In order for the WEND-WG representative to prepare a coordinated and harmonised input to the WEND-WG, the representative from BSHC and NHC, have agreed to send a questionnaire to the BSHC and NHC members.

Even though a questionnaire will cover the actions stated by IRCC2, the NHC notes that the WEND-WG has not been active. The lack of progress in the WEND WG is of concern to the NHC.



IRCC3-03.1A

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As a consequence the WEND-WG representative from BSHC and NHC have not received any information from the WEND-WG since the IRCC2, have not participated in any WEND WG meetings and are not aware of any WEND-WG meetings being carried out.

In this context, and in order to promote and support the progress of the WEND-WG, the 55th NHC Conference strongly recommends IRCC3 to revitalise the WEND WG and to decide on the way ahead.

Actions required from the IRCC3:

The IRCC3 is requested to consider the proposal and to take appropriate action.

The IRCC is invited to note this report.