

MEDITERRANEAN & BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MBSHC)

MBSHC REPORT TO IRCC03

Niteroi, Brazil, 26-27 May 2011

1. General

The 16th meeting of the MBSHC took place on, 22- 24 September 2009 in Odessa (Ukraine). The meeting report is available on the IHO website (http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/rhc/MBSHC/MBSHC16/Complete_Final_Report.pdf).

Following allocation by the CBSC of funding to support technical/advisory visits to Syria, Israel, and Libya, the Commission decided that the MBSHC Chairman to inquire whether these countries need such visits.

According to the Commission's decision, Syria, Israel and Libya were asked whether if such visits were needed.

14-18 June 2010 was planned for the visit to Syria but it was postponed due to absence of the official approval from Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After having a letter from Syrian General Directorate of Ports in 15 March 2011 the visit was again planned between 4-7 April 2011. But It was postponed again to a later date.

From Israel and Libya no response has been received until now. In case of decline the need for a visit by Israel and Libya, other requests will be identified.

After the 10th meeting of Black and Azov Seas Working Group (BASWG) Georgia asked a technical visit. This issue was discussed in IRCC2 and iaw IRCC02/07 the resources of the visit identified among CBSC, MBSHC Chair and IHB. The visit was carried out between 14-16 December 2010 with the experts from Spain, Turkey and IHB.

The 17th meeting of the MBSHC will take place in Athens (Greece), between 01-03 June 2011.

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

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.

MBSHC Members were informed and this item will be discussed in the forthcoming MBSHC meeting and be reported to IRCC Chair.

IRCC02/02: Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership.

MBSHC Members were informed and this item will be discussed in the forthcoming MBSHC meeting and be reported to IRCC Chair.

IRCC02/03: Contact pending applicants in their region to encourage the ratification of the IHO Convention.

This issue was raised in BASWG meeting in May 2010 and Bulgaria was informed and invited to deposit her instrument of accession.

IRCC02/05: Report to IRCC3 on:

a. the methodology used for assessing and displaying survey status, taking into account navigational and MSDI requirements.

The methodology currently used for assessing and displaying survey status is the graphical index which is prepared yearly by the coordinator MS. This issue will be discussed under the agenda of the forthcoming MBSHC meeting in order to improve the current methodology. Results will be reported to IRCC Chair.

b. The implementation of the guidance for the preparation and maintenance of International chart schemes (CL 23/2010 of 3 March 2010).

ToR and RoP for Region F ICCWG was prepared based on the reference guidance and will be discussed for approval in the forthcoming MBSHC meeting.

c. Their experience in dealing with marine disasters in relation with IHO guidelines (TR 1/2005).

The draft disaster plan for MBSHC was prepared and presented in IRCC02 and will be discussed in the forthcoming MBSHC meeting

d. Strategies to involve non-IHO MSs in RHC's activities.

Non-IHO MSs are informed with the MBSHC's and IHO's activities and invited to the meetings of MBSHC and BASWG.

IRCC02/06: Nominate a representative to the IHR Editorial Board and report to the IHB.

IRCC Chair will be informed with the MBSHC nomination after the forthcoming MBSHC meeting.

IRCC02/07: Identify resources to carry out a visit in Georgia in 2010.

The technical visit was carried out.

IRCC02/12: Request follow up reports from recipients of CB Fund support and submit them to the IHB.

The follow up report from Georgia was requested.

3. Proposals

The IRCC is invited to note this report.