

## MEDITERRANEAN & BLACK SEAS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MBSHC)

### MBSHC REPORT TO IRCC05

Wollongong 3-4 June, 2013

#### 1. General

**Chair:** Cdre Georgios LEVENTIS (Greece) (from June 2011)

**Vice-Chair:** Captain PhD Erhan GEZGIN (Turkey) (from June 2011)

**Members:** Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Monaco, Morocco, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine.

**Associate Members:** Bulgaria, Georgia, Israel, Malta, Palestinian Authority, UK, USA

**Observers:** Albania, Germany, Lebanon, DINMA, IMA, IOC, PRIMAR

The 17th meeting of the MBSHC took place in Athens, Greece, from 1 to 3 June 2012.

The Commission approved an amendment to the MBSHC Statutes in order to enable Associate Members to host MBSHC meetings. It further approved the amended Rules of Procedures of the Black and Azov Seas Working Group.

The Commission recommended MSs to contribute actively in the development of NEAMTWS through upgrade national sea level stations identified by NEAMTWS Implementation Plan to real time data delivery and participate in data exchange.

The Commission designated Turkey as the CB Coordinator for the MBSHC. It further invited CB coordinator to prepare a two years CB plan in coordination with MSs and Chair.

The Commission adopted the request of Romania to organize a seminar on the establishment of the national hydrographic committee and invited CB Coordinator to do the necessary coordination with Romania, other MSs, CBSC and IHB to carry out this seminar. The technical visit in Syria has been postponed. CB Coordinator was invited be in contact with Israel (and Libya when it is appropriate) to inquire if they need the technical visits and identify volunteer Member States able to provide staff to accomplish these visits. CB Coordinator sent submissions for technical visits to Israel and Georgia to the CBSC Chair on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in order to import them in the agenda of the CBSC11 Meeting. These visits may be added in the IHO 5-year CB Work Program which will be revised and approved by the CBSC.

On the recommendation of IRCC the Commission invited the MBSHC Chairmen to highlight in the standard meeting reports the items that would like to refer to IRCC.

On the recommendation of IRCC the Commission called the MBSHC Chairman to invite Chairs of adjacent RHCs to attend MBSHC meetings.

The 18th MBSHC meeting will be hosted in Istanbul during the second half of 2013.

#### 2. Status of IRCC actions (relevant to the MBSHC)

*IRCC4/01: Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership.*

The Commission urged MSs not yet ratified the protocol of amendments to the IHO Convention to contact their national authorities to accelerate the process of ratification of the protocol.

*IRCC4/02: Continue to engage pending applicants in their region to encourage the ratification of the IHO Convention.*

The Commission urged MSs, not yet approved the pending applicants to IHO membership, to contact their national authorities to accelerate the approval process of the pending applicants. Bulgaria and Montenegro have been granted the IHO Membership and are invited to deposit their instrument of accession.

*IRCC4/04: Nominate a representative to the IHR Editorial Board and report to the IHB.*

The Commission designated Turkey as the representative of the MBSHC in the International Hydrographic Review Editorial Board as it was reported in MBSHC report to IRCC4.

*IRCC4/07: Invite GEBCO Guiding Committee / Bathymetric Regional Project Chairs to attend corresponding RHCs meetings, aiming at strengthening collaboration with a priority on improving high resolution shallow water bathymetry at the regional level.*

GEBCO Guiding Committee will be invited to attend the next MBSHC Meeting

*IRCC4/08: RHCs to provide comments on draft C-55 framework developed by Australia to Chair.*

The Commission has forwarded input to IHB.

*IRCC4/09: Consider amending Statutes of the RHCs in order to allow non-IHO MSs to host RHCs conferences, when and if applicable..*

The Commission approved an amendment to the MBSHC Statutes in order to enable Associate Members to host MBSHC meetings during its 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*IRCC4/20: Review the relevant tasks of the IHO 2013 Work Programme in their respective work plans and report on suggested updates, if any, to the IRCC Chair.*

The IHO 2013 Work Programme will be in the agenda of the following MBSHC Meeting and the results will be reported to the IRCC Chair as soon as possible

*IRCC4/27: Inform MSs of the IMO's transition to the implication to the mandatory IMO Member States Audit Scheme from 2015.*

The Commission informed the respective MSs of the IMO's transition to the implication to the mandatory IMO Member States Audit Scheme from 2015

*IRCC4/32: Provide to the IRCC Chair the estimated values of SPIs and agreed WPIs as of 31 December 2012 and target values for 31 December 2017*

The issue will be imported in the agenda of the following MBSHC and the results will be reported to the IRCC Chair.

### **3. Proposals**

The IRCC is invited to note this report.