

US-Canada Hydrographic Commission

International Hydrographic Organization

Report to the Sixth Meeting of the IHO Inter Regional Coordination Committee Paris, France May 19-20, 2014

Report from the US-Canada Hydrographic Commission

1. **Co-Chair:** Denis Hains (Canada)
Co-Chair: RDML Gerd F. Glang (USA)

2. **Membership:**
Full Members: Canada
United States of America

Organizational update:

For Canada

Denis Hains assumed duties as Hydrographer General in March 10, 2014.

Laurent Tardif assumed the position of Director, National Products and Services on March 30, 2014.

For the United States

No changes have occurred since IRCC-5.

3. **Meetings:**
 - a. Since IRCC5:
 - i. Chart Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting (February 26-27, 2014).
 - ii. 37th USCHC met in Newfoundland Canada on (April 16, 2014).
 - b. Next events
 - i. CAC video conference call (tentatively September-October 2014).
 - ii. 38th USCHC meeting is tentatively scheduled March 16-19, 2015 in Washington D.C. during the US HYDRO 2015 conference.
4. **Activities:**
 - a. Reports
 - i. USCHC37 Commission Minutes
 - ii. CAC Committee Report (February 2014)
 - iii. USCHC Report to the IRCC-6
 - b. Projects
 - i. Trans-boundary ENC Overlap Resolution

Several years of cooperative effort have led to the resolution of ENC overlaps between the member states. All issues on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts have been addressed and, new or new edition, ENCs have been released. The solution for the one remaining ENC overlap in the Beaufort Sea has been agreed upon and production work has begun.

- c. Representation in IHO Working Groups and Committees
See Appendix A.
 - d. Status of IRCC actions relevant for USCHC.
See Appendix B.
 - e. USCHC input to IHO Strategic Performance Indicators (SPIs) and IRCC Working-level Performance Indicators (WPIs) relevant to USCHC.
See Appendix C.
- 5. Main Items under Consideration:**
- a. Print on Demand
In April 2014, NOAA stopped using the government printing and distribution system originally adopted in 1861. As of April 2014, NOAA has authorized seven companies to sell NOAA's paper nautical charts that are printed upon customers' orders -- or "on demand." The information on the charts is still maintained by NOAA, and the charts are corrected with Notices to Mariners up to the week of purchase.
 - b. Enhancing management and operational-level exchanges between hydrographic offices on an annual basis.
 - c. Sharing R&D results in emerging technologies and practices. These items include real-time digital update system the US is using for its Coast Pilot publications, using radar and satellites to collect bathymetric information, developing policies for hydrographic offices use of non-traditional data sources (such as crowd source or other data sources that do not currently meet IHO specifications), utilization of LIDAR, and others.
 - d. Ensuring responsiveness of the RHC to the action items of the IRCC and active participation in the working groups of the HSSC. See Appendix A.
- 6. IHO Work Programme relative to USCHC**
[Refer to "Finalised IHO Work Programme For 2013"]
- Programme 1 "Corporate Affairs"
Element 1.1 Co-operation with International Organizations and participation in relevant meetings.
- 1.1.12 International Maritime Organisation (IMO).

Each Commission member has attended and supports delegations to the IMO MSC and NAV meetings.

1.1.17.1 Digital Geo-spatial Intelligence Working Group (DGIWG).

CA(CHS) participated in the meeting the NATO Geospatial Information Framework Model Maintenance Team (NMMT) held in Ottawa Canada in February 2014. Their contribution was to work with the NMMT hydrographical sub-team and assist in their efforts to harmonize S-101 and the NATO Geospatial Information Framework (NGIF).

Element 1.3 Public Relations

1.3.3 World Hydrography Day.

Members individually organized several activities and events to celebrate the day and to promote knowledge about the role and significance of hydrography.

Programme 2 “Services and Standards”

Element 2.2 Hydrographic Data Transfer Standards

2.2.2 Maintain and extend the relevant IHO standards, specifications, and publications.

The Vice Chair of USCHC participated in HSSC5 and, as indicated earlier, members are actively involved in several working groups (see Appendix A).

Element 2.3 Nautical Cartography

2.3.2.6 S-11 Part B – Catalogue of INT Charts.

Both Commission members submitted updates to the INT catalogue for Region A to the IHB in March 2013 (US) and March 2014 (Canada). The IHO website is in the process of been updated to reflect these submissions.

Programme 3 “Inter Regional Coordination and Support”

Element 3.1 Co-operation with Member States and attendance at relevant meetings.

3.1.15 USA and Canada Hydrographic Commission

In addition to the USCHC and related CAC meetings, the members remain in close and frequent contact discussing matters of mutual concern. The Commission also stays abreast of developments in other RHC’s; such as the ARHC, for example.

7. Recommendations to the IRCC-6

No formal proposals were made from USCHC to IRCC-6.

8. Conclusions and Achievements

a. A renewed Memorandum of Arrangement (MOA) was signed between US (OCS) and CA (CHS) regarding the USCHC and an associated Schedule A 2013-1 on Levels of Service.

b. The completion of the ENC trans-boundary project (for Pacific and Atlantic coasts and the Great Lakes) which addressed overlap issues between the members was a major accomplishment. This effort required a high degree of cooperation and collaboration. The Members are now working to maintain the lines of communication that will help avoid conflicting production issues in the future.

c. The USCHC continues to be an effective body for the Member States. It serves as an important avenue for communication in address issues of mutual interest.

IRCC6 is invited to take note of the report.

Appendix A

U.S.-Canada Representation in Working Groups of the IHO

As of April 2014

	<i>U.S.</i>	<i>Canada</i>
SCWG	Kurt Hess (OCS) (chair) David Enabnit (OCS)	Louis Maltais (Vice-chair) Bodo de Lange Boom
TSMAD/DIPWG	Julia Powell (OCS) Colby Harmon (OCS) Robert Greer (SPAWAR) David Grant (SPAWAR)	Lynn Patterson
WEND	Julia Powell (OCS)	Sean Hinds (Vice Chair)
DPSWG	None	None
SNPWG	Tom Loeper (OCS) Mike Kushla (NGA)	Sean Hinds (tent)
CSPCWG	Robert Heeley (OCS) Jacqueline Barone (NGA)	David Prince
DQWG	Sean Legeer (OCS) Brian Heap (NGA)	Jon Griffin
MSDIWG	Maureen Kenny (OCS) Kurt A. Nelson (OCS) John W. Von Rosenberg (NGA)	Kian Fadaie
TWLWG	Stephen Gill (COOPS)	Phil MacAulay
SCWG	Kurt Hess Chair (OCS) David Enabnit (OCS) Carl Kammerer (NGA) Russ Ives (NGA)	Louis Maltais (vice-chair)
ABLOS	none	Sunil Bisnath (chair)

Appendix B

Status of IRCC5 actions (relevant of the USCHC)

No	ACTION (AGENDA ITEM)	RESP.	DEADLINE	STATUS and USCHC Status
IRCC5/01	Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership	RHCs	Permanent. Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2013	All applications approved. Canada's approval of Georgia is in the final diplomatic stages.
IRCC5/04	Comply with the CBSC Procedures and ensure the timely provision of the appropriate documentation that justify expenses associated to CB projects, and to demand refund, if needed, not later than one month after the event has finalized	RHC	Permanent	No CB projects under consideration at this time.
IRCC5/05	Seek Member States' approval to Publication B-6 (6)	IHB	Dec 2013	Done
IRCC5/06	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.	RHCs / GEBCO	Permanent	Ongoing
IRCC5/07	Consider the participation of the stakeholders at the RHC conferences	RHC Chairs	Before IRCC6	Done

IRCC5/14	<p>a) Investigate, produce and provide the Chair with a draft straw paper highlighting ENC issues required to be reported to IMO and other high level organizations.</p> <p>b) Chair to circulate it to IRCC Members for comments.</p> <p>c) Provide this input to IHB for consideration.</p>	UK Chair /IRCC Members Chair	Jun 2013 Sep 2013 Nov 2013	Done
IRCC5/16	Provide the IRCC Chair with the reports on the progress of the relevant tasks of the IHO 2013 Work Programme.	RHCs and IRCC subsidiary organs	by the end of Jan 2014	Done
IRCC5/18	Publicize the IHO CB Stakeholders Seminar (6)	IRCC Members	before the Seminar (11 March 2014)	Done
IRCC5/19	Provide to the IRCC Chair the estimated values of SPIs and agreed WPIs as of 31 December 2013 and target values for 31 December 2017, complemented by the comments on the difficulties encountered and suggestions for the way forward	RHC Chairs	Permanent. Report to the Chair by the end of Jan 2014	Done
IRCC5/20	Consider proposing agenda items to the next EIHC5 (4)	RHC Chairs	Jan 2014	Done. No items proposed.
IRCC5/25	Find a harmonized definition for Cartographic Boundary according to the guidelines to produce ENC and to submit a proposal to include the definition in the existing appendix to IHO Resolution 13/2012 on WEND Guidelines (6)	IHB	Dec 2013	Done
IRCC5/26	Submit the draft revision of S-5 and S-8 to the IHB in order to seek Member States' approval (6)	IBSC	Jun 2013	Done
IRCC5/27	Issue a Circular Letter on S-5/S-8 for the approval of Member States	IHB	Upon receiving the IBSC docs.	Done
IRCC5/28	Encourage RHCs to support GEBCO regional mapping projects and report back to IRCC	RHC Chairs	IRCC6	Under discussion but nothing to report to IRCC6

IRCC5/29	Encourage participation of Stakeholders in the region on IFHS-IHO Stakeholders Conference of October 2013	RHC Chairs	Before Oct 2013	Meeting has occurred
IRCC5/34	Encourage Member States and representatives of industry and academia to promote and to work together to ensure that the best possible use is made of Satellite Derived Bathymetry	RHC Chairs	Permanent	In Progress. Discussions/presentations on this at the Arctic Science Forum. An item under discussion between CHS and the Canada Space Agency (CSA).
IRCC5/35	Encourage discussions on how Crowd Source Bathymetry can be used in official navigational products and report back to IRCC6	RHC Chairs	IRCC6	Discussed at USCHC37, however, nothing to report

Appendix C

USCHC input to IHO Strategic Performance Indicators (SPIs) and IRCC Working-level Performance Indicators (WPIs) relevant to USCHC.

No PI	Designation	IRCC Contribution	Comments	USCHC input
SPI 7	Increase in participation / membership in RHCs.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs.		USCHC has two members. There is no need to increase the official permanent membership of the USCHC. Member states do participate in commission meetings as schedules permit. In recent years, United Kingdom and France have attended.
WPI 18	Percentage of IHO MS updating their C-55 entry data regarding hydrography survey, INT charts, ENC, and MSI in the reporting period.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs.	US submitted a C-55 update in April 2012. CA did not update C-55 in the reporting period.	50%
WPI 19	Status of hydrographic surveys in each region.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs.		Both nations have active national survey programs within the geographic area of the USCHC. Collected hydrographic data is shared in support of chart production and updates in trans-boundary areas per agreement.

WPI 20	Percentage of agreed INT chart schemes, percentage of INT charts available.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs or ICCWGs.	An update to S-11 Part b, Region A was submitted in March 2013 (US) and March 2014 (CA).	100%
WPI 22	Increase in effective MS participation in RHC activities.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs.		USCHC has two member states. In recent years, France and United Kingdom have attended as observers and contributors as schedules allowed.
WPI 29	Percentage of Coastal States which have set up a national geospatial infrastructure.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs.	US information can be found at: http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/INFO/OnePagers/NSRS.html	100%
WPI 40	Number of agreements signed in the reporting period, including bilaterals and RENC membership, etc.	Source: collated by IRCC through RHCs.	A Memorandum of Arrangement (MOA) was signed between US (OCS) and CA (CHS) regarding the USCHC and an associated Schedule A 2013-1 Level of Services	1.