



**Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic
Commission (MACHC) Report to IRCC6**



1. Chair

Chair: Mr Michel Amafo (Director MAS, Suriname) – Mar 2013 – Dec 2014

RAdm Tom Karsten (National Hydrographer, United Kingdom) – Dec 2012-Mar 2013

RAdm Nick Lambert (National Hydrographer, United Kingdom) – Dec 2011-Dec 2012

Vice-Chair: Capt Peter Kortenoeven (Hydrographer, Netherlands) Mar 2013 – Dec 2014

Mr Michel Amafo (Director MAS, Suriname) – Dec 2011- Mar 2013

2. Membership

Members: Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, France, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, United Kingdom, United States of America, Venezuela.

Associate Members: IHO Members – None; Non IHO Members - Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia.

Observers: IHO Members – Chile, British Virgin Islands (UK), Dominican Republic, Montserrat (UK); Non IHO Members - Bahamas, Belize, Costa Rica, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St Vincent & The Grenadines.

Organizations: Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), HYPACK, International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico (IBCCA), International Maritime Organization Regional Activity Center / Regional Marine Pollution Emergency, Information and Training Center (IMO REMPEITC), Maritime Alliance, Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services (RTCM), Caribbean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (CMOU), Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) International Centre for ENC's (IC-ENC).

Industry: CARIS, ESRI, Fugro Pelagos Inc., IIC Technologies, Jeppesen, Kongsberg, Pelydryn, QPS BV Netherlands, Liquid Robotics, Teledyne, Hypack Inc.

3. Meetings:

Last Meeting: 14th MACHC meeting, Phillipsburg, Sint Maarten, 9-13 December 2013
(attendees underlined above).

4. Current MACHC Working Groups:

- a) Marine Economic Infrastructure Programme Working Group (MEIP-WG)
- b) MACHC Integrated Charting Committee Working Group (MICC-WG)
- c) Capacity Building

5. Status of IRCC actions (relevant for the [RHC])

IRCC05/01 Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership.

Complete - MS were encouraged by both IHB (Robert Ward) and MACHC Chair (M. Amafo (Suriname) to approve pending applications at the 14th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/03 Continue to engage suspended Member States in their region to encourage their re-insertion in IHO.

Complete - MACHC Chair contacted Dominican Republic to encourage their participation at the 14th MACHC Meeting, Sint Maarten. No response received.

IRCC05/04 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.

Ongoing - The MACHC CB Coordinator makes every effort to comply with this provision.

IRCC05/06 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 (6).

Ongoing - MACHC Chair contacted GEBCO Guiding Committee/Bathymetric Regional Project Chairs to encourage their participation at the 14th MACHC Meeting, Sint Maarten. An International Bathymetric Chart of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico (IBCCA) representative attended the 14th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/07 Consider the participation of the stakeholders at the RHC conference.

Done – there was a wide participation of stakeholders at the 13th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/16 provide the IRCC Chair with the reports on the progress of the relevant tasks of the IHO 2013 Work Programme (10)

Complete

IRCC05/19 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

Complete

IRCC05/20 Consider proposing agenda items to the next EIHC5 (4)

Complete – Topic discussed at the 14th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/28 Encourage RHCs to support GEBCO regional mapping projects and report back to IRCC (6)

On-going – Topic discussed at the 14th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/28 Encourage participation of Stakeholders in the region on IFHSIHO Stakeholders Conference of October 2013 (7)

Complete

IRCC05/34 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

Complete – Topic discussed at the 14th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/35 Encourage discussions on how Crowd Source Bathymetry can be used in official navigational products and report back to IRCC6

Complete -- Topic discussed at the 14th MACHC Meeting.

IRCC05/36 Provide material to the IHB to promote the achievements of IRCC Bodies including CBSC, GEBCO

Complete.

6. Agenda Items:

None.

7. MACHC cooperation with other organizations:

Invitation letters were sent to several regional organizations to make presentations at the MACHC 14. These presentations should be focused on the relationship between the mandate of the said organization and the MACHC. This exercise will eventually lead to formal cooperation.

8. Conclusions:

MACHC is committed to carrying forward hydrographic, cartographic and capacity building activities in close alignment with IHO objectives and goals. The MACHC is working at obtaining alternative sources for funding to continue development in region.

The cooperative work of its Committees, its Capacity Building Plan and the experience with its intercessional communication policy could be seen as a model for other Commissions to follow.

Next meeting: Manzanillo, Mexico December 2014.

9. Achievements and lessons learned:

- Strong participation of industries;
- The need to engage politicians, policy makers and regional organizations

9. Actions required from the IRCC6:

The IRCC6 is invited to note this report.

Mr. Michel Amafo LL.M (IMLI)
MACHC Chair