



**IRCC7-07A**

## **NORDIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NHC)**

### **NHC report to IRCC7**

Mexico City, Mexico 01-03 June 2015

**1. Chair:** Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi, Finland, until August 2014  
Mr. Georg Larusson, Iceland, until April 2015  
Mr. Evert Flier, Norway, from April 2015

**Vice-Chair:** Mr. Noralf Slotsvik, Norway, from April 2015

#### **2. Membership**

Members: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden

Associate member(s): None

Observers: IHB representative Gilles Bessero

#### **3. Meetings:**

Following NHC meetings have taken place since IRCC6:

NHC58, Helsinki, Finland, 18-20 August 2014

NHC59, Reykjavik, Iceland, 13-15 April 2015

Next meeting (NHC60): Norway, 11-13 April 2016

#### **4. Current NHC Working Groups:**

a) Multibeam Validation Workshop

b) Nordic Nautical Publication Working Group (discontinued April 2015)

c) Nordic Chart Production Expert Group

#### **5. Status of IRCC actions (relevant for the NHC)**

<b>No</b>	<b>ACTION (AGENDA ITEM)</b>	<b>RESP.</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
IRCC6/01	Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership	RHC Chairs	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2014	Georgia, Viet Nam and Brunei accepted by all members. The new applications from Malta and Vanuatu in progress

No	ACTION (AGENDA ITEM)	RESP.	DEADLINE	STATUS
IRCC6/03	Consider the participation of stakeholders at the RHC conferences	RHC Chairs	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2014	The NHC MSs meet stakeholder at ARHC, NSHC and BSHC. No invitation for stakeholders to NHC conferences
IRCC6/05	Provide the IRCC Chair with progress reports on the relevant tasks in the IHO 2014 Work Programme (10)	RHCs and IRCC subsidiary organs	Jan 2015	Done
IRCC6/07	Provide to the IRCC Chair the estimated values of SPIs and agreed WPIs as of 31 December 2014 and target values for 31 December 2017, complemented by the comments on the difficulties encountered and suggestions for a way forward	RHC Chairs	Jan 2015	No essential updates since the report to IRCC5
IRCC6/08	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)	RHCs / GEBCO	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2014	GEBCO invited to NSHC31 meeting where 4 of the NHC members participated
IRCC6/09	Encourage MSs 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 (11)	RHC Chairs	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2014	Recent experience in Norway on SDB (in cooperation with industry) shared with MSs
IRCC6/15	Provide material to the IHB to promote the achievements of IRCC bodies including CBSC, GEBCO	RHC Chairs and subsidiary bodies	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2014	No contribution
IRCC6/46	Encourage MSs in their respective regions to use the Risk Assessment methodology to establish Hydrographic Survey priorities	RHC Chairs		No actions so far

## 6. Agenda Items:

Agenda item 1

*Admiralty Information Overlay (AIO):* None of the NHC member states has any bilateral agreement with UKHO for publishing AIOs for national waters. The subject was discussed at NHC58 in August

2014. The MS agreed to the following regarding AIO publication for their ENC's:  
The Nordic Hydrographic Commission (NHC) requests UKHO to discontinue Admiralty Information Overlay (AIO) in HO's national ENC for the NHC member states. If Preliminary (P) and Temporary (T) information is not included in the national ENCs, such additional information layers from the UKHO AIO is supported once given permission by the ENC producing nation.

The NHC59, in April 2015, agreed to send another letter to UKHO re-confirming the request of terminating the AIO. So far, no answer is received from UKHO.

#### Agenda item 2

*ENCs to leisure markets:* Both Denmark and Finland are working on solutions to make updated ENCs available to the leisure markets in order to enhance safety at sea. Denmark has tested a solution for about one year, developed together with a private company, and invited other Nordic countries to participate to obtain a better coverage. Finland is also progressing and will present the final results at the next NHC meeting (April 2016).

#### Agenda item 3

*Report on chart production systems:* There are ongoing projects to renew nautical chart production systems in Denmark, Finland and Sweden. Denmark is testing and refining a system for production of Greenlandic charts. Finland is about to renew technology and functionality based on the existing system. Sweden has decided to go for a new system and is preparing requirements specification.

### **7. NHC cooperation with other organizations:**

NHC is represented in the IHO-EU Network Working Group. This brings the commission in cooperation with several other HOs and other governmental and private companies. Both Norway and Sweden are partners in applying for a project related to *The Joint European Coastal Mapping Program*.

### **8. Conclusions:**

- Common efforts to request UKHO to end Admiralty Information Overlay for the NHC member states
- Exchange of experience for Satellite Derived Bathymetry
- Development of solutions for updated ENCs for the leisure markets

### **9. Actions required from the IRCC7:**

The IRCC7 is invited to take note of the NHC report

Evert Flier  
NHC Chair