



INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION  
EAST ASIA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE  
IHO-IRCC7  
Mexico City, Mexico, 01-03 June 2015

REPORT FROM THE EAST ASIA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

- 1. Chair** : Commodore Jacinto M Cablayan (Philippines)  
**Vice Chair** : Rear Admiral Zaa'im Bin Hasan (Malaysia)

**2. Members**

China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea (ROK), Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand

**3. Activities**

**3.1 Meetings**

3.1.1 After IRCC6

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Venue</b>
10-12 February 2015	2 <sup>nd</sup> EAHC Steering Committee Meeting	Singapore
10 February 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> EAHC Regional Chart Coordinating Center Meeting	Singapore
6-8 January 2015	3 <sup>rd</sup> EAHC Training and Research Development Committee Board of Directors Meeting	Singapore
30 July – 01 August 2014	3 <sup>rd</sup> EAHC Charting and Hydrography Committee Meeting	Hong Kong

3.1.2 Next meetings

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Venue</b>
28-30 July 2015	4 <sup>th</sup> EAHC Charting and Hydrography Committee Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
September 2015	12 <sup>th</sup> EAHC Conference	Philippines

## 3.2 IHO Capacity Building

### 3.2.1 After IRCC 6

<b>Date</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Venue</b>
3-5 March 2015	Maritime Safety Information (MSI)	Japan
8-12 December 2014	Tide and Water Level for Hydrographic Survey	Malaysia
2-4 December 2014	Technical Visit to Brunei Darussalam	Brunei Darussalam
10-14 November 2014	Maritime Boundaries	Indonesia
5-7 November 2014	Technical Visit to Vietnam	Vietnam
27 October – 7 November 2014	Training for Trainer (Cartography)	Republic of Korea

## 4. Main items under consideration

### 4.1 Approval of IHO membership applications by Brunei Darussalam and Vietnam

The IHO, through Circular Letter Nos. 30/2015 and 33/2015, has welcomed Brunei Darussalam and Vietnam as new IHO Member States.

The EAHC continues to encourage Cambodia and Timor Leste as possible future members of the IHO. A technical visit to Cambodia is scheduled to be undertaken this year.

### 4.2 EAHC Training, Research and Development Center (TRDC)

Members of the Board of Directors (BOD) of the EAHC Training, and Research Development Center meet regularly to identify and address the capacity building needs of the region. The TRDC has already conducted 3 BOD meetings, programmed capacity building courses and has initiated a Training for Trainer Program for Cartographers.

### 4.3 Status of IRCC actions list (relevant to EAHC)

4.5.1 IRCC6/01 – EAHC MS have been coordinating with their respective Foreign Affairs Ministries regarding the approval of IHO membership applications.

4.5.2 IRCC6/08 – The Chairman, GEBCO Guiding Committee, has been invited and actively participated in the past EAHC Steering Committee meetings.

4.5.3 IRCC6/09 – EAHC MS have expressed interest in Satellite Derived Bathymetry. Japan has made several presentations in the past Charting and Hydrography Committee (CHC) and Steering Committee meetings regarding this subject.

4.5.4 IRCC6/17 – Presentations on Satellite Bathymetry and Crowd Sourced Bathymetry have been conducted by Japan and Malaysia, respectively in the past CHC and Steering Committee Meetings.

4.5.5 IRCC6/24 – A report on response to natural disasters was prepared and will be presented at IRCC7 by Japan.

4.5.6 IRCC6/28 - Capacity building courses conducted by EAHC are all delivered in English which also enhances the participants' capabilities in interacting with the instructors, hosts and other trainees using English as the language for communication, instruction and training activities. MS are also encouraged during the past EAHC meetings to address the requirements for English proficiency for foreign training. Prospective trainees will be advised to take the IELTS or any English qualifying exams to enable them to be considered for future trainings requiring English proficiency certificate.

## **5. Conclusion**

The Commission accomplished all activities programmed for the year. Another important milestone is the approval by the majority of the MS and of the membership of Vietnam and Brunei Darussalam to the IHO. Cooperation between the EAHC MS is evident as majority of the MS were able to attend and actively participated in EAHC meetings and capacity building projects. The Commission and the region is united in responding to natural and other disasters by extending technical and even financial support to the affected country and assisted in rescue and rehabilitation efforts.

The Commission will continue its efforts to encourage non MS in the region to join the IHO. It will also seek and encourage active participation from stakeholders as observers in future meetings.