

7<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE IHO-INTER REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE  
IHO IRCC-7

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO, 01-03 JUNE 2015

**Relations with other International Organizations and IHO Stakeholders**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	IHB
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	This paper reports on the relations between the IHO and other International Organizations and IHO Stakeholders which affects IHO programme 3 and considers IHO participation in related events.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	IHO Work Programme for 2015, IHO CL 53/2014, 56/2014, 80/2014, 02/2015, 04/2015, 07/2015

**United Nations initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)**

1. As reported in IHO CL 56/2014 dated 12 August, the IHB represented the IHO at the 4<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) which took place at the UN Headquarters in New York, USA from 6 to 8 August.
2. The UN-GGIM reports to the UN Assembly via the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The principal purpose of the UN-GGIM is to play a leading role in setting the agenda for the development of global geospatial information management and to promote the use of geospatial information in addressing key global challenges. As indicated in the IHO Work Programme for 2015 (task 1.1.18.2), the IHO objective is to ensure that hydrography is appropriately represented in doctrine being developed by UN-GGIM and adopted by UN.
3. The growing awareness by the UN-GGIM of the relevance and the potential contribution of hydrographic information in the context of global geospatial data infrastructures highlights the need for hydrographic offices to adopt a proactive role in establishing their place within national spatial data infrastructures. In that context, the continuing work of the MSDIWG and its task in assisting Member States in their role as custodians of national hydrographic data sets and their obvious part in national and global spatial data infrastructures are of particular importance. The importance of the IHO-IOC GEBCO project as a fundamental part of the global geospatial information infrastructure is significant, too.
4. The UN-GGIM has also set up five regional entities: UN-GGIM Asia-Pacific, UN-GGIM Americas, UN-GGIM Arab States, UN-GGIM Europe, UN-GGIM Africa (through the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa - UNECA). IHO participation in these entities, if any, has been at the initiative of the relevant RHCs and IHO Member States concerned so far.
5. The table in Annex 1 lists the UN-GGIM-related meetings planned in 2015 and indicates the IHB views on IHO participation.

**International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

6. IHO CL 53/2014 dated 22 July informed IHO Member States of the process established by the UN General Assembly to develop a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction in continuation of previous UN initiatives to reduce the vulnerabilities and risks to hazards. Considering the opportunity to highlight the role and importance of surveying and charting the world oceans, seas and coastal waters in the prevention and mitigation of maritime disasters, and in line with the theme of World Hydrography Day 2014 "Hydrography - much more than just nautical charts", the Directing Committee registered the IHO as a contributor to the preparatory process. The IHO input advised that the preparation of a post-2015 framework should address the availability of appropriate coastal and bathymetric data, both through direct contribution to the consultation process and

through related initiatives and programmes, such as the UN-GGIM and the work plan of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO).

7. Considering that the preparatory process was driven and controlled by Member Governments, the Directing Committee urged IHO Member States to liaise with and brief their national delegations. The Directing Committee also invited the RHC Chairs to consider providing input through the regional programmes and mechanisms considering disaster risk reduction.

8. The 3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR-3) convened in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015 was tasked by the UN General Assembly to adopt the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. As indicated in the IHO Work Programme for 2015 (task 1.1.18.3), Japan agreed to represent the IHO at the Conference.

9. WCDRR-3 was attended by over 6,500 participants including 2,800 government representatives from 187 UN Member States. 150 intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder events were held and over 350 side events were organized in the public forum with over 143,000 visitors. Japan, as the IHO representative, delivered a statement in the plenary session, highlighting the important roles of hydrography in predicting the impact of marine disasters such as coastal storms, tsunamis and sea level rise as well as in the forecasting of the likely spread and track of oil slicks as part of oil spill response plans.

10. The WCDRR-3 adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (see [http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai\\_Framework\\_for\\_Disaster\\_Risk\\_Reduction\\_2015-2030.pdf](http://www.wcdrr.org/uploads/Sendai_Framework_for_Disaster_Risk_Reduction_2015-2030.pdf)).

11. The framework identifies the need for “*focused action within and across sectors by States at local, national, regional and global levels in the following four priority areas:*”

1. *Understanding disaster risk;*
2. *Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;*
3. *Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience;*
4. *Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.”*

The framework also invites “*States, regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders*” ... to “*take into consideration the key activities listed under each of these four priorities and should implement them, as appropriate, taking into consideration respective capacities and capabilities, in line with national laws and regulations.*”

12. On this basis, it is suggested that the impact on the relevant IHO Resolutions and activities, in particular IHO Resolution 1/2005, as amended - *Response to Disasters*, be considered by the IRCC at the global level and by the RHCs at the regional level.

### **Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda**

13. One of the main outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference was the agreement by UN Member States to launch a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will build upon the Millennium Development Goals and converge with the post 2015 development agenda before the end of 2015.

14. The process of arriving at the post 2015 development agenda is UN Member State-led with participation from major groups and other civil society stakeholders. It is expected that an ocean-specific sustainable development goal will be included in the post-2015 development agenda.

15. The calendar of related events in 2015 is provided in Annex 2. Considering the very limited prospect of influencing the final outcome, the Directing Committee does not plan any direct involvement by the IHO.

### **Group on Earth Observations (GEO)**

16. GEO, the “Group on Earth Observations”, is a voluntary partnership of governments and international organizations. It was launched in 2003 in response to calls for action by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable

Development and by the G8 (Group of Eight) leading industrialized countries. GEO is coordinating efforts to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). GEO's Members include 96 Governments and the European Commission. In addition, 87 intergovernmental, international, and regional organizations with a mandate in Earth observation or related issues have been recognized as Participating Organizations. The IHO was recognized as a Participating Organization in 2006. GEO meets annually in plenary session. The strategic guidance is provided by a Ministerial Summit which takes place about every three years.

17. At its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, the IRCC recognized the importance of GEO and agreed to continue participation in GEO related events by all means, with the IHB in the lead but involving the RHCs, MSs and GEBCO (Decision IRCC6/21).

18. GEO has been constructing GEOSS on the basis of an initial ten-year Implementation Plan for the period 2005-2015. GEO is currently evaluating the first phase of GEOSS implementation and preparing a second Implementation Plan for the decade 2015-2025, in accordance with the guidance from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Summit held in Geneva, Switzerland, in January 2014.

19. A draft "GEO Strategic Plan 2016-2025: Implementing GEOSS" was considered at the 11<sup>th</sup> GEO Plenary Meeting held in Geneva in November 2014. The IHO was represented by France. The meeting identified a number of items requiring further work, such as the sustainability of in situ observation networks, the scope of the societal benefits of GEOSS, data sharing principles, the role of participating organizations in the governance of GEO, and the relation with other initiatives. The IHB has provided input to further consultations by correspondence.

20. The aim is to finalize the strategic plan for approval by the 4<sup>th</sup> GEO Ministerial Summit which will be held in conjunction with the 12<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting in Mexico City, from 9 to 13 November 2015. The calendar of GEO-related events is provided in Annex 3 with the IHB views on IHO participation.

#### **IHO Stakeholders' Forum**

21. The HSSC agreed at its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting held in Chile in November 2014 to consider holding an IHO Stakeholders' Forum in conjunction with the 7<sup>th</sup> HSSC meeting which will take place in Busan, ROK, from 9 to 13 November 2015, subject to sufficient interest from stakeholders who were to be polled by the IHB. A letter seeking the views of the stakeholders was issued on 3 February 2015 with a questionnaire to be returned to the IHB by 31 March.

22. Based on the relatively small number of responses received at the date of this paper, the intention is to plan a half-day open session in the agenda of the HSSC meeting. As indicated in the poll, the stakeholders will be invited to attend as observers the plenary sessions of the Committee as invited observers.

#### **Other Events in 2015**

23. The table in Annex 4 lists other events of which the IHB is aware and which could offer opportunities to interact with stakeholders in 2015, subject to the availability of resources. The IHB views on IHO participation are provided.

#### **Action required of IRCC**

24. The IRCC is invited to:

- a. **note** this report;
- b. **review** the list of events listed in Annexes 1 to 4 and consider how the IHO might be represented in those events considered relevant;
- c. **consider** the impact of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 on the relevant IHO Resolutions and activities; and
- d. **take** any other actions as appropriate.

## Annex 1

## UN-GGIM-related meetings planned in 2015

<b>Events</b>	<b>Date (2015)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Comments from IHB</b>
UN-GGIM-5	3-7 Aug	New-York, USA	IHB participation is planned
4 <sup>th</sup> High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management	tbd	tbd	tbd
20 <sup>th</sup> UN Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific	5-9 Oct	Jeju Island, Republic of Korea	Participation to be considered by EAHC, NIOHC, RSAHC and SWPHC
4 <sup>th</sup> UN-GGIM Asia Pacific Plenary Meeting	9 Oct	Jeju Island, Republic of Korea	
2 <sup>nd</sup> UN-GGIM Americas Plenary Meeting	tbd	tbd	Participation to be considered by MACHC, SEPRHC, SWAtHC and USCHC
2 <sup>nd</sup> UN-GGIM Europe Plenary Meeting	tbd	tbd	Participation to be considered by IENWG

## Annex 2

## Meetings related to the post-2015 development agenda planned in 2015

<b>Events</b>	<b>Date (2015)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Comments by IHB</b>
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	19-21 Jan	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	17-20 Feb	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	23-27 Mar	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	20-24 Apr	New-York, USA	No IHO participation Side-event on the contribution of Geographic Information to achieving the SDGs
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	18-22 May	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	22-25 Jun	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	20-24 Jul	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
Intergovernmental Negotiation Meeting	27-31 Jul	New-York, USA	No IHO participation
UN Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda	25-27 Sep	New York, USA	No IHO participation

## Annex 3

## Meetings related to GEO planned in 2015

Events	Date (2015)	Location	Comments by IHB
Workshop on Capacity Building and Developing Countries in GEO Post-2015	4 May	Geneva, Switzerland	No IHO participation
2015 GEO Work Plan Symposium	5-7 May	Geneva, Switzerland	No IHO participation
2015 Inspire - Geospatial World Forum Conference	25-29 May	Lisbon, Portugal	Participation to be considered by Portugal and MSDIWG
2 <sup>nd</sup> Blue Planet Symposium	27-29 May	Cairns, Australia	Participation to be considered by Portugal and GEBCO Guiding Committee
9th GEO European Projects Workshop	15-16 Jun	Copenhagen, Denmark	Participation to be considered by Denmark, IENWG and MSDIWG
GEO-XII Plenary and Ministerial Summit	9-13 Nov	Mexico City, Mexico	Participation to be considered by the IHB in liaison with Mexico, MSDIWG and GEBCO Guiding Committee. Consider organizing an IHO-led side-event (see Appendix 1: <b>deadline: 12 June</b> )

### Appendix 1 to Annex 3

**Subject:**GEO-XII and Mexico City Ministerial, 9-13 November 2015 - Call for Side Events

**Date:**Fri, 24 Apr 2015 16:35:55 +0200

**From:**GEO Secretariat <[secretariat@GEOSEC.ORG](mailto:secretariat@GEOSEC.ORG)>

**Reply-To:**GEO Secretariat <[secretariat@GEOSEC.ORG](mailto:secretariat@GEOSEC.ORG)>

**To:**[GEO-LEADERSHIP@LIST.GEOSEC.ORG](mailto:GEO-LEADERSHIP@LIST.GEOSEC.ORG)

We are pleased to announce the Call for Side Events for the GEO-XII Plenary and Ministerial Summit 9-13 November 2015.

The GEO-XII Plenary and the Ministerial Summit, as well as all the associated meetings and events will be hosted by the Mexican Government and will take place at the Hotel Hilton Reforma and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mexico City from 9 to 13 November 2015. These venues are within short walking distance of each other.

You will find preliminary logistical information on the GEO-XII Plenary and Ministerial Summit website at <http://www.earthobservations.org/geo12.ph>.

Meeting rooms for Side Events will be available during the period 9-12 November 2015 at the Ministry of Foreign affairs, while only on 10 November 2015 at the Hilton Reforma. Please note, however, that we will not schedule Side Events to occur when the GEO-XII Plenary is in session. The Ministerial Summit will be held at the Ministry on Friday 13 November all day.

Use of the meeting rooms and basic support equipment will be made available at no charge. Any additional services that the Side Event organizer requires must be communicated well in advance so as to ascertain the feasibility of reserving these services.

Side Events will contribute to a successful GEO Week, culminating with the Summit, which is expected to endorse the new GEO Strategic Implementation Plan 2016-2025, Implementing GEOSS. Side Events should address GEO activities, achievements, and/or potential for the future. The objective is to accommodate as many requests as possible.

This communication is to solicit your proposals for Side Events to take place during the "GEO Week". For planning purposes, we kindly ask you to include either consolidated proposals or statements of intent, if your proposal has not yet been fully developed.

To support the planning of the GEO Week, we ask that you complete the enclosed form, and to send it to the Secretariat by **12 June 2015**.

We will confirm to the proposers the status of their proposed Side Event in the program, and provide additional logistical information. The Secretariat will post agreed Side Events on the GEO-XII and Ministerial Summit website. It will be the duty of the Side Event proposers to handle all organizational and planning aspects associated with the Event.

With appreciation for your consideration and encouragement for your active involvement.

The GEO Secretariat

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GEO-XII and 2015 Ministerial Summit  
9-13 November 2015, Mexico City, Mexico

Request for Side Events

To propose a Side Event to be held during the “GEO Week” in November 2015, please complete this form and send it to the GEO Secretariat at [secretariat@geosec.org](mailto:secretariat@geosec.org) by **12 June 2015**.

GEO Week – 9-13 November 2015, Mexico City, Mexico			
Request for Side Events			
Date :			
Proposing organization			
Title of the event			
Summary description			
Type of organization:	Public Institution from GEO Member <input type="checkbox"/>	GEO Participating Organization <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify) <input type="text"/>
Contact Person:			
Address:			
E-mail:			
Telephone:			
Fax:			
N° of expected attendees:			
Preferred date and time, expected duration:			
Requirements for audiovisual equipment and internet connection:			
Preferred room arrangement:			



## Annex 4

**Potential Stakeholders' Events planned in 2015  
(as of 13 April 2015)**

<b>Events</b>	<b>Date (2015)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Comments by IHB</b>
E-navigation Underway 2015	27-29 Jan	Copenhagen, Denmark - Oslo, Norway - Copenhagen, Denmark	The IHO was listed as a supporting organization. IHB attended
3 <sup>rd</sup> ACCSEAS Annual Conference	17-19 Feb	Rotterdam, Netherlands	
Stakeholder Meeting on the Implementation of the Galway Statement	23-24 Feb	Brussels, Belgium	IHB attended as part of a Seabed Mapping Workshop
2 <sup>nd</sup> Session IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR 2)	09-13 Mar	London, UK	IHB attended
US Hydro 15	15-19 Mar	Washington DC, USA	IHB attended in conjunction with USCHC-38
23 <sup>rd</sup> Session of the IOC Committee on International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE-XXIII)	16-20 Mar	Bruges, Belgium	IHB attended
6 <sup>th</sup> Arctic Shipping Summit	18-19 Mar	Montreal, Canada	Canada invited to consider representing the IHO
IOC Regional Conference on Reducing Tsunami Risk in the Western Indian Ocean	22-23 Mar	Muscat, Oman	NIOHC, RSAHC to consider representing the IHO
16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process (UNICPOLOS)	06-10 Apr	New York, USA	
European Navigation Conference 2015	07-10 Apr	Bordeaux, France	
Ocean Business 2015	14-16 Apr	Southampton, UK	Includes Offshore Survey Conference UK represents the IHO
16 <sup>th</sup> Meeting IALA ENAV Committee (ENAV16)	20-24 Apr	Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France	
16 <sup>th</sup> session of the Asia-Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies (APHoMSA) forum	21-23 Apr	Shenzhen, China	
CIRM Annual Meeting	27-29 Apr	Kouklia, Cyprus	IHB plans to attend
JPI Oceans Conference	7 May	Brussels, Belgium	
36 <sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment (ISRSE)	11-15 May	Berlin, Germany	
FIG Working Week 2015	17-21 May	Sofia, Bulgaria	
European Maritime Day	28-29 May	Piraeus, Greece	IENWG to consider promoting IHO activities
38 <sup>th</sup> Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM-XXXVIII)	01-10 Jun	Sofia, Bulgaria	Monaco will represent the IHO
95 <sup>th</sup> Session IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 95)	03-12 Jun	London, UK	IHB will attend

Events	Date (2015)	Location	Comments by IHB
ISO TC 211 Meeting Week (40 <sup>th</sup> Plenary)	08-12 Jun	Southampton, UK	IHB will attend
25 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UN SPLOS-25)	08-12 Jun	New York, USA	IHB will attend
Meeting of the World VTS Guide Advisory Board	11 Jun	London, UK	UK will represent the IHO
Monacology 2015	15-19 Jun	Monaco	IHB will attend
29 <sup>th</sup> Meeting IALA Policy Advisory Panel (PAP29)	15-17 Jun	Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France	IHB will attend at the invitation of the Secretary General of IALA
Transnav 2015	17-19 Jun	Gdynia, Poland	
48 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IOC Executive Council	17 Jun	Paris, France	
28 <sup>th</sup> Session of the IOC Assembly	18-25 Jun	Paris, France	IHB will attend
CIDCO 2015 Symposium "Innovations and new applications in hydrography"	18-19 Jun	Rimouski, Québec, Canada	
UXO Surveys Seminar	19 Jun	Southampton, UK	
65 <sup>th</sup> Session IMO Technical Cooperation Committee (TC 65)	23-25 Jun	London, UK	IHB will attend
114 <sup>th</sup> Session IMO Council	29 Jun - 03 Jul	London, UK	IHB will attend only if required (subject to the agenda)
XII International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Science (ISAES-2015)	13-17 Jul	Goa, India	
2015 World Maritime Day parallel event	20-21 Jul	Tokyo & Yokohama, Japan	See IMO CL No. 3546 dated 28 Apr 2015
22 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM 22)	Aug	New York, USA	IHB likely to attend in conjunction with UN-GGIM 5
27 <sup>th</sup> International Cartographic Conference (ICC 2015)	23-28 Aug	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Brazil will represent the IHO
ShipArc 2015 - International Conference on Safe and Sustainable Shipping in a Changing Arctic Environment	25-27 Aug	Malmö, Sweden	ARHC Members invited to consider representing the IHO
Shallow Survey 2015	14-18 Sep	Plymouth, UK	IHB participation
World Maritime Day "Maritime education and training"	24 Sep	London, UK	IBSC to consider representing the IHO
E-navigation Underway North America	28-30 Sep	New York, USA	Event being supported by the IHO
High-level Conference of the African Union on Maritime Issues	Oct.	Lomé, Togo	IHO representation to be considered in liaison with EATHC
Oceans' 15 MTS/IEEE	19-22 Oct	Washington, DC, USA	
15 <sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Association of Institutes of Navigation (IAIN)	20-23 Oct	Prague, Czech Republic	
8 <sup>th</sup> ABLOS Conference	20-22 Oct	Monaco	IHO event managed by the IHB
1 <sup>st</sup> European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) Open Conference	20 Oct	Oostende, Belgium	IENWG to consider representing the IHO
17 <sup>th</sup> Meeting IALA ENAV Committee (ENAV17)	26-30 Oct	Saint-Germain-en-Laye, France	IHB will attend only if required (subject to the agenda)

<b>Events</b>	<b>Date (2015)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Comments by IHB</b>
Ocean Innovation 2015: Mapping our Oceans	26-28 Oct	Saint John's, Newfoundland, Canada	
SaferSeas 2015	27-30 Oct	Brest, France	
ISO TC 211 Meeting Week (41 <sup>th</sup> Plenary)	tbd		IHB will attend
Australasian Hydrographic Symposium 2015	03-07 Nov	Cairns, Australia	
6 <sup>th</sup> ECDIS Revolution Conference	03 Nov	London, UK	
Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) 2015 "Sustainable Development and Growing the Blue Economy - the Next 50 Years"	09-11 Nov	Singapore	
MONALISA 2.0 Final Conference	10-11 Nov	Gothenburg, Sweden	
Hydro 2015	23-25 Nov	Cape Town, South Africa	
29 <sup>th</sup> IMO Assembly	23 Nov - 02 Dec	London, UK	IHB will attend only if required (subject to the agenda)
115 <sup>th</sup> Session IMO Council	03 Dec	London, UK	IHB will attend only if required (subject to the agenda)
70 <sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly - Oceans and Law of the Sea	(December)	New York, USA	IHB will attend only if required (subject to the agenda)