



IRCC8-06A

## NORDIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NHC)

### NHC report to IRCC8

Abu Dhabi, UAE, 29-31 May 2016

**1. Chair:** Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi, Finland, until August 2014  
Mr. Georg Larusson, Iceland, until April 2015  
Mr. Evert Flier, Norway, until April 2016  
Ms. Pia Dahl Højgaard, Denmark, from April 2016

**Vice-Chair:** Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann, Denmark, from April 2016

### 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 IRCC7:

NHC60, Stavanger, Norway, 11-13 April 2016

Next meeting (NHC61): Denmark, 6-8 March 2017

### 4. Current NHC Working Groups:

- a) Multibeam Validation Workshop
- b) Nordic Chart Production Expert Group

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

No	ACTION (AGENDA ITEM)	RESP.	DEADLINE	STATUS
IRCC7/01	Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership	RHC Chairs	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2015	Applications from Malta, Vanuatu, Congo and the Solomon Islands in progress.

No	ACTION (AGENDA ITEM)	RESP.	DEADLINE	STATUS
IRCC7/03	Consider the participation of stakeholders at the RHC conferences	RHC Chairs	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2015	The NHC MSs meet stakeholders at ARHC and NSHC. No invitation for stakeholders to NHC conferences
IRCC7/05	Provide the IRCC Chair with progress reports on the relevant tasks in the IHO 2015 Work Programme	RHCs and IRCC subsidiary organs	Jan 2016	Done
IRCC7/07	Provide to the IRCC Chair the estimated values of SPIs and agreed WPIs as of 31 December 2015 and target values for 31 December 2017, complemented by the comments on the difficulties encountered and suggestions for a way forward	RHC Chairs	Jan 2016	No significant change since last update
IRCC7/08	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	RHCs / GEBCO	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2015	GEBCO invited to NSHC31 meeting where 4 of the NHC members participated
IRCC7/09	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	RHC Chairs	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2015	Recent experience among NHC MS to be shared with MS
IRCC7/15	Provide material to the IHB to promote the achievements of IRCC bodies	RHC Chairs and subsidiary bodies	Report to IRCC Chair Dec 2015	No contribution
IRCC7/18	Facilitate resolution of important inconsistencies between paper charts and ENC's and between ENC's from different producers as identified by the RENCs or otherwise	RHC Chairs	IRCC8	The Nordic Chart Production Expert Group to deal with this issue
IRCC7/19	Encourage MSs in their respective regions to use the Risk Assessment methodology to establish Hydrographic Survey priorities	RHC Chairs	IRCC8	No actions so far
IRCC7/26	report to IRCC on the status of the RHC procedures for selecting their respective representatives to the Council	RHC Chairs	IRCC8	The NHC procedure attached as annex A

No	ACTION (AGENDA ITEM)	RESP.	DEADLINE	STATUS
IRCC7/41	consider incorporating hydrography in more comprehensive maritime projects as a way of raising awareness and funds from Donor agencies and to report progress to IRCC	RHCs	IRCC8	At NHC60 MS presented relevant maritime projects
IRCC7/42	invite Member States to update C-55 annually including reports of "no changes")	RHCs	July 2015	The C-55 was updated April 2016
IRCC7/43	provide access to the IHB to any of their relevant promotional material on CB and to consider using the posters displayed at the EIHC 5 CB exhibition	RHCs	August 2015	No input from NHC
IRCC7/48	Consider nominating regional representatives on the MSDIWG	RHCs	December 2015	Norway and Denmark represent NHC in the MSDIWG
IRCC7/56	provide comments on doc. WENDWG5-04B (Relevance of information overlay services and their status in the global IHO ENC programme) to IRCC	RHCs	IRCC8	The NHC Member states supports the three proposals regarding AIO put forward by the WENDWG

## 6. Agenda Items:

### Agenda item 1

*Admiralty Information Overlay (AIO):* The subject was discussed at NHC60 in April 2016. The MS noted that the issue concerning the AIOs has been discussed for several years in various IHO bodies without reaching a consensus decision on the relevance and continuation of the service. The NHC MS agreed that the AIO service, used in waters where Member states have a national P/T-service, can have a negative impact on the safety of navigation. The NHC Member states strongly supports the three proposals regarding AIO put forward by the WENDWG:

- AIO should be withdrawn for the areas where the primary charting authority produces P/T
- NtMs for their ENC AIO service should be provided only if and after a given ENC producer has provided its consent
- Awareness and use of P/T updates should be improved. This should be taken into account in future S-101 based ECDIS and included in ENCWG work plans.

### Agenda item 2

*ENCs to leisure market:* 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. Denmark will invite all NHC MS to participate in the future work.

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 testing different solutions in order to renew the existing system. Sweden has decided to go for a new system and is now implementing the new system.

**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 the Coastal Mapping project related to a possible future Joint European Coastal Mapping Program.

**8. Conclusions:**

- The NHC Member states strongly supports the three proposals regarding AIO put forward by the WENDWG
- Exchange of experience for Satellite Derived Bathymetry
- Development of solutions for updated ENC's for the leisure market

**9. Actions required from the IRCC8:**

The IRCC8 is invited to take note of the NHC report

Pia Dahl Højgaard  
NHC Chair

Annex A.

RULES FOR SELECTION OF MEMBER STATES  
FROM  
THE NORDIC REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NHC)  
TO  
THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO) COUNCIL

The following procedures for selection to the Council were endorsed at the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting of NHC.

*Serving on the IHO Council is an important responsibility, as it is a primary means of communication and involvement by the NHC in IHO matters. Thus, it is important that the Commission be served by knowledgeable, willing and capable representatives to the IHO Council. Therefore it is emphasized that any MS seeking Council representation should be aware of the 3-year time commitment. They must also be aware that there are resources and financial implications that the selected MS(s) must be prepared to assume.*

**Selection of the NHC representative to the Council**

Selection from NHC to the IHO Council shall be determined in compliance with IHO General Regulations Article 2 and Article 16.

**Selection at an ordinary NHC meeting, not later than 8 months before a session of the Assembly.**

1. The NHC chair to request NHC MS to indicate if they wish to represent NHC in the Council 2 months before the ordinary NHC meeting.
2. If a NHC MS want to represent NHC in the council, the MS have to reply to all NHC MS 1 month before the ordinary NHC meeting
3. The NHC Representative to the IHO Council will be elected at the NHC ordinary meeting.
4. If only one candidate wants to represent NHC then the candidate will be automatically selected.
5. If there is more than one candidate, voting will take place. If voting is needed, each Member has one vote and the decisions will be made by simple majority of votes of all Members. The highest voted candidate will be selected. In case of a draw the Chair will cast a deciding vote.
6. The Chair shall notify NHC Member States and the IHO Secretary-General of the results and status of the member state representation in the Council within two weeks of the ordinary NHC meeting.
7. If a NHC meeting is not possible 8 months before a session of the Assembly, the NHC chair can decide to arrange a teleconference instead of an ordinary NHC meeting
8. The MS representing the NHC in the Council will be the one and only member of the NHC selecting the NHC as the RHC for which the members prefer to be counted.

**Duties and Responsibilities of the NHC representative(s) to the Council**

- a) Attend all annual meetings of the Council.
- b) Be aware of issues that are before the Council and communicate those issues to NHC Member States.
- c) Solicit input from other IHO member states of the NHC as to any opinions or proposals being considered at the Council meeting.
- d) All expenses connected with the participation to the Council shall be borne by the elected MS