

Agenda Item for Consideration by ARHC

ARHC2-07B

2nd Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission Meeting Copenhagen, Denmark, September 28-29, 2011

Operational and Technical Working Group Report

Submitted by:	United States
Executive Summary:	The ARHC is asked to consider: 1) the revised Terms of Reference for this Working Group and 2) to consider the recommended action plan for the coming year
Related Documents:	ARHC2-07INF1 Revised Terms of Reference
Related Projects:	none

Introduction / Background

The OTWG Chair has prepared a revised TOR for this working group and recommended an action plan for the coming year.

Analysis/Discussion

The working group has communicated through correspondence in order to refine the TOR and develop the action plan for next year. USA will remain as Chair until ARHC3 and the WG Members will elect a Vice Chair also by correspondence. A road map for the coming year has been developed for ARHC consideration.

Conclusions

The following action plan is recommended by the WG:

Timeframe	Task	Responsible Parties
September 2011	Nominate and elect OTWG Vice Chair as per TOR	All WG members
August – October 2011	Document current and planned Arctic hydrographic operations for each Member State and identify technical and or logistical challenges to conducting these operations.	All WG members
October – December 2011	Focus on lessons learned and best practices	All WG Members
January – March 2012	Focus on new technologies	All WG Members
April – May 2012	Focus on training and capacity building practices for Arctic operations	All WG Members
June – July 2012	Document OTWG finding into a report to the ARHC and	All WG Members
July 31 2012	Submit report to ARHC	Chair
September 2012	Provide status update at third ARHC Conference	Chair
September 2012	Elect new Chair and Vice Chair OTWG	All WG Members

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Recommendations

The WG recommends that ARHC consider and comment on two recommendations:

- 1- the revised TOR (ARHC2-7INF1)
- 2- the proposed Action Plan. (ARHC2-07a)

Justification and Impacts

The sharing of technical and operational information related to hydrographic surveying and charting in the Arctic is a benefit for all members of the ARHC.

Action Required of ARHC

The ARHC is invited to: consider this proposal