



Minutes of the Conference

A Opening formalities

A1 Opening of the Conference

The Chairman Rear Admiral Boris Fridman pointed out the events that have taken place in hydrography during the period of the period of the previous and the present meeting.

A2 Welcome from the host Country

Mr Ansis Zeltinš Director of Maritime Administration of Latvia welcomed the Conference which had gathered in Jurmala to exchange views on the safety of navigation on fairways of the Baltic Sea and propagate new ideas and developments to make the Baltic Sea safe for navigation.

Mr Janis Krastinš gave practical information on Conference arrangements.

A3 Adoption of the Agenda.

Additional items to the Draft Agenda were proposed by Denmark (**J1**), and Finland (**J2**).

A4 Minutes and actions of the 10th Conference

The Minutes of the 10th Conference were accepted without any comment. The actions arising from the 9th BSHC Conference were principally completed. The Action E1 “The Baltic Sea Bathymetric Grid” has not been completed because no actions are taking place regarding this question. The decision was made to include the item into the agenda of next Conference.

B Strategic aspects of the development of IHO

B1 Information about 3rd Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference and a present situation in the IHO

Document: EN - B1, IHO

The President of IHO Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos informed the Conference regarding the SPWG, revised WEND principles that should be approved by all Member States, the issue regarding Indian Ocean Tsunami, importance of Capacity Building, GEBCO and reorganization of IHO/IOC mapping activities, updated S-55, activities of S-44 working group, and liaison with International Organizations.

Mr Dmitri Travin, UNESCO Intergovernmental Commission, calls all Delegations of the Conference to support the GEBCO and Ocean Mapping Program and proposes to write down the Resolution on saving those programs from closing them.

Members of the Conference agree in principle with this proposal. Germany asks to hold over adoption of this resolution that they can consult their representatives in IOC.

Chairman offers to postpone the adoption of the Resolution till next official day of the Conference. With several changes in the text, Resolution met with the approval of the Conference.

B2 National approval of amendments to the IHO Convention

Document: EN – B2, Germany

The suggestion was given by Mr Horst Hecht, Germany. The ratification of Amendments to IHO Convention is the crucial point. 2/3 that is 47 of all Member States should approve the Amendments. BSHC Member States should inquire their national administrations about procedures and foreseeable time required for approving the Amendments to IHO Convention. This information is necessary for faster approval of the Amendments before the next ordinary IHO Conference.

All Members of Conference reported about provisional time and procedures regarding the approval of Amendments.

B3 Nomination of BSHC representative to the IHO SPWG

Document: EN – B3, Germany

As Mr. Göran Nordström as a BSHC representative in the IHO SPWG has retired, Germany suggests nominating Mr Juha Korhonen from Finland as a new BSHC representative in SPWG.

All participants of Conference agreed with this proposal.

C Aspects related to technical issues of the HOs activities

C1 Sea-level datum for the Baltic Sea

Document: EN – C1, Estonia, EN-C1, Finland.

The report was given by the representative of Estonia. It was agreed to establish a Working Group. The Working Group should examine the existing situation of the Mean Sea Level and chart datums used in the Baltic Sea area and to make proposals for harmonising the practices used.

Agreed: To form a Working Group to solve mean sea level problems in Baltic Sea, and to appoint the Estonian representative Dr Vaido Kraav as the Chairman of the WG. The WG should report to the BSHC 12th Conference.

C2 Navigational and Hydrographic support of underwater laying of pipes along the Baltic Sea bottom

Document: EN – C2, Russia

Russia offers to distribute Explanatory Note C2 to all participants, and to include it in the Minutes of the Conference. Conference seconded this proposal.

C3 Use of Internet for dissemination of information from HOs and other authorities

Document: EN – C3, Denmark

The report was given by Mrs Hanne Berg, Denmark.

Denmark offers to display/lay out all publications on Internet instead of publishing them on the paper. Denmark is already working on the way to publish more valuable digital information and therefore asks to share the experience on the way how it works in other BSHC Countries. Members of the Conference shared their experience on that issue.

D Promulgation of maritime safety information in the Baltic Sea

The information regarding the promulgation of maritime safety information in the Baltic Sea was given by member states and accepted by the Conference.

E Activity related to the HELCOM Copenhagen Declaration

E1 Report of the HELCOM Monitoring Working Group and

E2 Considering an approval a revised Work Plan for the Monitoring Working Group

Document: EN – E1, Finland

The report of the HELCOM Monitoring Working Group (MWG) was given by Mr Juha Korhonen from Finland.

Actions required by the 11th BSHC Conference:

- To approve Report
- To approve the proposed MWG Work Plan Version 3.0
- To approve the development plans of the Version 2.0 of the database

The report and actions of the Monitoring Working Group listed above were accepted.

E3 Information on situation concerning resurvey and ENC production in HOs

All members share the information regarding the situation in their country.

E4 Bilateral exchange of ENCs for administrative purposes

Document: EN – E4, Germany

The item was presented by Mr Horst Hecht, Germany.

Germany proposed BSHC Conference to agree that unencrypted ENCs can be exchanged bilaterally between HOs outside usual commercial routes for specific purposes as HOs may agree bilaterally.

Proposal was supported by the Conference.

F Progress in creation of the International Charts for the Baltic Sea

F1 Report on work carried out by the Baltic Sea International Chart Committee (BSICC)

Document: EN – F1, Denmark

The report of BSICC work on Chart scheme was given by chairperson of BSICC Mrs Hanne Berg, Denmark, and it was noted by the Conference.

F2 Considering proposal to appoint a new chairperson of BSICC

Information on the situation concerning re-survey and ENC production in HOs

Document: EN – F2, Denmark

Mrs Hanne Berg, chairperson on BSICC, proposed to elect new chairperson from Swedish or Finnish delegation, because before the next BSHC Conference on 2007 she will retire. Conference decided to re-elect Mrs Hanne Berg as chairperson in BSICC on next two years.

G IHO special publication S-55

Document: EN – G, United Kingdom

The information was given by Vice Chairman IHOCBC Captain M K Barritt. He urged all states in BSHC region (INT Chart Area E) to submit regular updates to their entry in the S-55 on-line database (www.iho.shom.fr).

The information was noted by the Conference.

H Establishment of an IHO Capacity Building Fund

Document: EN – G, United Kingdom

The information was given by Vice-Chairman IHOCBC Captain M K Barritt. He asked all states in BSHC region (INT Chart Area E) to submit information, including input to the IHO Capacity Building strategy, notice of ongoing bilateral CB programmes, and any requests for CB assistance, to the Chairman in time on forward transmission to inform the 4th IHOCBC that is planned on 7 – 8 June 2006.

I Miscellaneous

I1 Information on the Draft European Union INSPIRE Directive

Mr Horst Hecht, Germany, informed the Conference that the seminar on INSPIRE is planned in Rostock, Germany on 8 – 9 November 2005. The information was noted by the Conference.

I2 Information on the discovery of the “Steuben” wreck

The information regarding 3 wrecks that had been found in Polish waters was given by member of Polish delegation. The information was noted by the Conference.

J Unscheduled items

J1 Liability of chart as a product

Document: EN – J1, Denmark

The information about the case that concerns the National Survey and Cadastre’s liability to pay damages for defects in charts sold to yachtsmen was given by Mrs Hanne Berg. The information was noted by the Conference.

J2 Revision of IHO S-44

Document: EN – J2, Finland

The report of the Nordic Hydrographic Commission Ad-hoc Working Group on renewing of S-44 was given by the representative of Finland.

K Closing formalities

K1 Election of the chairman and Vice-Chairman of BSHC and **K2** Place and time of the next Conference.

According to the Article 6a of the Statutes of the BSHC the Vice-Chairman will be the next Chairman of the Commission. Thus Mr Janis Krastinš was nominated as the Chairman.

Taking account Article 5a of the Statutes of the BSHC and the fact that Lithuania has not hosted a Conference so far it was suggested and accepted by Lithuania to act as host country for next ordinary Conference. The time of conference will be fixed in the near future.

The hydrographer of Lithuania Mr Viktoras Liulys was approved as the Vice-Chairman of the BSHC.

K3 Closing ceremony

The Chairman thanked Latvia for excellent organization of the conference and all participants on their very constructive work and substantial contributions to the Conference.

On behalf of IHB Vice Admiral Maratos expressed his thanks for contacting the Conference in excellent way and hosts for perfect organization of the Conference.

Finally, the Chairman declared the 11th Conference of the BSHC closed.