

# Report on WEND-WG Issues

by Juha Korhonen, BSHC WEND-WG representative

[16 August 2012]

## 1. Introduction

WEND-WG is a working group under the IRCC Committee. Its tasks are:

1. Monitor the development of adequate ENC coverage to meet any carriage requirements for ECDIS;
2. Develop proposals for speeding up ENC production and ensuring uniform ENC quality and consistency, and for making data available worldwide, including SENC distribution, taking advantage of any offers for production assistance, or other ways of mutual assistance and co-operation;
3. Advise MS, where appropriate, on the need, as well as on methods and tools for validating the data, and on any assistance which could be offered by the RENCs;
4. Monitor the implementation of the WEND, in response to Decision 21 of the XVII<sup>th</sup> IHC, and advise IRCC of appropriate measures for speeding-up the implementation process;
5. Assist in harmonizing the policies of regional ENC Coordinating Centres (RENC) with respect to matters related to administration, legality, finances, technical processes, et cetera.

The WEND-WG is chaired by *Capt. Jamie McMichael-Phillips*, UK. Each Regional Hydrographic Commission should have a representative in the WEND-WG. The BSHC has elected *Mr. Juha Korhonen*, Finland, as its representative of the WEND-WG. The NHC has elected *Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann*, Denmark, as their representative.

## 2. Outcome of the WEND-WG1 meeting 13 – 14 October 2011

A WEND-WG1 meeting was held on 13 – 14 October 2011, Wollongong, Australia. The main issues were: WEND Overview – IHO commitment to IMO, ENC Coverage – Gap/Overlap issues, Quality, Consistency and Updating issues, Service provision, ECDIS related issues, Capacity building & Cooperation, RENC discussion, WEND-WG Work Plan, Review of WEND Principles/ Implementation Guidance, and WEND Reporting to IHC XVIII.

The BSHC 16<sup>th</sup> Conference gave some input and guidance to the WEND-WG1.

I have distributed to BSHC members the WEND-WG1 Minutes within my e-mail on 2 April 2012 and these are also available on the IHO Web pages.

In that e-mail I also asked BSHC members' further information regarding to the Baltic Sea ENC coverage, ENC overlapping and gaps, and asked all to check their implementation of the ENC harmonisation actions to avoid overlappings.

### 3. Outcome of the IHO XVIII Conference 22-27 April 2012 related to WEND-WG

The documents and the Proceedings of the IHO XVIII Conference are available on the IHO Web pages. The WEND-WG-issues were reported within the IRCC Report to the Conference (doc. *CONF.18/WP.3*). The report included two proposals and the Conference approved the following decisions on these:

#### **Decision No 12: Reaffirmation of the IHO's commitment to full ENC coverage (PRO WENDWG-1)**

The International Hydrographic Conference agreed that the Member States of the International Hydrographic Organization should commit to:

- continuing through best international collaborative efforts and technological innovation to complete the outstanding requirement established for adequate ENC coverage as outlined at IMO NAV54;
- working with IMO Member States to promote the need for improved hydrographic survey and nautical charting services as required by SOLAS Chap. V, Reg. 9 and to provide support through the respective IHO and IMO capacity building programmes;
- encouraging bilateral and multilateral cooperation within and across RHCs to improve consistency and harmonization of ENC cells (including the removal of any overlapping data) and services;
- establishing a systematic methodology, through the IRCC and the WEND-WG and in conjunction with the RHCs and RENCs, for monitoring evolving ENC coverage requirements, agreeing production priorities and for supporting the provision of integrated ENC services;
- informing mariners, through such things as IMO Safety of Navigation circulars and other national and international navigational warning mechanisms, the areas of national waters where the use of electronic navigation systems is not possible due to the limited quality or absence of source hydrographic data reflected in the nautical charts.

#### **Decision No 13: Implementation of the WEND Principles (PRO WENDWG-2)**

The Conference agreed to approve the minor updates to the main text of Resolution 1/1997 as amended - The WEND Principles, as per the text at Annex A of the WENDWG Report to the XVIII IHC and to refer Annexes B and C of the same Report back to the WEND WG for further consideration.

The XVIII IHC also invited Member States to supply written contributions to the WEND WG in order that the Working Group might fully address the detailed refinement of Annex B and Annex C.

### 4. Outcome of the IRCC4 meeting 7-8 June 2012 related to WEND-WG

The IRCC4 meeting was held 7-8 June 2012 in Singapore. The documents of the meeting are on the IHO Web pages. The Minutes of the meeting are not yet available but will be uploaded in due course on the IHO web pages. The main issues related to the WEND-WG were to consider the outcome of the XVIII Conference, i.e. appropriate actions to ensure consistency between ENCs and refining the Annexes of the WEND Principles.

*Cdr. Lars Hansen*, Denmark, presented the BSHC at that meeting. For preparation to this meeting the BSHC representative has forwarded some information to the WEND-WG chair and to Lars Hansen. According to preliminary information on the outcome of the meeting there are several WEND-WG actions related to the WEND principles, and ENC availability and quality.

The meeting also invited to note the *IHO CL 05/2012* (RENC transparency documents) and *CL 51/2012* (continuous provision of ENCs to IHB).

## 5. Forthcoming WEND-WG2 meeting on 21-22 September 2012

The next WEND-WG2 meeting will be held on 21-22 September 2012 in London, just before the HSSC4 meeting on 25-28 September 2012 in Taunton. The documents received so far of the meeting are on IHO web pages. The Draft Agenda is attached as an Annex 1 to this report.

The main issues will be:

- to consider the outcome of the XVIII IHC and IRCC4
- to agree on actions to amend Annexes of the WEND Principles
- to review the status of ENC coverage, gaps and overlaps
- to consider ENC quality, consistency and updating issues
- to consider Service Provision issues
- to consider the status of WEND-WG

IHB has issues *Circular Letter 78/2012*, where Member States' comments and proposals to WEND WG-2, especially to *Guidelines for the Implementation of WEND Principles* are asked by **31 August 2012**. Please forward a copy of your comments also to [juha.korhonen@fta.fi](mailto:juha.korhonen@fta.fi).

You may also review the WEND-WG2 meeting documents of the IHO Web pages where there may be further documents.

The BSHC Members are invited to give their further input and guidance for the WEND-WG2 meeting issues at the latest during the BSHC 17<sup>th</sup> Conference.

## 6. Actions for the BSHC 17<sup>th</sup> Conference:

The BSHC 17<sup>th</sup> Conference is requested to

- take note on this Report
- give input and guidance for the WEND-WG2 meeting
- give further guidance to the WEND-WG representative, as seen appropriately

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## Annexes:

1. Draft Agenda to the WEND-WG2 meeting



## Worldwide ENC Database Working Group (WEND-WG)

### Second Meeting

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2012  
Army and Navy Club, Central London, United Kingdom

### DRAFT AGENDA

- **Item 1 – Welcome, Opening Remarks, Introductions, Approval of Agenda (Chair & Secretary)**
- **Item 2 – Apologies (Secretary)**
- **Item 3 – Minutes of last meeting, October 2011, Wollongong, Australia** (see *WEND-WG 2-04: Minutes of WEND WG1, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Wollongong*)
- **Item 4 – Matters Arising (Chair/All)**
- **Item 5 – Report on WEND WG reports to XVIII<sup>th</sup> IHC and IRCC 4 (Chair)** (see *WEND-WG2-05: WEND report to IRCC4, and WEND-WG2-06: IRCC4 report to 18<sup>th</sup> IHC*)
- **Item 6 – Matters Arising**
  - Report of WEND Task Group
  - Report of XVIII<sup>th</sup> IHC (see *IHO web-site: Publication P6 Vol.1; Proceedings of 18<sup>th</sup> IHC, p.169-172*)
  - Simple Unified Database
- **Item 7 – WEND Principles and Guiding, including Actions arising from XVIII<sup>th</sup> IHC PRO-3**
  - Written feedback from Member States.
  - Amendments to IHC PRO-3 Annex B
  - Amendments to IHC PRO-3 Annex C
- **Item 8 - Coverage - Gap / Overlap Issues**
  - Top 2000 Ports without adequate ENC coverage
  - Review handling of international boundary issues.

- **Item 9 - Quality, Consistency and Updating issues**
  - WEND Principles and future technology
- **Item 10 - Service Provision (Chair/RENC representatives)**
  - Update on RENC harmonisation and RHWSG activity
  - Update on membership
  - Update in licencing
  - Licencing challenges
- **Item 10 - ECDIS Related Issues (Chair/All)**
  - Update from HSSC and XVIII<sup>th</sup> IHC
- **Item 11 – Status of WEND WG**
  - Review of current relationship between WEND WG and IRCC
  - Proposal for IRCC to approve amended ToRs and RoP's in order to establish WEND WG as permanent sub-committee reporting to IRCC
- **Item 12 - Any Other Business (All)**
- **Item 13 - Review of Actions (Secretary)**
- **Item 14 - Closing Remarks & Date of Next Meeting (Chair)**