

**Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC)**  
**19th Conference – Riga, Latvia**  
**10-12 June 2014**  
**IRCC Outcomes**

1. The sixth meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC6) took place in Paris, France hosted by SHOM (French Naval Hydrographic Service) on 19 and 20 May 2014. The meeting was attended by Chairs / Representatives of the 15 Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs), the IRCC subordinated bodies and 26 observers, a total of 49 participants from 21 countries. The IHB was represented by President Robert Ward, Director Mustafa Iptes and Assistant Director Alberto Costa Neves.
2. IRCC examined the reports and activities of the RHCs and the subordinated bodies, the current status of hydrographic surveys and nautical charts, the progress of ENC schemes and ENC catalogue, the developments of Capacity Building activities, Worldwide ENC Database (WEND) related issues and the decisions of other bodies and organizations affecting its work.
3. The Committee approved the revision of the IRCC Terms of Reference (ToR) and Rules of Procedure (RoP) regarding the change of the Vice-Chair role and included the WENDWG and IHO-EU Network WG in the IRCC ToR which will be submitted to Member States for approval.
4. IRCC acknowledged the developments of Capacity Building (CB) activities and agreed the Revised IHO Capacity Building Strategy which will be reported to the 5<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC) by CBSC for endorsement.
5. The Committee reviewed the Worldwide ENC Database Working Group (WENDWG) activities and the implementation of the WEND Principles and the Guidelines. ENC coverage, the quality and reliability of the information in ENCs and the harmonization of current ENCs with the corresponding paper charts, overlapping ENCs and developments of an IHO WENC (or RENC) were extensively discussed by the Committee. WENDWG was tasked to assess the impact and consistency of updates for ENCs and paper chart (coverage and quality) and to report the evolution on the IHO WENC Concept. The Committee also approved the WENDWG Work Programme for its future activities.
6. IRCC endorsed the IHO publications S-5 Ed. 11.1.0 and S-8 Ed. 3.1.0 and invited the IHB to circulate a CL seeking Member States approval on S-5 and S-8. The Committee approved the IBSC Work Programme on the development of the new standards. The Committee also endorsed the revised ToR and RoP for the GEBCO Guiding Committee that will be submitted to Member States for approval.
7. IHO Performance Monitoring System was reviewed and the impact for RHC and Member States were evaluated. IRCC agreed on the best practices for reporting the Performance Indicators and the Chairs of the RHCs were encouraged to provide the IRCC Chair and the IHB with updated reports for the Performance Indicators.
8. The Committee discussed the use of the Risk Assessment Methodology developed by New Zealand as a tool for Capacity Building Assessment and RHC Chairs were invited to encourage Member States in their respective regions to use the Risk Assessment methodology to establish Hydrographic Survey priorities. A proposal on the best practices and benefits of maximizing the use of hydrographic data proposed by MACHC was also reviewed and acknowledged by the Committee.

10. The Committee discussed and supported the proposal on moving the MSDIWG subordination from HSSC to IRCC. IHB was invited to facilitate the move of the MSDIWG from HSSC to IRCC.

11. IRCC elected Dr Parry S.L. OEI, the Hydrographer of Singapore, as Vice Chair and decided to hold the next meeting in Mexico from 1 to 3 June 2015. The final report of the meeting will be published on the IHO website.

**Action Requested of BSHC Member States**

12. BSHC Member States are invited to:

- **Note** this report,
- **Take any other actions** as considered appropriate.