

**East Asia Hydrographic Commission**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Conference, 4-7 July 2000, Jakarta, Indonesia**

**Abridged Report**

The 7th East Asia Hydrographic Conference was held in Jakarta from 4 to 7 July 2000. The Conference was hosted by Indonesia, and was attended by China, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Observers attended from Brunei, Cambodia, U.K., and U.S.A., and IHB.

The activities described in the country reports indicated excellent progress towards the production of electronic charts, and widespread use of advanced survey equipment. The larger nations were also involved in the provision of services for GIS, and indicated a trend towards the use of a GIS environment in the acquisition and processing of survey data. The concept of a virtual RENC is being studied by a working group, and trials between some working group members are anticipated.

The Navarea co-ordinator for Area XI provided a report on progress of implementation of GMDSS, and advised that a workshop on navigation warnings would be held in Tokyo in October 2000.

UK presented a report on the data search project for the South China Sea, which is attempting, with considerable success, to identify the data holdings of non-hydrographic organisations in the region. The search has enabled a significant improvement in the charts of the area.

A Working Group undertook an extensive review of the Statutes of the Commission, in order to align them to IHO Resolutions, and to current practice in other Commissions.

Between sessions a day was set aside for sightseeing and shopping in the Jakarta area, which was most enjoyable.

The Conference was very successful, and China was elected Chairman for the next session. The next meeting will be held in 2003 in Beijing.