



EAtHC10-07G

UNITED KINGDOM
NATIONAL REPORT
TO THE
10TH MEETING
OF THE
EASTERN ATLANTIC
HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION
LOMÉ, TOGO
3RD - 5TH DECEMBER 2008

This report supplements the UK Generic National Report 2008, posted on the IHO website (www.iho.int), and describes UK's activities of direct relevance to the EAtHC region.

NOTE: For further details of UKHO’s role and other activities, see UKHO website (www.ukho.gov.uk).

1. UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE (UKHO)

Changes in UKHO Organization

1.1 UKHO continues to evolve with changes in both organization and personnel. See UK Generic National Report. Current re-organization in the Operations and Production Division sees the existing Regional Teams (whose responsibilities include data assessment and Notices to Mariners, New Charts and New Editions) being grouped into three Regional Production Groups. This will enable the integration, over the next twelve months, of paper and digital production, including processes, systems and skills, and facilitate management of the end-to-end chart production process. Contact details relevant to EAHC are included at the end of this report.

Changes to Production Systems

1.2 UKHO continues to work towards a fully digital production flowline to replace the existing analogue and digital system. Known as the Production Systems Programme (PSP), the project is designed to build the production foundation for the future. To date, the UKHO’s working archive has been catalogued and documents captured in digital format, and geo-referenced. Receipt and distribution of source data documents in digital format is now being implemented, managed by workflow software. Other case by case projects are being developed for specific items, as appropriate.

2. SURVEYS

2.1 Details of the management of civil hydrographic surveys in UK Home Waters are provided in the UK Generic National Report and on the UKHO website. UK’s National Hydrographic Committee has met on an annual basis for many years and provides the necessary breadth of interests to ensure that all requirements are taken into account when prioritizing UK’s civil hydrographic survey programme.

2.2 Any requests for survey assistance from nations within this RHC region will be assessed within the MOD, with advice from UKHO. UKHO can also contribute to project management of hydrographic surveys.

3. CHARTS AND PUBLICATIONS

3.a. CHARTS

3.a.1 Information on UK’s chart portfolio is provided on the UKHO website. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the EAHC region.

3.a.2 The following charts have been published since the last EAHC meeting:

Chart	GB	INT	Title	Published
NE	91	1812	Cabo de Sao Vincente to the Strait of Gibraltar	10-May-07
NE	142	—	Strait of Gibraltar	24-May-07
NC	306	—	Pointe Tchitembo to Cabeça da Cobra	9-Oct-08
NE	412	2858	Conakry and Approaches	26-Jun-08
NE	595	2087	Sassandra to Lagos	26-Jul-07
NE	658	—	Entrance to River Congo	22-May-08
NE	773	—	Strait of Gibraltar to Isla de Alboran	10-May-07
NE	1383	2806	Lagune Aby to Tema	26-Jul-07
NE	1384	2807	Tema to Cotonou	26-Jul-07
NC	1387	2810	Calabar to Bata including Isla de Bioko	22-Feb-07
NE	1685	—	Camara de Lobos to Ponta de Sao Lourenco - Including the Ports of Funchal and Canical	27-Sep-07
NE	1856	—	Approaches to Puerto de La Luz (Las Palmas)	1-Mar-07

NE	1858	—	Approaches to Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Puerto de San Sebastian de la Gomera, Santa Cruz de la Palma and Approaches	26-Jun-08
NE	2348	—	Raz de Sein	28-Aug-08
NE	2349	—	Baie de Douarnenez	4-Jan-07
NE	2357	—	Baie de Quiberon	24-May-07
NE	2812	—	Lagos Harbour	4-Oct-07
NE	3222	1877	Lisboa, Alcantara to Canal do Montijo	29-Mar-07
NE	3321	2892	Entrances to Escravos and Forcados Rivers	31-Jul-08
NE	3345	—	Chenal de Four	28-Aug-08
NE	3432	—	Cape Coast to Tema	26-Jul-07
NE	3433	2899	Approaches to Calabar Sheet 1	28-Dec-06

3.a.3 Charts scheduled for publication in the next six months include:

Chart	GB	INT	Title
NC	305	—	Gamba to Pointe Tchitembo
NE	1380	—	Ports and Anchorages in Ghana, Togo and Benin
NE	1383	2806	Lagune Aby to Tema
NE	1384	2807	Tema to Cotonou
NE	1912	—	Ports on the North and West Coasts of Morocco
NE	2646	—	Pointe de Penmarche to Ile d'Yeu
NE	3113	—	Cape Three Points to Cape Coast
NE	3427	1832	Approaches to Brest
NE	3428	1833	Brest
NE	3429	—	Rade de Brest
NE	3432	—	Cape Coast to Tema

3.a.4 Charts scheduled beyond that include:

Chart	GB	INT	Title
NE	20	—	Ile d'Ouessant
NE	595	2087	Sassandra to Lagos
NE	1321	—	Ports and Terminals in the Gulf of Guinea
NE	1356	—	Bahia de Corisco to Estuaire du Gabon
NE	1685	—	Camara de Lobos to Ponta de Sao Lourenco
NE	2643	—	Ile d'Ouessant to Pointe de Penmarc'h
NE	2663	—	Ile d'Yeu to Pointe de la Courbe
NE	2812	—	Lagos Harbour

ENCs

3.a.5 UKHO has completed ENC production of UK home waters and is near to completing the ENCs for other areas where it is Primary Charting authority. There are now over 1450 UK produced cells on issue; full details of these are provided in the IHO ENC catalogue and on the UKHO website where online and downloadable digital catalogues are available.

3.a.6 UK has re-assessed all of its ENCs against the IHO guidelines for consistency and is working to improve their compliance. To improve the usability of its ENC data, UK has applied SCAMIN to all its cells using software tools. We recognise that this is not as good as the

cartographic solution used by some HOs however we believe that it is a practical way to start addressing the issue for those nations who have already issued a large number of ENC's.

3.a.7 The UK launched a new ENC service (the Admiralty Vector Chart Service (AVCS)) in April 2008; this service contains only ENC's. To improve continuity of coverage (a major barrier to the use of ENC's), UK sought Coastal State approval for the production of interim "infill" ENC's based on UK paper charts. To date, in excess of 400 new ENC's have been produced to fill gaps in existing coverage around the world. These infill ENC's will be withdrawn when Coastal States are in a position to issue and maintain their own.

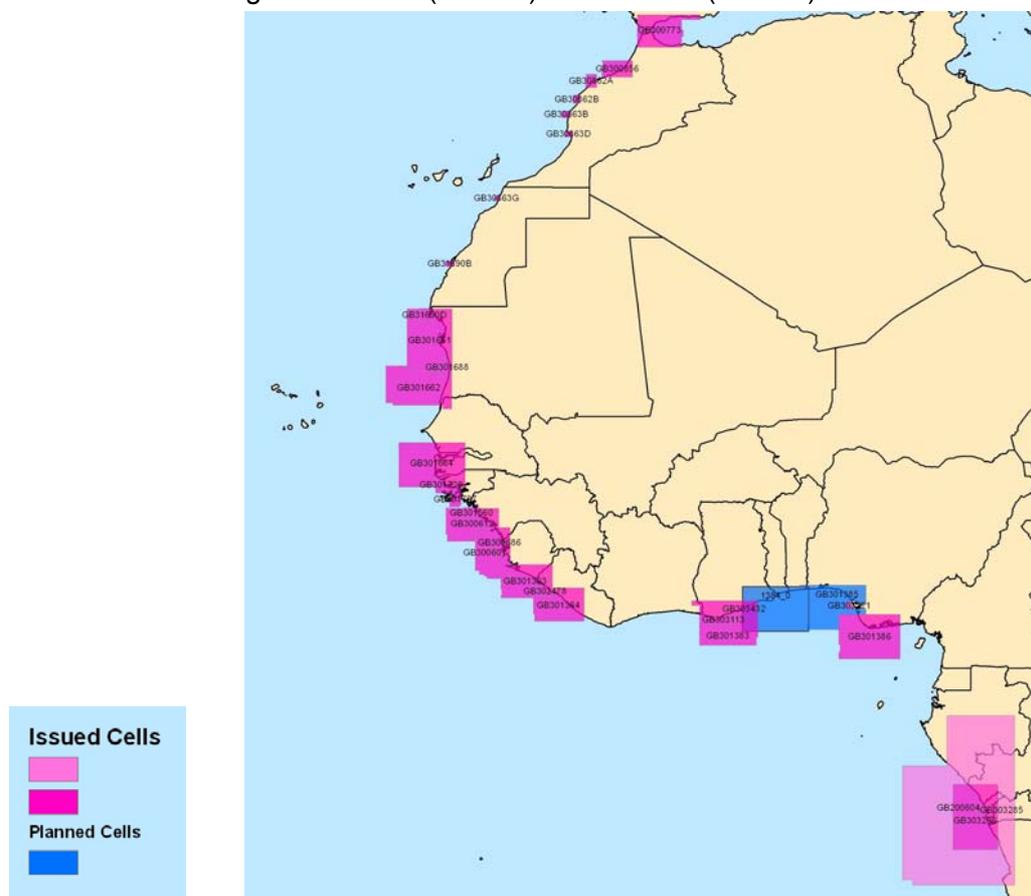
3.a.8 UK is undertaking a programme of work to resolve the issue of those charts that are needed for the infill programme but are currently on undetermined geodetic datum. So far, using Landsat imagery, work on about 100 charts has been completed sufficiently to allow ENC's to be produced, including in Nigeria and Sierra Leone. This work will need to continue over the next two years and will include using high resolution imagery to improve accuracies for large scale charting.

3.a.9 Whilst developing AVCS, UK identified issues affecting the quality and updating of some ENC's. In order to satisfy requests from the Royal Navy for assurance that all ENC's issued to them are accurate and up-to-date, UK initiated an exercise comparing ENC's with Admiralty paper charts. Where any differences are found, the appropriate national chart series is consulted; any unresolved differences are referred to the producer nation for comment.

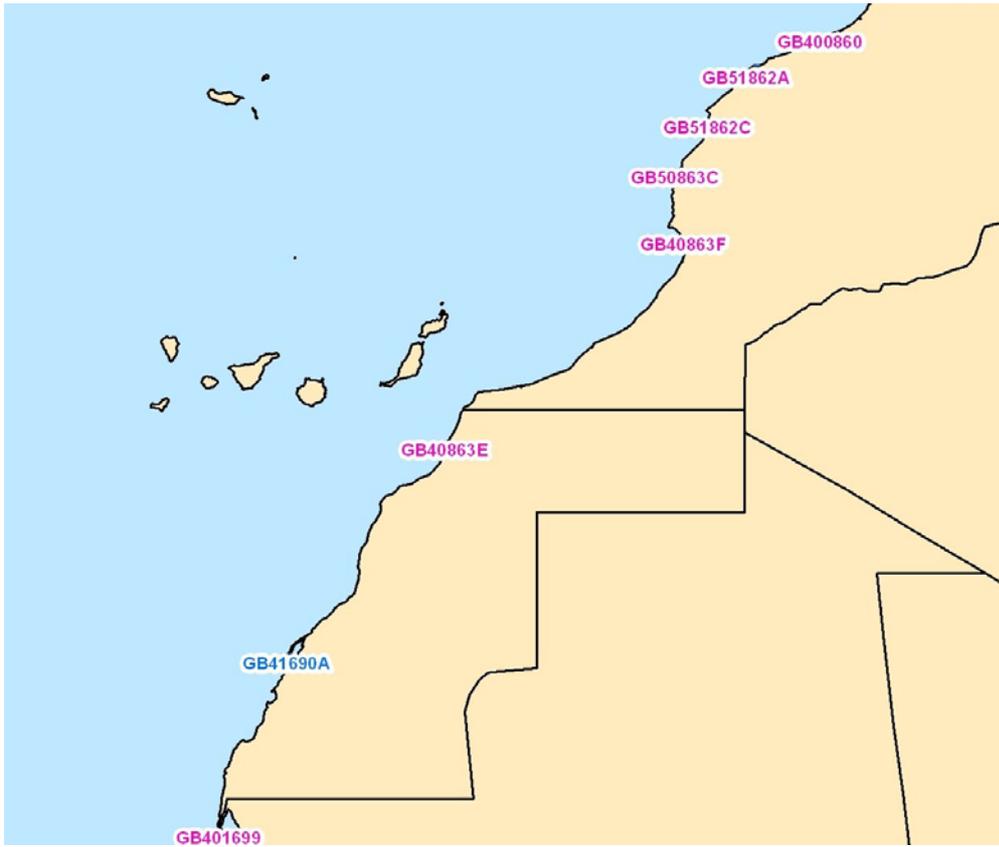
3.a.10 Within the EAthC region, UK has released a total of 73 ENC cells, 70 of them since the last EAthC meeting. Coverage currently comprises 16 Harbour, 19 Approach, 30 Coastal, 1 General and 7 Overview cells. See diagrams in 3.a.12 and 3.a.13. A detailed listing has been provided to the EAthC Chair and to the INT Region G Chart Coordinator.

3.a.11 A further 30 cells are currently in progress and scheduled for completion in the next year, including 10 Harbour, 18 Approach, and 2 Coastal cells.

3.a.12 GB Coverage of General (Band 2) and Coastal (Band 3) Cells



3.a.13 GB Coverage of Approach (Band 4) and Harbour (Band 5) Cells





3.a.14 UKHO, along with other European hydrographic offices, was a founder member of the International Centre for ENCs (IC-ENC) RENC. IC-ENC concentrates its efforts on the validation and consistency of ENC data and leaves the marketing of ENCs to the shipping industry, to its value-added resellers. Details can be found on the IC-ENC website (www.ic-enc.org).

3.b. PUBLICATIONS

General

3.b.1 Information on UK's publication portfolio is available from UKHO website. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the EAtHC region.

Paper publications

3.b.2 The status of Admiralty Sailing Directions in the EAtHC region is as follows:

New Editions Published since last EAtHC meeting:

NP2	Africa Pilot Volume II	March 2008
NP22	Bay of Biscay Pilot	August 2007

New Editions to be Published:

NP1	Africa Pilot Volume I	July 2009 (current edition 2006)
NP67	W Coasts of Spain and Portugal Pilot	January 2009 (current edition 2005)

Digital Publications

3.b.3 UK continues to develop digital equivalents to its existing paper publications; these have the two advantages to the mariner of providing additional functionality and minimising the task of updating.

3.b.4 The Admiralty digital catalogue may be downloaded free from the UKHO website; it includes details of all paper and digital charts and publications and is updated weekly. It is a useful tool to check on the ENC coverage within the region and to show the latest edition dates of both charts and publications.

4. MSI

4.1 The UK's principal responsibility within the EAtHC region is for those areas where UK continues as primary charting authority, including Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

4.2 UK maintains close liaison with France, the coordinator for NAVAREA II, as well as with the coordinators of adjacent NAVAREAs. Any information, received at UKHO, which requires urgent promulgation, is passed to the appropriate co-ordinator. It is understood that plans for 2 new NAVTEX stations in Nigeria (in Lagos and Bonny) are at an advanced stage.

5. CAPACITY BUILDING

Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

5.1 UK fully supports the IHO CBC strategy and particularly its emphasis on getting Phase 1 and appropriate Phase 2 capacity in place to enable coastal states to meet their obligations under SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 4 and 9. UK will continue to contribute resources to both CBC initiatives and to bilateral assistance.

5.2 Since the last EAtHC meeting, UK has participated in numerous technical workshops, in a number of RHC areas, although none in the EAtHC region since 2005.

5.3 UKHO has created a new post dedicated to capacity building. Its key aims are to ensure that capacity building is properly considered in UKHO activity and that UKHO's capacity building activities are fully co-ordinated. It will act as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in capacity building activities, including UK involvement in regional hydrographic commission initiatives and IHO Capacity Building Committee activities. It will have a particular responsibility for UK Overseas Territories and liaison with UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with overseas High Commissions to generate phased development of capability and new survey activity. Further information can be obtained from Mr Jeff Bryant – contact details at the end of this report.

Training received, needed, offered

Training provided by UKHO

5.4 The UK Generic National Report, posted on the IHO website, includes a general description of training provided by UKHO. Further details of the training opportunities offered by UKHO are provided on the UKHO website.

6. S-55 LATEST UPDATE

6.1 UK is committed to providing updates each year to the S-55 entries for UK Home Waters and its Overseas Territories. The update for 2008 is currently being collated. The data for UK Home Waters has been completed and that for the Overseas Territories will be completed shortly, when the results of the 2007/08 Antarctic season surveys have been fully evaluated and details for island states collated.

6.2 UK also provides assistance to update S-55 entries to countries such as Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, where UKHO retains the primary charting responsibility, recognizing that local input remains critical to the maintenance of S-55 as an up-to-date and authoritative reference document.

7. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

Nothing to report specific to EAtHC region.

8. CONCLUSION

UKHO continues its commitment to carrying forward hydrographic activities through the work of the IHO's Regional Hydrographic Commissions, and notes that each exhibits its own particular opportunities and challenges. The particular challenges facing EAtHC are those of building capacity and provision of adequate chart coverage across the whole of the region.

Taunton, October 2008

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