

**IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)
9th Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa, 12 - 14 October 2009
GEBCO Report 2008/09**

The 26th meeting of the Joint IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) was held at the Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (SHOM) in Brest, France on 1st and 2nd October, 2009. In this report only subjects are introduced which may be of direct interest for HCA. GEBCO 2009 was attended by more than 80 registered participants coming from 18 countries.

Before that meeting, the two GEBCO Sub-Committees conducted their annual meetings. From 22nd to 26th September 2009 the Sub-Committee for Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) met at SHOM for its 22nd session. Nine from twelve voting SCUFN-members and thirteen observers attended. Beside the discussion of actually submitted name proposals, the major issues of the meeting were

- GAZETTEER OF UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES
IHO-IOC PUBLICATION B-8
 - **Web-based Map Interface and On-line Name Proposal Form**
 - **Geospatially Enabled Database**
- STANDARDIZATION OF UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES: IHO-IOC PUBLICATION B-6
 - **Publication B-6 additional languages**
- NAME PROPOSALS
 - 52 undersea feature name proposals were considered/discussed
 - 37 proposals were finally discussed and accepted

Two names of undersea features in Antarctic waters were not accepted as they did not follow the STANDARDIZATION OF UNDERSEA FEATURE NAMES B-6.

The Meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee on Ocean Mapping was conducted on 28th and 30th September 2009, in conjunction with the GEBCO Open Science Day on 29th September 2009. The Open Science Day gains increasingly attention, more than 15 oral papers covering ocean mapping, marine sciences and technology and posters were presented. Many papers focus on QC and QA of survey data and DTM modelling.

Reports were submitted by the Director of the IHO Data Centre on Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) and the GEBCO Digital Atlas Manager and the Editor. The new global 0.5 arc-Minute grid is now available on the GEBCO website (www.gebco.net). The insertion of new high resolution soundings into the existing GEBCO grid and the proposal for the establishment of a modified Regional Ocean Mapping Program with full global coverage were thoroughly discussed.

Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee

The Meeting was opened by the Directeur Général du SHOM l'Ingénieur général de l'armement Gilles Bessero. He welcomed in his capacity as Chairman of the IHO Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) all GEBCO Members and expressed his appreciation for the successful work of the GEBCO project. Following the new IHO-Structure which came into force on 1st January 2009, the GEBCO project is considered as inter-organizational body within the IRCC.

Following major outcomes from the meeting are reported:

1. Election of a new GEBCO Chair: Dr. Robin Falconer, NZ
2. Election of a new GEBCO Vice-Chair: Dr. Chris Fox, USA
3. Introduction of a new Interim Sub-Committee for Regional Undersea Mapping (ISCRUM)
Chairman: Dr. Martin Jakobsson, Sweden
4. Reports from both parent organization including discussion of the new IHO structure
5. Reports from Sub-Committees and from the IHO DCDB
6. Report about the success of the GEBCO / Nippon Foundation Student Program
7. A new Edition of the global bathymetric map will be compiled
8. The outreach must be improved (new world map, use by telephone companies, globes with GEBCO bathymetry)