

**IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTICA (HCA)
9th Meeting, Simon's Town, Cape Town, South Africa, 12-14 October 2009**

NATIONAL REPORT – NORWAY



**NORWEGIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE
(NHS)**

1. General

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) is responsible for the provision of hydrographic services for Norwegian waters and sea areas, including the Svalbard and Jan Mayen area.

In Antarctica the Norwegian geographical area of interest mainly is concentrated in Dronning Maud Land (Queen Maud Land) and the adjacent Kong Håkon VII Hav (King Håkon VII Sea). Peter I Øy (Peter I Island) in the Bellingshausen Sea and Bouvetøya (Bouvet Island) are also Norwegian dependencies. However, the latter is north of the 60 parallel.

In July 2008, Norway reached the goal of full ENC coverage for the Norwegian coast. Although this was a major step forwards, there still remains large areas with old data that needs to be replaced with new survey data. In addition, large areas on Svalbard remain to be surveyed and covered with ENCs and papercharts.

The NHS has established a fully digital production flowline and all new products and updates are produced from a seamless Primary database. A new chart production system that enables more efficient maintenance of the ENC and chart portfolio is currently being fully implemented.

The NHS intends to establish a Tracing service in 2009 and Print on Demand in 2010. Two projects are being carried out in order to develop the services including the technology needed to support it.

PRIMAR International ENC service, operated by the Norwegian Hydrographic Service, now includes approx 8400 ENCs from more than 35 countries.

2. Surveys

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) is not carrying out any surveying or nautical charting activity within the HCA region.

Oceanographs from The Geophysical Institute (University of Bergen) has earlier this year been to Antarctica to put out high technological buoys for long term monitoring of the currents in the south part of the Weddel Sea

Norway is planning on building its first icebreaker. If the plan is realised, it will be operational at the earliest in 2012.

3. Charts and Publications

a) Charts:

NHS has, according to the INT chart scheme, produced one chart for Antarctica - INT 904 (National No. 550) Dronning Maud Land, which was issued in 2002. The chart was published as an Overview ENC in 2008.

The NHS has undertaken the production responsibility for INT 909 Ross Sea and plans to produce the chart in 2011. Contact has been established with NOAA in order to get access to bathymetric data. Norwegian Polar Institute will provide the land information.

b) Publications:

NHS is not publishing any nautical publications for Antarctica.

4. MSI

Outside the responsibility of the NHS.

5. Capacity Building

The NHS is involved in the IHO CBSC, there is however little activity related to HCA.

6. S-55 Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide

The NHS has provided the IHB with updates to S-55. There are no survey activities in Antarctica to report.

7. Oceanographic activities

Nothing to report.

8. Conclusions

The Norwegian Hydrographic Service (NHS) has not undertaken any surveying or nautical charting activity in Antarctica since the last meeting.