



UNITED KINGDOM NATIONAL REPORT

TO THE

10TH MACHC

HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION MEETING

Barbados

4 – 5th November 2009

This report supplements the UK Generic National Report 2009, posted on the UKHO website (www.ukho.gov.uk), and describes UK's activities of direct relevance to the MACHC region.

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NOTE: This report supplements the UK Generic National Report 2009, posted on the UKHO website (www.UKHO.gov.uk), and concentrates on UK's activities of direct relevance to the MACHC region. Further details of UKHO's role and other activities may be found on the UKHO website.

1. UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE (UKHO)

AVCS Launch

1.1 Since the last meeting of MACHC, UKHO has been working on the introduction of the Admiralty Vector Chart Service (AVCS) with the aim of providing the Mariner with the ENC coverage needed ahead of ECDIS mandation. This has involved close cooperation with other Hydrographic Offices around the world to provide greater access to ENCs and enhanced coverage where ENCs have not previously been available.

Changes in UKHO Organization

1.2 UKHO's organization continues to evolve with changes in both organization and personnel.

Within the Operations Directorate, the Chart Branch functions have been aligned with new production processes. The contact for discussion of charting matters for the MACHC region is Mr Phil Parker (Mr Paul Bradley from 1 Nov 2009). Ms Cathy Partridge should be contacted for charting issues affecting US (Gulf Coast) waters.

UKHO's bilateral arrangements within the MACHC region are developed and looked after by Mr Mark Aspden.

UK's hydrographic representation in international fora is coordinated by Dr Rob Hensley and Mr Nigel Sutton.

Contact details are provided at the end of this report.

Changes to Production Systems

1.3 UKHO continues to work towards a fully digital production flowline to replace the existing analogue and digital system. Known as the Production Systems Delivery Programme (PSDP), the Programme is designed to deliver the new infrastructure and processes required by the UKHO. 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 has been implemented, managed by workflow software. Trials of the Hydrographic Database have been completed and the large and complex task of data population has also been tested and is now underway in conjunction with the roll-out of the system. The requirements for the replacement of other legacy systems has also been reviewed and will be the subject of the Programme activity over the next few years.

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 MACHC region.

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

GB Chart Number	INT Chart Number	Title	Published
1027		Mexico - Pacific Ocean Coast - Approaches to Golfo De California	29/01/2009
1017		Mexico - West Coast - Golfo de California	26/03/2009
1028		Mexico - Pacific Ocean Coast - Cabo Falso to Punta Abreojos	26/03/2009
662	4132	Central America - East Coast - Isla de Guanaja to Isla Cozumel including the Gulf of Honduras	02/04/2009
3382		Mississippi River Southwest Pass to New Orleans	28/05/2009
2988		Ports in the Gulf of Honduras	04/06/2009
3384		New Orleans to Baton Rouge	25/06/2009
1979		Manzanillo and Approaches	06/08/2009
464		Montego Bay and Ocho Rios Bay	24/09/2009
2319		Colombia – Buenaventura	01/10/2009

3.a.3 Charts scheduled for publication in the next six months include: 2016 (INT 4180), 466, 2262, 500, 501, 1498.

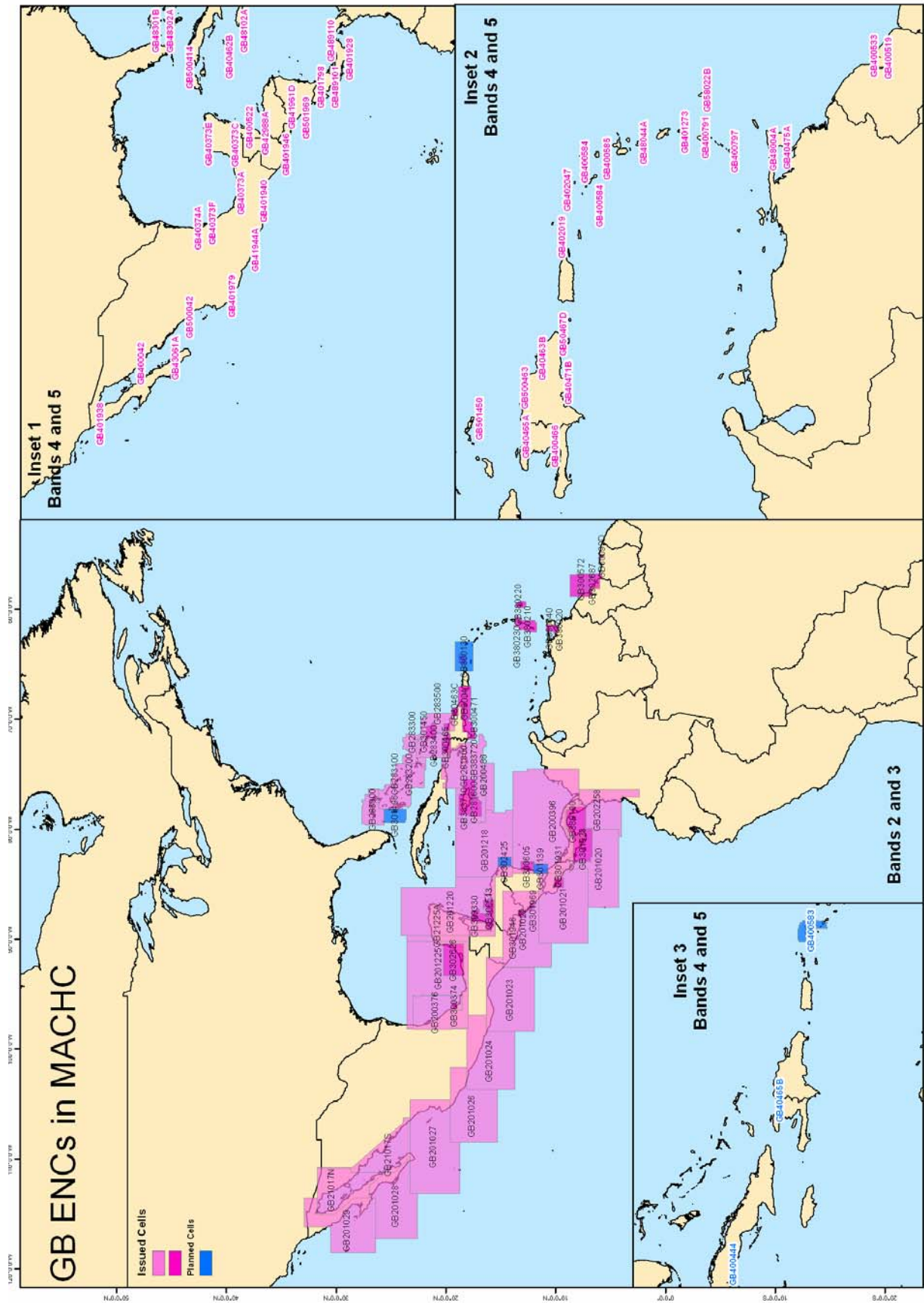
Charts scheduled beyond that include: 1044 (INT 4102), 1045 (INT 4100), 1067 (INT 4168), 2434, 3320, 1520, 1521.

ENCs

3.a.5 UKHO, having completed ENC production for UK home waters, is now engaged in the production of ENCs for other areas where it is primary charting authority. Full details of UK's ENC coverage are provided on UKHO website where there is an online catalogue. (see also digital publications entry below)

3.a.6 UKHO, along with other European hydrographic offices was a founder member of the International Centre for ENCs (IC-ENC) RENC which is the route to market for UK ENCs. 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 (ic-enc.org).

3.a.7 Within the MACHC Region, UK has, so far, published almost 200 ENC cells, 10 cells are in progress.



3.b. PUBLICATIONS

General

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

Paper publications

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

New Editions Published since last MACHC meeting:

NP7A	South America Pilot Vol IV	4th Ed 2007
NP8	Pacific Coasts of Central America and United States	11th Ed 2007
NP69A	East Coasts of Central America and Gulf of Mexico	5th Ed 2009
NP70	West Indies Pilot Vol I	4th Ed 2008
NP71	West Indies Pilot Vol II	16th Ed 2008

New Editions to be Published

NP7A	South America Pilot Vol IV	April 2010
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These publications are all maintained on a continuous revision cycle with new editions approximately every three to five years.

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 (version 1.6 recently released) may be downloaded free from the UKHO website (www.ukho.gov.uk); it includes details of all paper and digital charts and publications, including P and T NMs, 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 in the MACHC region is for its Overseas Territories, of Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and Turks and Caicos, together with areas where UK is the primary charting authority. UK maintains close liaison with the USA, coordinator for NAVAREA IV which covers the MACHC area. Any information received at UKHO which requires urgent promulgation is passed to NAVAREA IV.

4.2 GMDSS coverage in the MACHC region is generally sparse, and administrations should be encouraged to develop their capabilities and infrastructure to provide at least Phase One hydrographic capability.

5. CAPACITY BUILDING

Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

5.1 UK fully supports the IHO Capacity Building Committee strategy and particularly its emphasis on ensuring Phase 1, and appropriate Phase 2, capacity is 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.

Training received, needed, offered

Training provided by UKHO

5.2 The UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO 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.

ENC Training and Assistance

5.3 UKHO strongly supports the successful uptake of ECDIS using ENC, and is happy to assist other nations to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs. Details of courses, sponsorship, venues and options for bespoke training provided by UKHO are included in the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website.

In 2008 delegates from Mexico and Colombia attended the ENC Bursary course, and in 2009 Venezuela were represented on the ENC programme.

UKHO are being funded by the NIPPON Foundation to deliver the internationally accredited course "Hydrographic Data Processing , Marine Cartography and specialism ENC" to 6 selected students. The course is being delivered Sept - Dec at the UKHO. This course is the first of a potential 4 year commitment for the UKHO. The first programme, announced through IHO Circular Letter received an unprecedented amount of interest, with 49 applications received. The 6 selected candidates are from Kenya, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Turkey and Pakistan. The course is progressing well.

Training at Hydrographic and Meteorological Training Group (HMTG)

5.4 Nationally and internationally certified courses delivered by HMTG (formerly known as the RN Hydrographic School) in Plymouth, are described in the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website.

6. C-55 LATEST UPDATE (formerly S-55)

6.1 As described in the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website, UK has established internal procedures to ensure the annual updating of the C-55 entries for UK Home Waters and its Overseas Territories, including, within the MACHC area, Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and Turks and Caicos

6.2 UK has also provided assistance to update C-55 entries to countries where UKHO retains the primary charting responsibility, recognizing that local input remains critical to the maintenance of C-55 as an up-to-date and authoritative reference document.

7. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

7.1 UK's oceanographic activities are described in the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website.

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.

Taunton, October 2009

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