



**13th MEETING OF THE MESO AMERICAN AND
CARIBBEAN SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MACHC)**

**19 – 22 November 2011
Antigua, Guatemala**

**SURINAME
National Report**

1. Hydrographic Office

The Maritime Authority Suriname(MAS) supervises the compliance of legal rules in shipping for coastal and inland waters of Suriname and guarantees a safe and efficient passage of sea-going vessels from and to Suriname, based on internationally accepted standards, rules and treaties ratified by Suriname.

The Hydrographic division of the MAS mainly deals with:

- depth measurements in the coastal area and internal waters;
- topographic survey;
- tidal measurement;
- Notice to Mariners.
- object detection by Side Scan Sonar
- C.T.D. measurements;
- planning of aids to navigation;

The MAS, in representing the government of Suriname, makes a contribution to the objectives of IHO and MACHC.

2. Hydrographic Surveys in 2012

In 2012 the survey of Suriname River was continued as a pre-survey for the Suriname River dredging project and the production of an ENC. Detailed surveys have been done for local ports and monitoring of civil structures.

Restriction in Equipment and vessels:

The MAS dispose of two survey vessels, one for internal water survey and the other for coastal surveys up to 60 nautical miles. Platforms beyond 60 nautical miles need to be chartered.

At this point the data is gathered by oil exploration companies in cooperation with the State oil Company (When the exploration ceases the continuity of data will cease as well beyond 60 nautical miles).

Restriction in Finance:

Hydrographic surveys, equipment and data infrastructures require a great amount of resources that are not earned back by nautical publications.

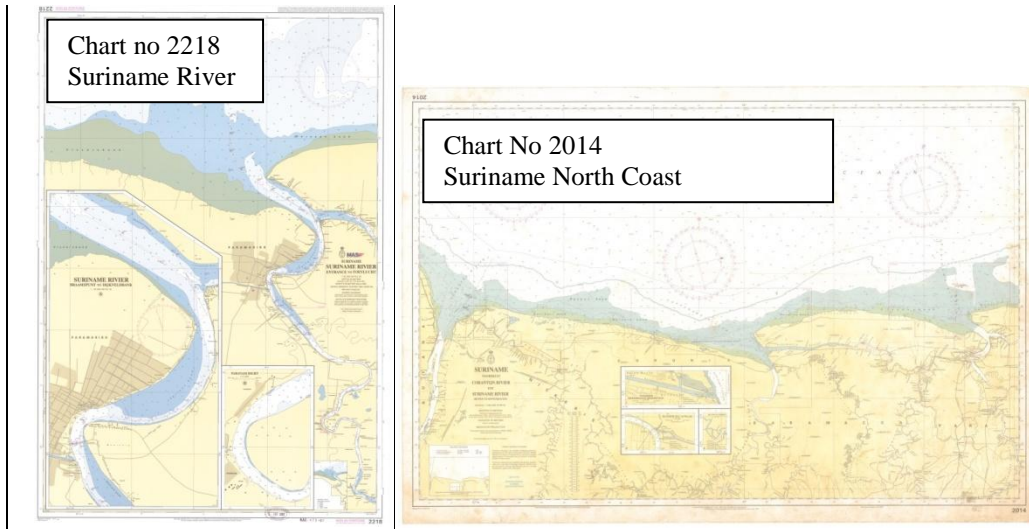
Therefore the surveys are planned by priority and are often limited.

3. Charts

The nautical paper charts and ENC of Suriname are a joint production with NLHO. This resulted in the release of the first Suriname ENC

Two charts will be updated in accordance with CATZOC - B, these are;

- Paper Chart no. 2014 and ENC, Suriname north Coast from the Suriname River to the Corantijn River (1:180.000) expected in 2013.
- Paper Chart no. 2218 and ENC, Suriname River (1:45.000) expected in December 2012.



Restriction in Capacity

For the production and swift update of nautical charts and publication professional trained personnel are required. Suriname has one person with basic cartographic training without practical experience. In order to abreast the IHO developments the MAS requires at least two persons with cartographic experience.

4. Publications

None

5. Maritime Safety Information

NAVIGATIONAL INFORMATION (S-53)

SERVICE	Yes	No	Partial	NOTES
LOCAL WARNINGS	X(NtM)			
COASTAL WARNINGS			X	
NAVAREA WARNINGS	X			
INFORMATION ON PORTS AND HARBOURS ¹			X	

Notices to Mariners are generated by the Hydrographic division and promulgated locally and send to the NAVAREA coordinator.

6. C-55 Latest Update

Status of hydrographic surveys

Routine re-surveys are required in the port areas, which lie in unstable river regimes. The Surinamese coastal waters are subject to frequent changes -----because of sediment deposit from the mud banks, and a number of areas, especially the main shipping rivers require regular surveys and investigation.

	A	B	C
Offshore passage /Small	100	100	0
Landfall Coastal passage/Medium	100	60	0
Approaches Ports/Large	100	100	0

A = percentage which is adequately surveyed.

B = percentage which requires re-survey at larger scale or to modern standards.

C = percentage which has never been systematically surveyed.

Status of Nautical Charting

	A	B	C
Offshore passage/Small	100	0	0
Landfall Coastal passage/Medium	60	0	0
Approaches Ports/Large	100	0	0

A = percentage covered by INT series, or a paper chart series meeting the standards in M-4.

B = percentage covered by Raster Navigational Charts (RNCs) meeting the standards in S-61.

C = percentage covered by ENCs meeting the standards in S-57.

Some charts are in need of revision, and are based on outdated source material. The charts of the Suriname and Corantijn river, as transport links between the Atlantic ocean and the main ports, are up to date.

7. Capacity Building

The MAS employees participated in the courses listed below:

- Basic ENC course held in Mexico presented by IHO, in May 2012.
- CARIS training, Base Manager and Paper Chart Composer in the Suriname, in June 2012

Required training;

- Nautical Cartography Level A and B
- Hydrography level A and B

Required Intern ship;

- Tidal analysis
- Side Scan Sonar interpretation
- Paper Chart and ENC production

8. Oceanographic activities

None

9. Other activities

- The MAS certifies vessels and port facilities in accordance with SOLAS regulations, by annual audits. Port facilities that accommodate vessels of 500 GRT are required to be ISPS certified. Vessels that are ISPS certified are not permitted to moor at port facilities that are not ISPS certified.
- Determination of the limits of fishing grounds in cooperation with the department of fisheries.
- Bathymetric surveys for construction of dikes and dams in cooperation with the department of civil works.
- Collaboration with several institutions national and international
- Dredging of the Suriname river from a minimum depth of 4.5m to 5.5m over a distance of sixty-three (63) kilometers.
- Port Statistics
Suriname currently has seventeen (17) operational certified ports of which five (5) build within the last five (5) years. These ports accommodate container vessels, bulk carriers, RO- RO (car carriers), Oil and chemical tankers, Reefer ships, Supply ships and Passenger ships
- Shipping statistics
An increase of vessel entries has been observed in the years 2011

10. Conclusion

MAS continuous to guarantee safe navigation in the Surinamese waterways. Progress has been made, but there are still challenges ahead:

- Extension of tidal station in coastal area.
- Extension of base points along coastal area and riverbanks.
- Extension of survey area.
- Establishing a Marine Safety Information System

MAS is still willing to share experience with other hydrographic offices and is looking forward to cooperate more with countries in the region.