

**15th Meso-American and Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission
Manzanillo, Mexico, 10th -13th December 2014**

NATIONAL REPORT – The Netherlands

1. Hydrographic Office

The Hydrographic Service of the Royal Netherlands Navy (NLHO) has appointed new key personnel, due to scheduled job rotation for military staff and new appointments within the Ministry of Defence for civilian staff. We refer to MACHC CL11/2014.

2. Surveys

A new hydrographic survey campaign of about 3 months is planned for 2016, using MBES and SSS.

3. New charts and updates

Full ENC coverage *Windward Islands (Sint Maarten, Saba, Sint Eustatius)* for all appropriate usage bands. UK and FR are producer nations for the overview and general usage bands.

Full ENC coverage *Leeward Islands (Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire)* for the coastal, approach, harbor and berthing usage bands. Cell NL302023 maintained in consultation with Venezuela as intermediate solution, pending release of Venezuelan ENC's VE300100 and VE300200.

4. New publications

Not applicable; UK, FR and US promulgate nautical publications of NL waters.

5. MSI

Sufficient and in accordance with C55.

6. C55

Hydrographic Surveying

Leeward Islands (Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire)

Adequately surveyed (<200m / >200m): 14% / 40%

Required re-survey (<200m / >200m): 86% / 60%

Never systematically surveyed (<200m / >200m): 0 / 0

Windward Islands (Sint Maarten, Saba, Sint Eustatius)

Adequately surveyed (<200m / >200m): 90% / 98%

Required re-survey (<200m / >200m): 10% / 02%

Never systematically surveyed (<200m / >200m): 0 / 0

Nautical charting

Leeward Islands (Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire)

100% coverage INT-charts

100% coverage RNC (via UKHO ARCS)

100% coverage ENC in all usage bands except general

Windward Islands (Sint Maarten, Saba, Sint Eustatius)

100% coverage INT-charts

100% coverage RNC (via UKHO ARCS)

100% coverage ENC

Input C-55

Last update IHO Publication C-55 dates from February 2013.

7. Capacity Building

Training needed: not applicable

Training offered: practical traineeship on board NL survey vessels

In accordance with our Memorandum of Understanding, the Maritime Authority of Surinam (MAS) and NLHO cooperate in the production of yearly Tide Tables for Suriname. New time series have been analyzed, in order to calculate improved tidal harmonics and subsequently better hourly predictions for 2015 and beyond.

8. Oceanographic activities

Not applicable

9. Other activities

Status of recent port audits:

Last IMO VIMSAS audit performed in 2008

Participation in IHO working groups:

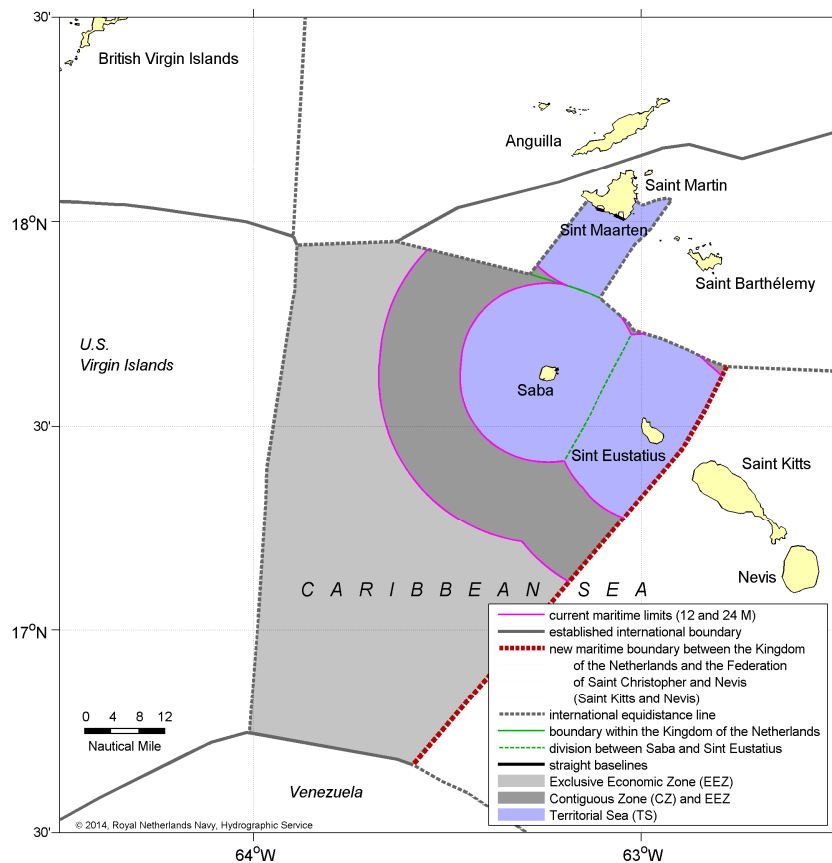
TSMAD, CSPCWG, DQWG (vice-chair until March), SCWG, MSDIWG (vice-chair).

Participation in RENC:

IC-ENC Steering Committee (chair until September and hosting)

Maritime boundaries:

Agreement reached on all-purpose equidistance-based maritime boundary between Sint Eustatius and Saint Kitts & Nevis, pending ratification by parliaments.



10. Conclusions

Satisfactory status for surveying and nautical charting in the MACHC area. The 2016 survey campaign will improve the status of surveying of the Leeward Islands. Cooperation with other MS will lead to a new maritime boundary with Saint Kitts & Nevis and better tidal predictions for Suriname.