

**16<sup>th</sup> Meso - American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission Meeting**  
**08<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015**  
**Antigua and Barbuda**  
**Co-operative Republic of Guyana National Report**

**Hydrographic Office/ Service:**

*The Maritime Administration Department defined as MARAD was established as a legal entity on July 01, 1999 to administer the Guyana Shipping Act of 1998. This Act also amended other Maritime Legislation so that the administration of such Acts now falls under the ambit of the Maritime Administration Department of which the Hydrographic Office is a part of.*

*These are;*

- *The Passenger Act Ch.: 49:03*
- *The Transport and Harbour Act Ch. 49:05*
- *The Government Wharves Act, Ch. 49:05*
- *The Shipping Casualty( Investigation and Prevention) Act Ch.: 49:09*
- *The River Navigation Act Ch.: 50:01*

*MARAD, which is a regulatory agency, became fully operational on January 01 2003 when the functions of the administration were separated from Transport and Harbours Department.*

*MARAD seeks to ensure that quality standards are applied for the effective management and safe and secure operations of ships and ports within the industry. The administration also endorses the ongoing enhancement of the Port Security, Maritime Safety and the development of a safety culture within the Maritime industry.*

*The primary objectives of the MARAD are the safety, security of vessels and the protection of the marine environment.*

## Surveys:

### **Coverage of New Surveys**

- *Surveys carried out for the past year were done mainly for the monitoring of dredging activities within the Harbour and navigation channels , ferry routes, surveys alongside wharf facilities and oil installations*

### **New Technologies and/Equipment**

- *Three (3) automatic tide gauge was purchase this year*
  - *One (1) Radar Type*
  - *Two (2) Pressure Type*
  - *One (1) Single beam Echo sounder for surveys in riverine areas*

### **New Ships**

- *No new ships were procured this year*

### **Problems encountered**

- *The absence of a fully equip and dedicated survey vessel*
- *Lack of professionally trained and qualified staff*

## New Charts & Updates:

### **ENCs**

- *NA*

### **ENC Distribution Method**

- *NA*

### **RNCs**

- *NA*

### **INT Charts**

- *NA*

### **National Paper Charts**

- *GY03 chart showing the Harbours of Georgetown (portion of BA 519) and GY02 showing ferry crossing in the Essequibo River (portion of BA 2783)*

### **Other Charts, e.g. for pleasure craft**

- *NA*

### **Problems encountered**

*The lack of training in the field of Hydrography, Marine Cartography and Maritime Safety Information for the personnel of the Hydrographic Office*

### **New Publications & Updates:**

#### **New Publications**

- *NA*

#### **Updated Publications**

- *Tide Tables and List of Lights are updated annually*

#### **Means of Delivery, e.g. paper, digital**

- *Paper booklet and digital format sent to UKHO periodically*

#### **Problems encountered**

- *Lack of training in Tidal Analysis so as to interpret the tidal data that was recorded by the hydrographic office*

**Capacity Building**  
**Building**

**Offer of and/or demand for Capacity**

- *Awaiting MOU to be signed with the DHN (Brazil ) for assistance in the field of hydrography and marine cartography training*

**Training received, needed, offered**

- *Cat A in Hydrography (Needed)*
- *Cat B in Hydrography( Received this year from JICA and Needed annually)*
- *Marine Cartography( Needed annually)*
- *Maritime Safety Information (Needed annually)*
- *Tidal Analysis( Needed)*

**Status of National, Bilateral, Multilateral or Regional development projects with hydrographic component. (In progress, planned, under evaluation or Study)**

- *Awaiting MOU to be signed with the DHN (Brazil ) for assistance in the field of hydrography and marine cartography training*

**Definition of Bids to IHOCBC**

- *NA*

## Oceanographic Activities

### **General**

#### **GEBCO/IBC's Activities**

#### **Tide Gauge Network**

- *Two tide gauges are installed at the mouth of two(2) of Guyana Main Rivers( Demerara and Essequibo)*

#### **New Equipment**

- *Three (3) automatic tide gauge was purchase this year*
  - *One (1) Radar Type*
  - *Two (2) Pressure Type*
    - One (1) Single beam Echo sounder for surveys in riverine areas*

#### **Problems Encountered**

*Need for a national consensus on the importance of Hydrography as it relates to the economic development of Guyana*

## Other Activities

### **Participation in IHO Working Groups**

#### **Meteorological Data Collection**

- *This is a function of the Hydro met Office, Ministry of Agriculture but the Hydrographic Office offers assistance in tidal data collection*

#### **Geospatial Studies**

- *This a function of the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission, Ministry of Agriculture, but is spearheaded by the Mining Monitoring Agency(has the finances)*

### **Disaster Prevention**

- *This is a function of the Guyana Civil Defense Commission( hydrographic office is represented in workshops)*

### **Environmental Protection**

- *This a function of the Environmental Protection Agency*

### **Astronomical Observations**

- *NA*

### **Magnetic/Gravity Surveys**

- *NA*

### **MSDI Progress**

*Some work has commence as it relates to historical data but expert advice and training is needed in this regard*

## **Conclusions:**

*While the some staff of the Hydrographic Office in Guyana has experience in hydrographic surveying, more should be done in terms of training that is urgently needed in the field of Hydrography, Marine Cartography, etc, this is to provide accurate and up to date hydrographic data, that meets the international standard (SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 9). The following are some of the present needs of the Hydrographic Office;*

- *Survey Equipment/ Vessel*
- *Hydrographic Training*
- *Cartographic Training*
- *Maritime Safety Information Training (MSI)*
- *Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI)*
- *Hydrographic / Cartographic Database Management*
- *Technical Assistance*
- *Information Sharing Network*
- *Hydrographic Data Processing*