

## Minutes of BASWG-10

### **1. Opening and Administrative Details**

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group on Safety of Navigation in the Black and Azov Seas (BASWG-10) took place in the Turkish Navy-Office of Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography (TN-ONHO) / İstanbul, Turkey, under the Chairmanship of Rear Admiral Mustafa İPTEŞ, Director of the TN-ONHO to discuss hydrographic, cartographic and Maritime Safety Information (MSI) dissemination issues and cooperation among the Black Sea countries in order to fulfill SOLAS requirements and IHO recommendations throughout the region. Bulgaria (BG), Georgia (GE), Russian Federation (RF), Turkey (TR), Ukraine (UA), Spain (ES) (NAVAREA-III Co-ordinator), and IHB (the President of the IHB Directing Committee) representatives attended the meeting. The list of participants is in Appendix-1.

The Chairman welcomed all participants and opened the meeting, pointing out the important works that should be done by the WG, especially to discuss on the INT Chart production responsibilities and to agree on ENC scheme in the Black Sea to cover whole region with consistent ENCs. The Chairman also emphasized that the WG is a good platform for general discussions on all “Safety of Navigation in the Black Sea”-related subjects and to draw conclusions that will be reported consequently to Mediterranean and Black Sea Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC).

### **2. Adoption of the Agenda**

RF suggested the agenda item 9 to be amended as “Black and Azov Seas INT Charts” instead of “Black Sea INT Charts”. The proposal was adopted (see Appendix-2).

### **3. Revision of ToR and RoP of the BASWG**

The ToR and RoP of BASWG endorsed by the MBSHC 16 (MBSHC Decision Number 16-04) is in Appendix-3. Under this agenda item, the endorsed ToR and RoP were reviewed ;

- TR suggested inviting MEDINTCHART Coordinator (France) to participate the WG meetings in order to contribute on INT Chart and ENC scheme discussions, which are the crucial topics in the agenda and then proposed the item “h” of RoP to be amended.

- IHB President, Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos suggested all Black Sea littoral States (both IHO members and non-IHO members) to become full member of the WG. In this respect, he proposed the item “a” of RoP to be amended in due course.

- IHB President suggested also inviting the representatives from other international organizations (IMO, IALA, IMSO, IOC etc.) and/or any other experts in order to contribute to the work of the WG, with the agreement of the members. Then, the item “d” of RoP was amended.

All the proposals for amending RoP were accepted by all Members. The amended RoP in Appendix-4, will be submitted by the Chairman to the next meeting of the MBSHC for endorsement (Decision No. BASWG10/01).

#### **4. Report from the IHB**

The President of the IHB gave information on the activities, especially the transition period of the IHO. He emphasized that the Organization and the Bureau were busy on numerous issues since the last WG meeting, a brief information is provided as follows:

- In the margins of the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC) in May 2009 three other events took place. The first meeting of the WG for the revision of IHO Special Publication S-23, "Limit of Oceans and Seas", the first meeting of the IRCC which elected Ingenieur General Gilles Bessero as its Chairman and the celebration of the World Hydrographic Day (WHD). The reports/minutes of these events have already been posted on the IHO web site. Of interest to highlight the approval by Member States to change the name of Committee on Promulgation of Navigational Warnings (CPRNW) to World-Wide Navigational Warning System (WWNWS), as it was reported with IHO CL 46/2009 dated 3 July 2009.

- As it was reported by the Directing Committee in the Conference, the approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention progresses very slowly. Since July 2005, only 28 Member States have approved the Protocol of Amendments. With IHO CL 01/2010 the Directing Committee has brought to the attention four important issues. The status of voting on the amendments to the Convention, the status report on pending Member States, the importance of responding to CLs and the visa and immigration support for IHO delegates attending meetings. In the forthcoming meeting of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC), the Bureau will make a special submission bringing to the attention of IMO representatives the need for IMO Member States not member of IHO to consider joining the IHO.

- Starting 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2009, the new technical structure of the Organization came into force, with the establishment of the two main Committees. The inaugural meeting of the HSSC took place in Singapore 22-24 October 2009, after the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on ECDIS organized in Singapore from 19 to 21 October 2009. Various important issues were discussed, like the S-100 and the MSDI.

- The IMO MSC has adopted the amendments to SOLAS Chapter V/19, introducing mandatory carriage requirements for ECDIS with a phased implementation period beginning 2012 and ending 2018. The amendments will come into force 1 July 2010. It also approved the revised text of the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety information, which will come into force on 1 January 2011. Details have been provided to Member States with IHO CL 41/2009 dated 17 June 2009 and IHO CL 47/2009 dated 06 July 2009.

- The Organization has maintained an excellent cooperation with IMO, IALA, IOC and WMO. Especially it has to be highlighted the active participation and support of the Organization to the E-Navigation activities of IMO and IALA. France and UK have to be thanked for supporting these activities providing, when they have been asked representatives to meetings, at no cost to the Organization. In capacity building activities, there is a meeting taking place every year among the persons in charge of this activity in

IMO, IHO and IOC. Training and seminars of need in various regions are coordinated among the those organizations. With IOC, there is a very active and efficient cooperation in GEBCO, Regional BCS and tides.

- In Capacity Building, the Organization implements a very active program based on the proposals offered by the RHCs. It has to be noted that the Bureau, Japan Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Hydrographic Association and the UKHO, are cooperating for the implementation of the Japan Capacity Building Project, through funds provided by the Nippon Foundation. Details of this 5-year program have provided with IHO CL 10/2009 dated 13 February 2009 and IHO CL 24/2009 dated 24 April 2009. A meeting of the participating organizations took place in Tokyo early February 2010 where the details of the second phase of the training implementation was discussed.

- With IHO CL 50/2009, the Bureau has proposed and has been accepted the theme of this year's celebrations of WHD, which is "Hydrographic Services – the essential element for maritime trade".

**5. Status of approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention of IHO and for new Member States.**

Up to the meeting, none of the WG MSs has approved the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention of IHO. According to the updates from RF, TR and UA, the progress on approval of the Protocol as follows :

<b>IHO MSs</b>	<b>Status of Approval</b>	<b>Note</b>
RO	No	Last update on 22 April 2010
RF	No	On progress
TR	No	Waiting approval from the Parliament
UA	No	Waiting approval from the Parliament

Romania (RO), RF and TR approved the IHO new Member States (Haiti, Montenegro and Sierra Leone). UA stated that the approval process was in progress.

**6. Status of the action list from previous meetings**

List of actions of the 9<sup>th</sup> BASWG meeting and the actions taken as follows :

<b>No.</b>	<b>Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>BASWG-9/01</b>	BASWG Member States to approve and/or to develop new comments for the final draft of status, terms of reference and rules of procedure of the BASWG by the end of June 2009	Done

<b>BASWG-9/02</b>	Chairman to send the approved status, terms of	Done
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	reference and rules of procedure of the BASWG to the Chairman of the MBSHC no later than July 2009 for endorsement in the next meeting of MBSHC in September	
<b>BASWG-9/03</b>	TR will prepare text format for "National Update" in line with the format for MBSHC before the next meeting.	Done
<b>BASWG-9/04</b>	Chairman to invite the representative of United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) as an observer as appropriate	Done
<b>BASWG-9/05</b>	Member States are invited to reach an agreement for the proposals and amendments to the INT Chart Catalogue and to send agreed proposals and amendments to Chairman  Chairman to send agreed proposals and amendments for the INT Chart Catalogue to the Chairman of the MBSHC and INT Chart Coordinator	Ongoing
<b>BASWG-9/06</b>	Member States to consider and/or develop new comments for the Black Sea ENC Scheme proposed by TR and are invited to reach an agreement by the end of August 2009.  Chairman to send agreed Black Sea ENC Scheme to the Chairman of the MBSHC before the next MBSHC meeting for endorsement	Ongoing
<b>BASWG-9/07</b>	TR to send to the Member States detailed information concerning proposal of establishing NAVAREA-III sub-area in the Black Sea.	Ongoing
<b>BASWG-9/08</b>	Chairman to inform the Member States concerning the date and venue for the next BASWG meeting.	Done

## 7. National Updates

National updates about the status of hydrographic surveys, charts, publications and MSI dissemination and any other related activities like capacity building activities, oceanographic activities in the Black Sea region since the last meeting were presented by the Members, in line with the format provided by TR, as decided in the previous meeting (BASWG 09/03).

The Chairman expressed the importance of informing the Members about the activities carried out in the region. He emphasized ENC coverage by 2010 as a key issue. In this respect, BG and GE stated that they have agreement with United Kingdom (UK) on ENC production to achieve this goal (No update is received from RO). BG also added that they produced 3 ENCs for the port of Varna and 2 ENCs for Burgas. GE also expressed that they have an agreement with Jeppesen for ENC production. In order to be aware of chart production activities in the region in advance, TR suggested Black Sea countries to exchange yearly production plan of Paper Charts (new charts and new editions) and ENCs (Decision No. BASWG10/02).

## 8. Cooperation Activities

The Chairman highlighted to work in collaboration and improve the partnership through bilateral agreements and joint hydrographic surveys in order to achieve surveying, charting and MSI dissemination in conformity with the IHO standards, especially on the main navigational routes in the region.

BG and GE expressed their intention to cooperate with Black Sea countries through the bilateral agreements. GE also added that they have bilateral agreement with UA for data exchange. RF and UA stated that their current internal law does not permit to pay royalties for hydrographic and cartographic issues. RF stated the bilateral agreement with TR is underway. UA also stated that the bilateral agreement with TR is underway. TR stated that the bilateral agreement with RO is on signature phase and bilateral agreements with UA and RU are in progress.

## **9. Black and Azov Seas INT Charts**

Chairman gave brief information the progress on the INT Charts in Black and Azov Seas since the last WG meeting as follows :

- As it was discussed during the last two meetings, the current Black Sea area in INT Chart Catalogue (IHO publication no. S-11) is not up to date. After the disintegration of former USSR, producing nations for the relevant INT charts has been changed. Also other proposals for the amendments and the new INT charts were forwarded to the MEDINTCHART Coordinator according to the MBSHC 16 Decision 13.

- The draft MEDINTCHART Catalogue was issued in January 2010, and consequently, the technical meeting was held in Paris in February 2010, according to the aforementioned decision (MBSHC 16 Decision 13). One of the outcomes of the technical meeting was "all new proposals related to areas "out of Aegean Sea" made by MBSHC MSs to be discussed at next MBSHC meeting." Therefore, WG meeting was a good opportunity for discussing the INT Chart Catalogue in our region.

GE proposed;

- Producer nation of INT Chart Nu. 3808 in the existing catalogue should be "GE/TR",

- Producer nation of INT Chart Nu. 3871, 3873 and 3875 should be "GE", and

- Producer nation of INT Chart Nu. 3810 and 3877 should be discussed between GE and RF in the next WG meeting.

RF stated that north of GE there is Abkhazia State which is officially recognized by RF. Some of the INT Charts mentioned by GE covers RF waters as well as Abkhazia waters. Therefore, GE proposal was not acceptable by RF and all those charts should be discussed by GE, RF and TR.

GE gave a statement on response to RF intervention that should also be included in the report of the meeting (See Appendix-5).

RF statement regarding GE intervention is in Appendix-6.

After discussions, the WG decided that GE, RU and TR to define the production responsibility of the INT Charts no 3808, 3810, 3871, 3873, 3875 and 3877 at the next WG meeting (BASWG 10/06)

UA stated that RU and UA will reach an agreement on co-production of the INT Charts in northeastern part of the Black Sea and Sea of Azov by the next meeting (BASWG 10/07).

In conclusion, Chairman highlighted that INT chart production responsibilities are technical but not political issues. He also added that the political disputes are not subject to the terms and responsibilities of the WG.

## **10. ENC Issues**

Chairman emphasized the importance of this agenda and gave brief information on ENC issues since the last WG meeting as follows :

- After the decision of the relevant IMO bodies, concerning the mandatory ECDIS carriage commencing in 2012 and in order to fulfil the IHO commitment regarding to achieve adequate coverage, availability, consistency and quality of ENCs by 2010 and the need for covering all the sea areas in the region with consistent ENCs.

- In our region there are large gaps as well as overlaps in ENC coverage. Therefore, Black Sea countries should agree on an ENC scheme as soon as possible that will be a part of the MBSHC ENC scheme. This issue is one of the main objectives of this WG.

- According to the relevant recommendations of the IHB and the WEND principles, all States should distribute their ENCs through the Regional ENC Coordination Centres (RENC) in order to achieve regional coordination for consistent ENCs. MSs were also requested to work in close cooperation in ENC production which is required in order to fulfil the aforementioned IHO commitment.

Then, a brief presentation on current ENC coverage and the possible ENC scheme in the Black and Azov Seas was given by TR. Regarding the status of ENC coverage in the Black Sea, the gaps (RO waters) and overlaps (UA ENCs) were projected in the brief presentation. For the ENC scheme of the Black and Azov Seas, the draft scheme, based on modified Black Sea INT charts' limits and Economic Exclusive Zone (EEZ) limits, proposed by TR in the previous meetings were discussed.

UA and RF did not agree with the proposal made by TR and proposed not to modify EEZ limits. TR accepted to prepare the draft ENC scheme based on UA and RF proposal. Consequently, it was decided the Chairman to provide the Black Sea countries with a new draft ENC scheme based on the maritime boundaries (taking into account the cartographic boundary principle) by the end of July 2010. (BASWG 10/08) and WG Members to provide comments on the draft ENC scheme by the end of September 2010 (BASWG 10/09).

## **11. Status of MSI coverage in the Black Sea**

The Chairman briefly informed the participants the progress on establishing sub-area of NAVAREA III in the Black Sea and stressed the importance of good communication among the National Coordinators of Black Sea countries will facilitate safe navigation in the region.

ES representative, as a NAVAREA-III Coordinator, summarized the MSI activities in the region. The Coordinator stated that 1529 NAVAREA III warnings were broadcasted during the last three years in Mediterranean and the Black Sea region and only 40 of them were originated by the information submitted by Black Sea countries, and 4 of them for the Sea of Azov. He expressed that the active collaboration by the relevant organizations in WG MSs has been most satisfactory to achieve the main objective of providing a safe navigation in the Black and Azov Seas and added that the Coordinator could not have fulfilled its mission without such collaboration.

UA stated that the shortcoming of the NAVTEX coverage in the Sea of Azov would be removed by the NAVTEX station which is planned to be established in Kerch by UA. RF stated that the station in Kerch might effect the existing station in Novorossiysk and this issue was not solved, yet.

GE offered TR to broadcast its NAVTEX messages by the station in Samsun. TR stated that GE proposal would be assessed and replied after consideration with relevant authorities.

In conclusion, it was decided that Black Sea countries to exchange MSI in order to evaluate/disseminate from their NAVTEX stations (BASWG 10/03).

## **12. Capacity Building**

Vice Adm. MARATOS stated that the IHB informed the Member States about Japan Capacity Building Project regarding courses in Hydrographic Data Processing and Marine Cartography at UKHO. The aim of concerned Project is to develop and promote training in nautical cartography of technical personnel in developing countries, particularly in Asia and its adjacent regions. These kind of opportunities should not be missed by the members. He stated that IHO CBSC fund for CB activities (technical visits, training etc.) was 70 000 € and added that Korea also supported CBSC funds for such activities for 100 000 €. IHO MSs or non-IHO MSs, who wish to get benefit from IHO CBSC funds, shall inform their RHC (MBSHC) and after RHC's approval, the request should be submitted to CBSC through the RHCs.

With regards to inform non-IHO MSs in the region (BG and GE) about the IHO CBSC activities / opportunities, TR suggested the IHO CLs regarding the CB activities / opportunities to be forwarded by the Chairman to those States (Decision No. BASWG10/05).

The Chairman asked Black Sea countries to forward any kind of requirements for the CB in order to submit those in the 2nd meeting of the IRCC on 17 and 18 June 2010, as a MBSHC Chairman (Decision No. BASWG10/04).

### 13. Any Other Business

No other issue was raised by participants to discuss under this agenda.

### 14. Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

GE offered to host the next WG meeting in Batumi in 2011. Due to the political problems with GE, RF stated that they would inform the Chairman whether they will attend or not if the next meeting take place in GE. The specific dates and venue of the BASWG-11 meeting will be announced by the Chairman in September 2010 (Decision No. BASWG-10/10).

### 15. Election of the Chairman

According to the RoP of the WG, the election for the chairmanship was held. All Members available proposed R.Adm. Mustafa İPTEŞ (TR) for the BASWG chairmanship and he was elected unanimously for the next two-year period (Decision No. BASWG-10/11).

### 16. Decisions and Recommendations

The following decisions were agreed on by the WG:

No.	Decision
<b>BASWG-10/01</b>	Chairman to submit the amended Status, Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of the BASWG for endorsement in the next meeting of MBSHC in 2011
<b>BASWG-10/02</b>	Black Sea countries to exchange yearly production plan of Paper Charts (new charts and new editions) and ENC's by the end of January via Chairman
<b>BASWG-10/03</b>	Black Sea countries to exchange Maritime Safety Information in order to evaluate/disseminate from their NAVTEX stations
<b>BASWG-10/04</b>	Black Sea countries to submit any kind of requirements for the Capacity Building to the Chairman by 12 June 2010 Chairman of the MBSHC to submit the requirements in the 2nd meeting of the IRCC
<b>BASWG-10/05</b>	Chairman to send IHO CLs regarding the Capacity Building activities/opportunities to non IHO MSs in the Black Sea
<b>BASWG-10/06</b>	GE, RU and TR to define the production responsibility of the INT Charts no 3808, 3810, 3871, 3873, 3875 and 3877 at the next WG meeting
<b>BASWG-10/07</b>	RU and UA to reach an agreement on co-production of the INT Charts in northeastern part of the Black Sea and Sea of Azov by the next meeting
<b>BASWG-10/08</b>	Chairman to provide the Black Sea countries with a new draft ENC scheme based on the maritime boundaries (taking into account the cartographic boundary principle) by the end of July 2010



<b>BASWG-10/09</b>	Black Sea countries to provide comments on the draft ENC scheme by the end of September 2010
<b>BASWG-10/10</b>	Chairman to provide the date and venue of the next meeting in September 2010
<b>BASWG-10/11</b>	TR elected as the Chairman for the next two year period

## **17. Report to MBSHC**

Chairman will report the WG meeting and the decisions to the next MBSHC meeting.

## **18. Closing**

In closing the meeting, the Chairman expressed his gratitude to all the participants for their very active and valuable contributions to the meeting. The 10th meeting of the BASWG closed at 1130 a.m. on Friday, 28 May 2010.

### **ANNEX :**

**Appendix-1 (The List of Participants)**

**Appendix-2 (Agenda of 10<sup>th</sup> BASWG Meeting)**

**Appendix-3 (Status, ToR and RoP of the  
BASWG endorsed by MBSHC)**

**Appendix-4 (Amendments to the RoP of the BASWG)**

**Appendix-5 (GE Statement on INT Chart  
Production Responsibilities)**

**Appendix-6 (RF Statement on INT Chart  
Production Responsibilities)**

**List of the Participants**

<b>NO</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
1	BG	Cdr.Milen DIMITROV	Head of Bulgarian Hydrographic Service
2	BG	LtJG Mladen HRISTOV	Head of Cartographic Section
3	GE	Mr.Valerian IMNAISHVILI	Maritime Transport Department
4	GE	Mr.Pachulia PAATA	Chief of Hydrographic Researches, Correction and Cartography Department
5	GE	Ms.Manana KIRTADZE	Expert, Hydrographic Researches, Correction and Cartography Department
6	GE	Ms.Nana SOSELIA	Expert, Hydrographic Researches, Correction and Cartography Department
7	RF	RAdm. Sergey KOZLOV	Chief of the Department of Navigation and Oceanography
8	RF	Capt.Yuri ROZHKOV	Head of Charting
9	RF	Capt.Vadim SOBOLEV	Head of International Relations
10	TR	RAdm. Mustafa İPTEŞ	Director of TN-ONHO (Chairman)
11	TR	Capt.Atilla KAYA	Head of Technical Group
12	TR	Lt.Bülent GÜRSES	Head of Charting
13	TR	Lt.Eşref GÜNSAY	Head of ENC Production
14	UA	Mr.Sergii SYMONENKO	Head of State Hydrographic Service of Ukraine
15	UA	Mr.Oleksandr BORYS	Head of Ukrmorkartographia-Charting Branch
16	UA	Mr.Oleg MARCHENKO	Head of Nautical Charts and Special Publications
17	IHB	V.Adm. Alexandros MARATOS	President of IHB Directing Committee
18	Spain	Capt.Francisco J.Perez Carrillo de ALBORNOZ	NAVAREA III Co-ordinator

**Agenda of 10<sup>th</sup> BASWG Meeting (Adopted)**

1. Opening and administrative arrangements
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Revision of ToR and RoP of the BASWG.
4. Report from the IHB.
5. Status of approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention of IHO and for new Member States.
6. Status of the action list from previous meetings
7. National Updates
8. Co-operation activities
9. Black and Azov Seas INT Charts
10. ENC issues
11. Status of MSI coverage in the Black Sea
12. Capacity building
13. Any other business
14. Date and venue of the next meeting
15. Election of the Chairman.
16. Decisions and recommendations
17. Report to MBSHC.
18. Closing

**WORKING GROUP ON THE SAFETY OF NAVIGATION  
IN THE BLACK AND AZOV SEAS**

**1. STATUS**

This Working Group is constituted within the framework of the Mediterranean and the Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC).

**2. OBJECTIVE**

The main objective of the WG shall be to consider the hydrographic, cartographic, navigational and maritime safety information needs (MSI) and requirements of the States in the region and coordinate the appropriate actions.

**3. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The WG shall specifically examine the following issues:

- a. Status and needs of hydrographic surveying
- b. Status and needs for the production of paper and electronic navigational charts (ENCs)
- c. Status and needs for the promulgation of MSI
- d. Status of aids to navigation
- e. Capacity building and training needs and requirements
- f. Cooperation arrangements of the States in the region
- g. Coordination of needed actions to implement the above

**4. RULES OF PROCEDURE**

- a. Members of the WG shall be the countries bordering the Black and Azov Seas who are members of the IHO
- b. The countries bordering the Black and Azov Seas who are not members of the IHO, but who wish to cooperate in the work of the WG
- c. Other Member States of the IHO outside the region may become associate members, if they contribute in the topics of interest to the work of the WG
- d. Associate members shall have the same rights and obligations as the members of the working groups, except the right to vote
- e. Representatives from other international organizations (IMO, IALA, IMSO, IOC etc.) contributing to the work of the WG may be invited to participate in the meetings
- f. Chairman of the WG will be elected among the IHO members of the WG for a period of two years. He may stand for re-election
- g. The representative of the country hosting the meeting will act as Vice Chairman
- h. A representative of the IHO Directing Committee shall participate in the meetings of the WG
- i. The Chairman of the MBSHC and the NAVAREA-III Coordinator will also be invited to participate
- j. The WG will meet the year after the meetings of the MBSHC, between the meetings of the MBSHC or as it may be deemed appropriate by the WG,
- k. Decisions shall be taken by unanimity of the members

- l. The letter of invitation of the meetings, a draft agenda and any required documents will be dispatched by the Chairman three months before the meeting
- m. The minutes of the meetings, decisions and activities of the WG will be sent to the Chairman of the MBSHC, NAVAREA-III Coordinator, MEDINTCHART Coordinator and the IHB in order to be considered as appropriate

**WORKING GROUP ON THE SAFETY OF NAVIGATION  
IN THE BLACK AND AZOV SEAS**

**4. RULES OF PROCEDURE**

a. Members of the WG shall be;

**(1) The countries bordering the Black and Azov Seas who are members of the IHO**

**(2) The countries bordering the Black and Azov Seas who are not members of the IHO, but who wish to cooperate in the work of the WG**

- b. Other Member States of the IHO outside the region may become associate members, if they contribute in the topics of interest to the work of the WG
- c. Associate members shall have the same rights and obligations as the members of the working groups, except the right to vote
- d. Representatives from other international organizations (IMO, IALA, IMSO, IOC etc.) **and/or any other experts** contributing to the work of the WG may be invited to participate in the meetings **with the agreement of the members**
- e. Chairman of the WG will be elected among the IHO members of the WG for a period of two years. He may stand for re-election
- f. The representative of the country hosting the meeting will act as Vice Chairman
- g. A representative of the IHO Directing Committee shall participate in the meetings of the WG
- h. The Chairman of the MBSHC, NAVAREA-III Coordinator **and the MEDINTCHART Coordinator** will also be invited to participate
- i. The WG will meet the year after the meetings of the MBSHC, between the meetings of the MBSHC or as it may be deemed appropriate by the WG,
- j. Decisions shall be taken by unanimity of the members
- k. The letter of invitation of the meetings, a draft agenda and any required documents will be dispatched by the Chairman three months before the meeting
- l. The minutes of the meetings, decisions and activities of the WG will be sent to the Chairman of the MBSHC, NAVAREA-III Coordinator, MEDINTCHART Coordinator and the IHB in order to be considered as appropriate

## **GE'S STATEMENT ON INT CHART PRODUCTION RESPONSIBILITIES**

Georgian party has just heard out the declaration of the Russian Federation, which fully contradicts the position declared at the WG meeting on May 27, 2010, in accordance with which the Russian Federation did not have any objections regarding transferring the producing of charts 3871, 3873 and 3875 to the responsibility of Georgia. There were some doubts regarding the northern limits of chart 3808 and transfer the producing of this chart for joint responsibility of Georgia and Turkey. There was also significant controversy regarding INT chart No. 3810. Turkish side proposed to discuss the issue of chart 3810 at the next meeting.

“1. BASWG – 10/06. Chairman to provide updated information of the producer nation for INT charts No. 3808 to be “GE/TR” and INT Charts No. 3871, 3873 and 3875 to be “GE” to the MEDINTCHART Coordinator.

2. BASWG – 10/07 GE and RF to define production responsibilities of the INT charts No. 3810 and 3877 by the next WG Meeting”

Such position was acceptable for the Georgian side.

However, on may 28 the Russian side has completely changed its position and declared that territorial sea of Abkhazia is marked on charts 3810, 3808 and 3875 and rejected to transfer the producing of the charts for joint responsibility of Georgia and Turkey.

Georgian party in its turn declared that Abkhazia is not a subject of international law, but is an occupied part of Georgia and all issues regarding territorial sea, charts and territorial integrity are Georgia's prerogative.

Georgia strictly objects to such position of the Russian Federation and asks Working Group to support our initiatives, which resulted in the decision read out on May 27, 2010.

**RF'S STATEMENT ON INT CHART PRODUCTION RESPONSIBILITIES**

Taking into account the technical capabilities of the States as well as possibilities in receiving hydrographic data, Russian Federation states about experience of production of the International Charts No 3808, 3810, 3875 and 3877 by Russian Federation and does not see the reasons for handover the charts mentioned above to other States to produce. This statement has nothing to do with political situation in the region and refers only to providing the safety of navigation.