IHO MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (MBSHC)

18th Meeting, Istanbul, 25-27 September 2013

NATIONAL REPORT – ITALY

1. Hydrographic Office/Service

The Italian Hydrographic Institute, IIM, has his headquarter in Genoa.

2. Surveys

a) Coverage of new surveys.

Most of the activity has been done in order to maintain surveys of the Italian Areas of jurisdiction, in particular along the Eastern coast of Italy, Sardinia (2011) and the Aeolian islands (2012):

- (Adriatic Sea): Venice, Ravenna, Ancona and Chioggia;
- Cagliari and Porto Torres;
- Alicudi, Filicudi, Stromboli and Panarea

b) New technologies and /or equipment

During the spring 2013 the following equipment was tested:

 Sea Swathplus H, a portable interferometric multibeam working in shallow water. This system was mounted on an hydrographic RIB.

c) New ships

N.A.

d) Problems encountered

Survey activities were carried out regularly.

3. New charts & updates

a) ENCs

Since the 17th conference the following ENC cells were produced:

New ENCs

Name	Edition (date)	Scale	Title	Nav Purpose
IT50214B	1 (June 2011)	4.000	Fano Harbour	Harbour
IT500076	1 (June 2011)	12.000	Civitavecchia Harbour	Harbour
IT600153	1 (November 2011)	4.000	Taranto Harbour – Stazione Navale	Berthing
IT600154	1 (November 2011)	4.000	Taranto Harbour – Arsenale	Berthing
IT50273A	1 (May 2012)	4.000	Riposto Harbour	Harbour
IT500268	1 (May 2012)	12.000	Pozzallo Harbour and Roads	Harbour
IT50254A	1 (December 2012)	8.000	Pantelleria Harbour	Harbour
IT50254B	1 (December 2012)	8.000	Scauri Harbour	Harbour
IT400253	1 (February 2013)	22.000	Pantelleria Island	Approach
IT500261	1 (August 2013)	12.000	Gela Harbour and Roads	Harbour

New Editions

New Edition		T	T	1
Name	Edition (date)	Scale	Title	Nav
TET 0000 6	2 (0 1 2011)	0.000		Purpose
IT500236	2 (September 2011)	8.000	Monfalcone Harbour	Harbour
IT500193	2 (September 2011)	8.000	Bari Harbour	Harbour
IT500244	2 (August. 2011)	5.000	Messina Harbour	Harbour
IT500148	3 (October 2011)	12.000	Taranto Harbour	Harbour
IT500198	2 (October 2011)	8.000	Barletta Harbour	Harbour
IT500237	2 (November 2011)	8.000	Trieste Harbour	Harbour
IT300011	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Acciaroli to Diamante	Coastal
IT300012	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Cape Tirone to Briatico	Coastal
IT300013	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Cape Cozzo to Gioia Tauro including Stromboli Island	Coastal
IT300026	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Cirò Marina to Nova Siri Marina	Coastal
IT300028	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Gallipoli to S.Foca di Melendugno	Coastal
IT300029	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Torre Specchia Ruggeri to Punta di Torre	Coastal
TE200022	2 (7 2011)	00.00	Canne	G 1
IT300033	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Lake of Lesina to Pescara including	Coastal
TE200025	2011)	00.00	S.Domino, S.Nicola and Caprara Islands	G 1
IT300035	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Tortoreto to Porto Recanati	Coastal
IT300046	2 (June 2011)	90.00	Quartu S.Elena (Cagliari) to Nebida	Coastal
			including S.Pietro and S.Antioco Islands	
IT400115	2 (June 2011)	22.000	Approach to La Spezia	Approach
IT400117	2 (June 2011)	22.000	Elba Island	Approach
IT300030	2 (September 2011)	90.000	Savelletri to Bari	Coastal
IT300031	2 (September 2011)	90.000	S.Spirito to Manfredonia	Coastal
IT300039	3 (September 2011)	90.000	Porto Baseleghe to Punta Sottile	Coastal
IT400104	2 (September 2011)	22.000	Approach to Savona-Vado Ligure	Approach
IT400130	3 (September 2011)	22.000	Approach to Napoli	Approach
IT400260	2 (September 2011)	45.000	Trapani to Marsala including Egadi Islands	Approach
IT400322	2 (September 2011)	22.000	Olbia to Golfo Aranci – Islands of Tavolara and Molara	Approach
IT40289A	2 (September 2011)	45.000	Gulf of Asinara	Approach
IT50223A	2 (September 2011)	8.000	Malamocco Harbour	Harbour
IT300003	3 (October 2011)	90.000	Pieve Ligure to S.Rossore	Coastal
IT300018	2 (October 2011)	90.000	Punta Biscione to Capo Bianco	Coastal
IT300018	3 (October 2011)	90.000	Licata to Avola	Coastal
IT300020	2 (October 2011)	90.000	Cape S.Croce to Torre Achirafi	Coastal
IT300022 IT300032	2 (October 2011)	90.000	Point Grugno to Torre Mileto and Pianosa	Coastal
	,		Island	
IT300049	2 (October 2011)	90.000	Cape of Argentiera to Punta Tramontana including Asinara and Piana Islands	Coastal
IT500060	2 (October 2011)	8.000	Roads of La Spezia	Harbour
IT400131	2 (October 2011)	22.000	Sorrentina Peninsula and Capri island	Approach
IT400325	3 (October 2011)	22.000	Western Archipelago of La Maddalena and	Approach
			S.Teresa di Gallura	
IT200434	2 (October 2011)	700.000	Tyrrhenian sea and Strait of Sicily	General
IT400192	2 (July 2012)	45.000	Approach to Brindisi	Approach
IT400107	2 (January 2012)	22.000	From Nervi to Sestri Levante	Approach
			**	
IT400117				Approach
IT400234		22.000	Approach to Monfalcone	Approach
IT400239	3 (April 2012)	22.000	Approach to Trieste	Approach
IT500099	2 (February 2012)	12.000	Gioia Tauro Harbour	Harbour
IT40118A	2 (April 2012)	22.000	Giannutri Island	Approach
IT40118B	2 (April 2012)	45.000	Montecristo Island	Approach
IT40118C	2 (April 2012)	45.000	Pianosa Island	Approach
IT400122	3 (April 2012)	45.000	Ombrone River to Argentario Promontory	Approach
11400122	o (11p111 = 01=)		Approach to Civitavecchia	
IT400106 IT400117 IT400234 IT400239 IT500099 IT40118A IT40118B IT40118C	4 (January 2012) 3 (February 2012) 3 (April 2012) 3 (April 2012) 2 (February 2012) 2 (April 2012) 2 (April 2012) 2 (April 2012) 2 (April 2012)	22.000 45.000 22.000 22.000 12.000 22.000 45.000	Approach to Genova Elba Island Approach to Monfalcone Approach to Trieste Gioia Tauro Harbour Giannutri Island Montecristo Island Pianosa Island	Approach Approach Approach Harbour Approach Approach Approach Approach Approach

IT400294	3 (October 2012)	22.000	San Pietro Channel	Approach
IT50273A	2 (November 2012)	4.000	Port of Riposto	Harbour
IT50273B	2 (November 2012)	4.000	Port of Giardini Naxos	Harbour
IT40263A	2 (February 2012)	22.000	Approach to Gela	Approach
IT50263B	2 (February 2012)	4.000	Gela - Porto Rifugio	Harbour
IT50263C	2 (February 2012)	4.000	Gela - Porto Isola	Harbour
IT400315	2 (March 2012)	22.000	Approach to Arbatax	Approach
IT300002	3 (February 2012)	90.000	Imperia to Bogliasco	Coastal
IT300014	2 (February 2012)	90.000	South of Cape Milazzo to Brolo including	Coastal
11300014	2 (February 2012)	90.000	Panarea, Salina. Lipari and Vulcano Islands	Coastai
IT300019	2 (February 2012)	90.000	Torre Salsa to Licata	Coastal
IT300024	2 (February 2012)	90.000	Paulonia Marina to Marina di Catanzaro	Coastal
IT300042	4 (February 2012)	90.000	Castelsardo to Tavolara island	Coastal
IT400239	2 (February 2012)	22.000	Approach to Trieste	Approach
IT400299	2 (February 2012)	22.000	Approach to Cagliari	Approach
IT600281	2 (February 2012)	4.000	Roads of La Maddalena and S.Stefano	Berthing
IT30004	3 (July 2012)	90.000	S.Rossore to Torre Populonia including	Coastal
11300004	3 (3uly 2012)	70.000	Gorgonia and Capraia Islands	Coustai
IT300048	2 (July 2012)	90.000	Cape Mannu to Porto Ferru	Coastal
IT400128	2 (July 2012)	22.000	Approach to Gaeta	Approach
IT400132	2 (July 2012)	22.000	Approach to Salerno Ortona Harbour	Approach
IT500212	2 (February 2013)	12.000		Harbour
IT400115	3 (February 2013)	22.000	Approach to La Spezia	Approach
IT500078	2 (March 2013)	12.000	Gaeta and Formia Harbours	Harbour
IT400293	2 (February 2013)	45.000	Gulf of Oristano	Approach
IT400195	2 (March 2013)	22.000	Approach to Bari	Approach
IT300005	4 (April 2013)	90.000	Piombino Channel to Argentario	Coastal
			promontory including Elba, Pianosa and Montecristo Islands	
IT400326	4 (May 2013)	45.000	Waters adjoining Bocche di Bonifacio	Approach
IT500255	3 (June 2013)	8.000	Roads and Harbour of Palermo	Harbour
IT500052	2 (March 2013)	4.000	Imperia Harbour	Harbour
IT300001	3 (February 2013)	90.000	Cape Mortola to S.Lorenzo al Mare	Coastal
IT300046	3 (March 2013)	90.000	Quartu S.Elena (Cagliari) to Nebida	Coastal
	(including S. Pietro and S.Antioco Islands	
IT300047	2 (March 2013)	90.000	Porto di Masua to Sturraggia Cape	Coastal
11200017	2 (()(aren 2015)	0.000	including Mal di Ventre islet	Coustar
IT400251	2 (May 2013)	22.000	Ustica Island	Approach
IT300004	4 (January 2013)	90.000	S. Rossore to Torre Populonia including	Coastal
11300004	+ (January 2013)	70.000	Gorgona and Capraia Islands	Coastai
IT300008	3 (January 2013)	90.000	Torre Astura to Circeo Cape and Pontine	Coastal
			Islands	
IT300009	2 (January 2013)	90.000	Terracina to Torre Patria including	Coastal
			Ventotene and S.Stefano Islands	
IT300021	2 (January 2013)	90.000	Cape Negro to Augusta	Coastal
IT300027	3 (January 2013)	90.000	Mouth of Sinni River to Porto Cesareo	Coastal
IT300040	3 (January 2013)	90.000	Waters between Corsica and Tuscania	Coastal
IT20000	2 (Iamas = 2012)	100.000	Archipelago islands	Constal
IT300909	2 (January 2013)	180.000	Southern Ligurian Sea (Mar Ligure	Coastal
IT200012	2 (Iamas = 2012)	100.000	meridionale)	Cassist
IT300912	2 (January 2013)	180.000	(Central) Tyrrhenian Sea, offshore – from	Coastal
ITT200012	0 (I 2012)	100.000	Capo Bellavista to Bocche di Bonifacio	C . 1
IT300913	2 (January 2013)	180.000	(Northern) Tyrrhenian Sea, offshore – from	Coastal
TEO COCCA	0 (I 2012)	100.000	Argentario promontory to Fiumicino	
IT300914	2 (January 2013)	180.000	(Central) Tyrrhenian Sea, offshore – from	Coastal
	1	100.000	Anzio to Acciaroli	
TM46 2 - 1	- /T	100 000	Ionian Sea, offshore – between Sicilia and	Coastal
IT300917	2 (January 2013)	180.000		Coustur
	•		Malta Islands	
IT300917 IT300918	2 (January 2013) 2 (January 2013)	180.000		Coastal

IT300920	2 (January 2013)	180.000	(Northern) Ionian Sea and Southern	Coastal
			Adriatic, offshore – from Gulf of Corigliano	
			to Otranto Channel	
IT400210	2 (January 2013)	22.000	Approach to Ancona	Approach
IT400248	2 (January 2013)	22.000	Lipari, Salina and Vulcano Islands	Approach
IT400298	2 (January 2013)	45.000	Gulf of Palmas	Approach
IT500054	3 (January 2013)	8.000	Genova Harbour, West Side	Harbour
IT500226	3 (January 2013)	8.000	Genova Harbour, East Side	Harbour
IT600059	2 (January 2013)	4.000	La Spezia Harbour	Berthing
IT400246	3 (August 2013)	22.000	Approach to Milazzo	Approach

In progress, to be published within 2013:

Name	Edition	Scale	Title	Nav Purpose
IT40289A	2	45.000	Gulf of Asinara	Approach
IT50289B	2	8.000	Fornelli Passage	Harbour
IT500218	3	4.000	Ravenna Harbour	Harbour
IT300042	5	90.000	Castelsardo to Tavolara Island	Coastal
IT300040	4	90.000	Waters between Corsica and Tuscany Archipelago Islands	Coastal
IT300004	5	90.000	S. Rossore to Torre Populonia including Gorgona and Capraia Islands	Coastal
IT300006	3	90.000	Ansedonia to Civitavecchia including Giannutri Island	Coastal
IT400192	3	45.000	Approach to Brindisi	Approach
IT300029	3	90.000	Torre Specchia Ruggeri to Point Torre Canne	Coastal
IT500060	3	8.000	Roads of La Spezia	Harbour
IT400101	2	22.000	Approch to Imperia	Approach

b) ENC Distribution method

Italian cells are distributed through UKHO, NHS and Jeppesen Official ENC Service.

However, in order to ensure standardization, consistency, reliability and availability of ENCs and to share common experience such as suggested by WENDWG, we are considering to join one of the existing RENCs

c) RNCs

N.A.

d) INT charts published

INT n.	National n.	Title
3370	76	Porto di Civitavecchia
3302	910	Isola di Corsica
3395	99	Porto di Gioia Tauro
3190	2058	Approdi e Porti di Monaco (Da Cap D'Ail a Cap Martin)
3461	193	Porto di Bari
3460	192	Litorale di Brindisi
3364	115	Litorale della Spezia
3350	326	Bocche di Bonifacio
3388	246	Litorale di Milazzo

INT Charts in progress

INT n.	National n.	Title	
3468	239	Litorale di Trieste	
3210	948	Da Banzart a K' Libia Trapani e Pantelleria	
3362	55	Porto di Genova Foglio Est	
3356	104	Litorale di Savona	
3467	218	Porto di Ravenna	
3365	60	Rada della Spezia	
3460	192	Litorale di Brindisi	
3391	257	Porto di Trapani	

e) National paper charts

National Charts published:

National n.	Title	
244	Porto di Messina	
116	Isole di Capraia e Gorgona	
2154	Da Calvi a Cargese	
2164	Litorale a Sud di Bastia	
198	Porto di Barletta	
2166	Litorale a Nord di Bastia	
148	Porto di Taranto	
153	Porto di Taranto Stazione Navale	
154	Porto di Taranto Arsenale	
236	Porto di Monfalcone	
107	Litorale da Nervi a Sestri Levante	
237	Porto di Trieste	
193	Porto di Bari	
2158	Da Cap Muro a Cap De Feno	
2156	Da Punta D' Orchino a Cap Muro (paraggi di Ajaccio)	
117	Isola D' Elba	
234	Litorale di Monfalcone	
268	Rada e Porto di Pozzallo	
118	Isole di Giannutri Montecristo e Pianosa	
315	Litorale di Arbatax	
294	Canale di San Pietro	
123	Litorale di Civitavecchia	
2150	Da Cap Corse a Punti di l'Acciolu (Golfo di Saint Florent)	
273	Porti Minori della Sicilia (Giardini - Naxos Riposto)	
2152	Da Punta di L'Acciolu a Capo Cavallo	
293	Golfo di Oristano	
212	Porto di Ortona	
254	Porto di Pantelleria e Approdi di Scauri	
253	Isola di Pantelleria	
78	Porti di Gaeta e Formia	
2160	Litorale di Porto Vecchio	
2162	Dal Faro di Alistro a Solenzara	
5	Dal Canale di Piombino al Promontario Argentario (e Scoglio d'Africa)	
195	Litorale di Bari	
261	Rada e Porto di Gela	
52	Porto di Imperia	
47	Dall' Isola di San Pietro a Capo San Marco	

46	Da Capo Spartivento all' Isola di San Pietro	
251	Isola di Ustica	
255	Rada e Porto di Palermo	
101	Litorale di imperia	
40	Da Cap Corse ad Alistro e all' Isola D'Elba	
4	Da San Rossore al Canale di Piombino ed Isola D' Elba	
6	Dal Promontorio Argentario a Capo Linaro	

In progress:

National n.	Title	
226	Venezia - Porto di Lido	
128	Litorale di Gaeta	
2060	Dalla Rada d' Agay a Monaco	
2075	Da Marseille a Toulon	
269	Porto di Siracusa	
289	Golfo dell' Asinara Passaggio dei Fornelli	

f) Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft

Since 2006, the Italian HO has been producing paper charts from the ENC database, smaller than traditional charts, printed on both sides, also on demand.

The full portfolio consists of 283 charts - coastal (1:100.000) and approach (from 1:50.000 to 1:18.000) – covering the entire Italian coastline up to 6-8NM offshore.

g) Problems encountered

Even though in the Italian NMs Booklet there is the section C1 "Nautical Information" where mariners can find Temporary and Preliminary notices (T&P - not compliant with IHO publication S-4 Part B-600 "Chart maintenance"), our present software does not allow us to manage T&P correctly. We are changing our work flow, implementing new software and a geographic database, and we expect it will help us in the production of T&P updates for Paper Charts and for ENC.

As regards overlapping between Italian and Croatian ENCs in the Adriatic Sea, having considered all aspects of the problem we submitted a proposal, concerning ENCs and also paper charts of the area to the Croatian Hydrographic Office.

They argued that such proposal should be included in a general bi-lateral agreement of which they presented us a first draft.

We returned them the agreement with a few editorial amendments last spring and we are confident that we will receive a reply soon.

As regards overlapping in the Black Sea with the Turkish ENCs, Italy agreed with the proposal by Medintchart coordinator and we are confident that the problem will be solved in the next few month.

4. New publications & updates

a) New publications

Annual

Number	Title	Edition
I.I. 3132	EFFEMERIDI NAUTICHE 2012	2012
I.I. 3132	EFFEMERIDI NAUTICHE 2013	2013
I.I. 3133	TAVOLE DI MAREA 2012	2012
I.I. 3133	TAVOLE DI MAREA 2013	2013
I.I. 2024	L'AGENDA NAUTICA 2012	2012
I.I. 2024	L'AGENDA NAUTICA 2013	2013

Sailing Directions

241111119 2 11	Swiiii 6 2 ii 44 tii 6 ii 5				
I.I. 3201	PORTOLANO P1	2012			
I.I. 3208	PORTOLANO P8	2013			
I.I. 3203	PORTOLANO P3	2013			

List of Lights

I.I. 3134	ELENCO FARI E SEGNALI DA NEBBIA DA CANNES 20	012
	(FRANCIA) A SARANDA (ALBANIA)	

Miscellaneous

I.I. 3001	CATALOGO GENERALE DELLE CARTE E DELLE	2012						
	PUBBLICAZIONI NAUTICHE							
I.I. 3001	CATALOGO GENERALE DELLE CARTE E DELLE	2013						
	PUBBLICAZIONI NAUTICHE							
I.I. 3002	MEDITERRANEO ALLARGATO – CARTE E	2013						
	PUBBLICAZIONI ESTERE							

b) Updated publications

Publications are updated via the NtM (Fascicolo Avvisi ai Naviganti) booklet which can also be downloaded free of charge from the IIM section in the Italian Navy Official Website.

c) Means of delivery, e.g. paper, digital

All publications are available on paper. The NtM booklet (Fascicolo Avvisi ai Naviganti) can also be downloaded free of charge from the IIM section in the Italian Navy Official Website.

d) Problems encountered

None.

5. MSI

a) Existing infrastructure for transmission

The Coast Guard is the Italian entity in charge of GMDSS and Navtex Coordinator. Navtex has been operational since April 2002 on freq. 518 kHz (in English). Since 2012 it has been operational with 3 stations (La Maddalena, Mondolfo and Sellia Marina); efficiency and reliability are very good.

The local dissemination of information is very good and is guaranteed by VHF radio communications and written documents.

b) New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS

N.A.

c) Master Plan

N.A.

d) Problems encountered

None

6. S-55

a) Latest update

Nation/Area	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2
ITALY	70%	44%	25%	55%	5%	0.6%

The areas and main harbours which are not systematically surveyed are our top priority.

7. Capacity Building

Presently, IIM training courses for hydrographers are:

Category A - Master in Marine Geomatics open to military and civilian personnel;

Category B - recognized by the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board in 2009 Petty officers

In the next future, cat A and cat B courses will be in English, to give students from all over the world the opportunity to train at IIM and to make Italian students more proficient in English.

a) Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

Applications must be submitted to the Italian Ministry of Defense.

b) Training received, needed, offered

As above

c) Status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional Development projects with hydrographic component (In progress, planned, under evaluation or study)

Hydrographic data exchange agreements in force:

Tunisia: the Italian Hydrographic Office and the Tunisian Hydrographic Office are coproducing two INT charts of the Strait of Sicily; Libya: as per the agreement signed by the Libyan Navy and the Italian Navy, a number of hydrographic surveys were carried out in 2005 and 2007 and the cooperation for the chart of the Tripoli Harbour went on until 2010. The works were resumed after the political situation in Libya became stable. Hydrographers from both countries met in Rome in June 2013.

d) Development projects with hydrographic component (In progress, planned, under evaluation or study)

IIM is changing its chart production cycle basing it on Caris HPD system. This system will allow us to efficiently produce paper charts, ENCs and NtMs from the same database. The work is in progress and it is going to take a long time – probably no less than 5 years.

In the meantime we tested and adopted a process for the production of paper charts from ENCs using a mix of software solutions by Jeppesen and Pangea which is proving to be quite successful.

e) Definition of bids to IHO CBC

None.

8. Oceanographic activities

a) General

IIM provides oceanographic support to the Italian Navy through a METOC service, carried out in the Geophysics Division. The Military Oceanographic Section manages an operation-support service and includes a Study and Data Management sub-section.

When necessary it can organize an Operational Unit for direct support to Naval Operations.

Presently, Italy is leader Nation for IMetoc support to NRF 2013-2014 and IIM provides oceanographic (OC) support in cooperation with CNMCA and the Air Force Met Centre.

IIM can provide high resolution sea-state and currents products, in specific areas, for specific studies or forecasts, using mathematical models.

For the OC products and forecast, IIM mainly cooperates with the National Group for Operational Oceanography (GNOO), using "Mediterranean Forecasting System" (MFS) data. GNOO is a group composed by several Military and Civilian entities and institutes operating within the Italian METOC context.

IIM carries out scientific surveys and studies on the marine environment, often in co-operation with other National and International research centres; surveys are carried out using Nave Magnaghi, major hydrographic vessel, and two coastal hydrographic vessels (Aretusa and Galatea), fitted with oceanographic data collection capabilities, such as CTD, XBT, Sub Bottom Profiler, Rosette system, single beam echo-sounder, multi beam echo-sounder, current meters, Side Scan Sonar, ADCP, Sea Bottom Sampler, magnetometer.

b) GEBCO/IBC's activities

Italy enthusiastically supports GEBCO's activities and has always contributed to them. A few years ago, Italy agreed to input data from Italian ENCs into GEBCO's database, using Decode Enc software. It would be very useful if other MBSHC members contributed to GEBCO's database with their own data, especially in shallow water areas.

c) Tide gauge network

IIM ensures the annual production and distribution of the 'IHO' periodical publication "Tide Tables" (I.I. 3133). IIM manages two tide stations (Genoa and Brindisi), provided with a modern radar tide-gauge and a 'classic' digital gauge (Thalimedes) connected through GSM network to the IIM data centre. As part of activities for collecting new data and harmonic constants for the prediction of the tidal amplitudes in the main Italian ports, other radar level sensors (OTT Kalesto) are available and are installed as needed (one is deployed in Gioia Tauro).

d) New equipment

New radar tide gauges have been installed in the last few years to upgrade the tide 'historical' stations, and new equipment have been installed in the Geophysics division, to develop and update the 'SGDM', IIM's 'Tide System data management', that was designed to control, verify and process the data from all the digital tide gauge instruments.

Concerning the OC surveys, a new ROV with medium/low depth capabilities, is being tested and will soon be available for hydro-oceanographic surveys.

e) Problems encountered

None.

9. Other activities

a) Participation in IHO Working Groups

At present IIM is involved in several IHO WG, such as HSSC, WENDWG, HCA, CSPCWG, MBSHC, GEBCO, TSMAD, DQWG, MSDIWG and TWLWG. Due to national budget restrictions Italy couldn't take part in all WG's meetings.

b) Meteorological data collection

Meteorological data are collected by survey vessels during hydrographic and oceanographic surveys, and at synoptic times during transfer navigation to operational areas.

c) Geospatial studies

N.A.

d) Disaster prevention

N.A.

e) Environmental protection

N.A.

f) Astronomical observations

N.A.

g) Magnetic/Gravity surveys

IIM recently conducted several geomagnetic surveys in the Aeolian Islands (Tyrrhenian sea) and the Gulf of Pozzuoli in co-operation with INGV (Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia) and CNR (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche).

h) International

N.A.

10. Conclusions

Cooperation in the Mediterranean area still remains the priority for all Countries involved. MBSHC is the forum in which and through which this cooperation can be achieved. Italy is prepared to work hard with all its Mediterranean partners, in order to promote cooperation through bilateral or multilateral agreements and share experience and know how. We would like to work together in order to get this goal and we are ready to receive any suggestion on this important issue.