

IHO
MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(MBSHC)
19th Meeting 30 June - 2 July 2015, Batumi, Georgia.

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 (2013-2014) and the Tuscan Archipelago (2013-2014):

- (Adriatic Sea):Crotone, Vasto, Taranto, Trieste, Molfetta;
- (Sardinia):Porto Cervo, La Maddalena, Gulf of Congianus, Olbia;
- Messina, Piombino. Gorgona Island.

b) New technologies and /or equipment

During 2014 the following equipment was tested:

- Software SVP Editor ver . 1.0.5 for the processing and transmission of sound velocity data.
- Software QPS Fledermaus for geospatial data analysis and processing (tool GEOCODER)
- **Inflatable for coastal hydrographic activities (multibeam survey).**

c) New ships

N.A.

d) Problems encountered

Survey activities were carried out regularly.

3. New charts & updates

a) ENCs

Since the 18th conference the following ENC cells have been produced:

New ENCs

Name	Edition (date)	Scale	Title	Nav Purpose
IT500150	1 (October 2014)	1:8.000	Corigliano Calabro Harbour	Harbour
IT300006	3 (November 2013)	90.000		Coastal
IT300004	5 (October 2013)	90.000		Coastal
IT300040	4 (October 2013)	90.000		Coastal
IT400192	3 (November 2013)	45.000	Approach to Brindisi	Approach
IT100340	2 (February 2014)	2.250.000	Mediterranean Sea, western basin	Overview
IT300003	4 (February 2014)	90.000	Pieve Ligure to S.Rossore	Coastal
IT300007	3 (February 2014)	90.000	Cape Linaro to Anzio	Coastal
IT300010	4 (February 2014)	90.000	Licola to Agnone	Coastal
IT300023	4 (February 2014)	90.000	Milazzo Cape to Roccella Ionica	Coastal
IT400107	3 (February 2014)	22.000	From Nervi to Sestri Levante	Approach
IT400129	3 (February 2014)	22.000	Ischia and Procida Channels	Approach
IT400222	4 (February 2014)	45.000	Approach to Venezia	Approach

IT500055	5 (February 2014)	8.000	Genova Harbour, East side	Harbour
IT500191	2 (February 2014)	8.000	Brindisi Harbour	Harbour
IT300911	2 (February 2014)	180.000	Sardinia Sea, offshore – Cape to Argentiera to Gulf of Teulada	Coastal
IT400101	3 (February 2014)	22.000	Approach to Imperia	Approach
IT400128	3 (February 2014)	22.000	Approach to Gaeta	Approach
IT300002	4 March 2014)	90.000		Coastal
IT500060	3 (February 2014)	8.000	Roads of La Spezia	
IT300029	3 (December 2013)	90.000	Torre Specchia Ruggeri to Point Torre Canne	Coastal
IT300043	2 (June 2014)	90.000	Capo Figari to Capo di Monte Santu	Coastal
IT300042	5 (June 2014)	90.000	Castelsardo to Gulf of Congianus	Coastal
IT300912	3 (June 2014)	180.000	(Central) Tirrenian sea, offshore – from Capo Bellavista to Bocche di Bonifacio	Coastal
IT500269	2 (June 2014)	8.000	Siracusa Harbour	Harbour
IT500244	3 (July 2014)	4.000	Messina Harbour	Harbour
IT400210	3 (November 2014)	22.000	Approach to Ancona	Approach
IT400234	4 (November 2014)	22.000		Approach
IT400239	4 (November 2014)	22.000	Approach to Trieste	Approach
IT500062	3 (January 2015)	8.000	Livorno Harbour	Harbour
IT300004	6 (January 2015)	90.000	San Rossore to Piombino Channel and Elba, Capraia, Gorgona Islands	Coastal
IT500286	2 (January 2015)	8.000	Porto Torres Harbour	Harbour
IT40116B	2 (January 2015)	22.000	Capraia Island	Approach
IT300038	5 (January 2015)	90.000	Sacca del Canarin to Porto Falconra	Coastal
IT300046	4 (January 2015)	90.000	Quartu S.Elena (Cagliari) to Nebida including S.Pietro and S. Antioco Islands	Coastal
IT500071	3 (January 2015)	8.000	Piombino Roadstead and Harbour	Harbour
IT500311	3 (January 2015)	8.000	Cagliari Harbour	Harbour
IT600281	3 (January 2015)	4.000	La Maddalena and S. Stefano roads	Berthing
IT400130	4 (February 2015)	22.000	Approach to Napoli	Approach
IT300044	2 (February 2015)	90.000	Point of Pedra Longa to Capo Ferrato	Coastal
IT300048	3 (February 2015)	90.000	Capo Mannu to Capo Ferro	Coastal
IT300045	2 (February 2015)	90.000	Seno di Quartu to P.ta S. Giusta	Coastal
IT300043	3 (February 2015)	90.000	Capo Figari to Capo di Monte Santu	Coastal
IT300912	4 (February 2015)	180.000	(Central) Tirrenian Sea offshore – from Capo Bellavista to Bocche di Bonifacio	Coastal
IT300949	2 (February 2015)	180.000	(Central) Tirrenian Sea offshore – from Spartivento Cape to Bellavista Cape	Coastal

In progress, to be published in 2015:

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
IT500072	1	8.000	Portoferraio Roadstead	Harbour
IT500318	2	8.000	Olbia Harbour	Harbour
IT500267	1	4.000	Licata Harbour	Harbour
IT50223A	3	8.000	Malamocco Harbour	Harbour
IT50223B	2	8.000	Darsena S.Loremzo	Harbour
IT500255	4	8.000	Palermo Harbour	Harbour
IT400247	2	22.000	Alicudi and Filicudi Islands	Approach
IT500257	3	8.000	Trapani Harbour	Harbour
IT400107	4	22.000	From Nervi to Sestri Levante	Approach
IT400298	3	45.000	Gulf of Palmas	Approach
IT600224	1	3.000	Arsenale di Venezia	Berthing
IT400104	3	22.000	Approach to Savona - Vado Ligure	Approach
IT400106	5	22.000	Approach to Genova	Approach

IT300028	3	90.000	Gallipoli to S.Foca di Melendugno	Coastal
IT300029	4	90.000	Torre Specchia Ruggeri to Point Torre Canne	Coastal
IT500055	6	8.000	Genova Harbour, East side	Harbour

b) ENC Distribution method

Italian cells are distributed through IC-ENC and Jeppesen Official ENC Service.

c) RNCs

N.A.

d) INT charts published

INT n.	National n.	Title
3350	326	Bocche di Bonifacio
2388	246	Litorale di Milazzo
3460	192	Litorale di Brindisi
3365	60	Rada della Spezia
3468	239	Litorale di Trieste
3370	76	Porto di Civitavecchia
304	432	Dalle Isole Baleari alla Corsica e alla Sardegna
3466	210	Litorale di Ancona
3369	62	Porto di Livorno
3362	55	Porto di Genova Foglio Est
3356	104	Litorale di Savona

INT Charts in progress

INT n.	National n.	Title
3392	256	Litorale di Palermo
3210	948	Da Banzart a K' Libia Trapani e Pantelleria
3467	218	Porto di Ravenna
3391	257	Porto di Trapani

e) National paper charts

National Charts published:

National n.	Title
2162	Dal Faro di Alistro a Solenzara
261	Rada e Porto di Gela
1315	Limiti ed aree di Interesse Operativo
1050	Zone normalmente impiegate per le esercitazioni navali e di tiro e zone dello spazio aereo soggette a restrizioni
5	Dal Canale di Piombino al Promontorio Argentario
195	Litorale di Bari
52	Porto di Imperia
47	Dall' Isola di San Pietro a Capo San Marco
46	Da Capo Spartivento all' Isola S. 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
1813	Stato dei Rilievi nei mari Italiani 2013
4	Da San Rossore al Canale di Piombino ed Isola D' Elba, Capraia e Gorgona
6	Dal Promontorio Argentario a Capo Linaro
128	Litorale di Gaeta
1050	Zone normalmente impiegate x le esercitazioni navali e di tiro e zone dello spazio aereo soggette a restrizioni
1315	Limiti ed aree di Interesse Operativo
150	Porto di Corigliano Calabro
44	Da Capo di Monte Santo a Capo Ferrato
1571	Stretto di Sardegna (Area Ovest)
1572	Mare di Sardegna (Area Sud)
1573	Mare di Sardegna (Area Nord)
269	Porto di Siracusa
43	Da Olbia a Capo di Monte Santu
1813	Stato dei rilievi nei mari italiani 2014
123	Litorale di Civitavecchia
6	Dal Promontorio Argentario a Capo Linaro
244	Porto di Messina
48	Da Capo San Marco a Capo Caccia
234	Litorale di Monfalcone
224	Arsenale di Venezia
28	Da torre dell'Ovo a Torre dell'Orso

In progress:

National n.	Title
226	Venezia - Porto di Lido
33	Dal lago di Lesina a Ortona e isole Tremiti
189	Porto di Otranto
154	Porto di Taranto - Arsenale
299	Litorale di Cagliari
289	Golfo dell' Asinara Passaggio dei Fornelli
223	Porto di Malamocco Darsena S.Leonardo
281	Rade di La Maddalena e di S.Stefano
209	Porto di Ancona
18	Da Marsala a Sciacca
220	Porto di Chioggia
72	Rada di Portoferraio
286	Porto di Porto Torres

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

Since the 18th conference the following pleasure craft paper charts have been produced:

New pleasure craft paper charts

Number	Title	Scale 1:	Edition date
7334-P2b	Dalla Foce del Fiume Ombrone a Capo d'Uomo e Formiche di Grosseto	50.000	February 2014
7335-P2b	Da Torre Cannelle a Torre Saline	50.000	February 2014
7336-P2b	Promontorio dell' Argentario	50.000	February 2014
	Isola di Giannutri	30.000	
7337-P2b	Isola del Giglio	30.000	February 2014

New editions of pleasure craft paper charts

Number	Title	Scale 1:	Edition date
7003-P1	Da Loano a Savona	100.000	October 2013
7301-P1	Da Borgo Prino a Capo Cervo	30.000	October 2013
7313-P2a	Da Marinella a Marina di Massa	30.000	October 2013
7009-P2a	Da Marina di Pisa a Vada	100.000	September 2013
7010-P2a	Isola Gorgona	100.000	September 2013
7011-P2a	Da Marina di Cecina a Piombino	100.000	September 2013
7012-P2a	Isola Capraia	100.000	September 2013
7008-P2a	Da Marina di Massa a Marina di Pisa	100.000	September 2013
7016-P2b	Isola di Montecristo e Scoglio Africa	100.000	September 2013
7346-P3a	Isole Razzoli, Santa Maria e Budelli	30.000	October 2013
7348-P3a	Secca dei Monaci e Secca delle Bisce	30.000	October 2013
7300-P1	Da Riva Ligure ad Imperia – Porto Maurizio	30.000	December 2013
7001-P1	A capo Morola a Capo Berta	100.000	April 2014
7002-P1	Da Imperia a Ceriale	100.000	April 2014
7305-P1	Da Arenzano a Genova Ovest	30.000	June 2014
7021-P2b	Da Punta S.Agostino a Ladispoli	100.000	May 2014
7339-P2b	Litorale di Civitavecchia - Installazioni	30.000	May 2014
7340-P2b	Litorale di Civitavecchia	30.000	May 2014
7344-P3a	Da Monte Biancu a Santa Teresa di Gallura	30.000	November 2013
7347-P3a	Isole La Maddalena. S.Stefano, Caprera e Spargi	30.000	January 2014
7349-P3a	Golfo di Arzachena	30.000	June 2014
7349-P3a	Golfo di Arzachena	30.000	March 2014
7351-P3a	Da Isolotto Portisco a Punta delle casette	30.000	April 2014
7118-P3a	Da Capo Coda Cavallo a cala Liberotto	100.000	June 2014
7122-P3b	Da Scoglio S.Elmo a S.Andrea	100.000	February 2014
7355-P3b	Litorale di Cagliari	30.000	September 2014
7390-P4	Litorale di Gaeta	30.000	April 2014
7391-P4	Da Gaeta a Scauri	30.000	March 2014
7410-P4	Litorale di Salerno	30.000	March 2014
7026-P4	Da Porto Badino a Scauri	100.000	April 2014
7029-P4	Da Scauri a Licola	100.000	April 2014
7032-P4	Golfo di Salerno	100.000	June 2014
7410-P4	Litorale di Salerno	30.000	October 2014
7416-P5a	Stretto di Messina – Villa S. Giovanni	30.000	February 2014
7064-P5a	Da Aci Trezza a Penisola Magnisi	100.000	March 2014
7075-P5b	Da Torre Mattoni a Torre Pucci	100.000	July 2014
7078-P5b	Da Torre Chiancia a Torre Mozza	100.000	July 2014
7079-P5b	Da Torre Suda a Torre di Andrano	100.000	July 2014
7081-P7	Da S. Cataldo a Casalabate	100.000	February 2014
7082-P7	Litorale di Brindisi	100.000	February 2014
7083-P7	Da torre S.Sabina a Savelletri	100.000	February 2014
7084-P7	Da Monopoli a Secca Punta d'Oro	100.000	June 2014
7085-P7	Da Bari a Molfetta	100.000	June 2014
7314-P2a	Marina di Pisa	30.000	November 2014
7117-P3a	Da Capo d'Orso a Punta Sabbatino	100.000	November 2014
7119-P3a	Da Cala Ginepro a Pedra Longa	100.000	February 2015
7120-P3a	Da Pedra Longa a Punta sa Canna	100.000	February 2015
7121-P3a	Da Capo Palmeri a Scoglio di S.Elmo	100.000	February 2015
7500-P7	Da Portonovo ad Ancona	30.000	December 2014
7501-P7	Litorale di Ancona	30.000	December 2014
7534-P8	Litorale di Trieste	30.000	November 2014
7533-P8	Dal Port.lo di Aurisina a Trieste	30.000	November 2014
7532-P8	Litorale di Monfalcone	30.000	November 2014

In progress, to be published in 2015:

Number	Title	Scale 1:
7006-P1	Da Sestri Levante a Punta Monesteroli	100.000
7122-P3b	Da Scoglio S.Elmo a S.Andrea	100.000
7008-P2a	Da Marina di Massa a Marina di Pisa	100.000
7009-P2a	Da Marina di Pisa a Vada	100.000
7427-P6A	Bocche di Vulcano	30.000
7108-P8	Da Casteldimezzo a Cesenatico	100.000
7307-P1	Da Quarto dei Mille a Punta della Chiappa	30.000
7308-P1	Da Punta S.Anna a Golfo del Tigullio	30.000
7309-P1	Da Chiavari a Riva Trigoso	30.000
7128-3c	Da Punta sa Calada Bianca a Isola Mal di Ventre	100.000
7129-3c	Da Capo Mannu a Porto Tangone	100.000
7130-3c	Da Porto Tangone a Punta de lu Nibaru	100.000

g) Problems encountered

Even though in the Italian NtM 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 (Caris publications module).

This module is fully operating for the editing of the List of lights while we are still adjusting it for the NtM Booklet. We are going to complete the tests and to put in in line in 2016.

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

We are open to all possible mutually satisfactory solutions starting from the last Medinchart coordinator proposal.

As regards overlapping in the Black Sea with the Turkish ENC’s, Italy agreed with the last Medinchart coordinator proposal but in any case we are open to all possible mutually satisfactory solutions and we are confident that the problem will be solved in the next few months.

4. New publications & updates

Since the 18th conference the following Publications have been produced

a) New publications

Annual

Number	Title	Edition
I.I. 3132	EFFEMERIDI NAUTICHE 2015	2014
I.I. 3133	TAVOLE DI MAREA 2015	2014
I.I. 2024	L’AGENDA NAUTICA 2014	2014
I.I. 2024	L’AGENDA NAUTICA 2015	2015

Sailing Directions

I.I. 3201	PORTOLANO P2	2014
I.I. 3208	PORTOLANO P5	2014
I.I. 3107	PORTOLANO P7	2015

List of Lights

I.I. 3134	ELENCO FARI E SEGNALI DA NEBBIA DA CANNES (FRANCIA) A SARANDA (ALBANIA)	2014
I.I. 3134	ELENCO FARI E SEGNALI DA NEBBIA DA CANNES (FRANCIA) A SARANDA (ALBANIA)	2015

List of Radio Signals

I.I. 3134	RADIOSEVIZI PER LA NAVIGAZIONE – PARTE I	2014
-----------	--	------

Miscellaneous

I.I. 3001	CATALOGO GENERALE DELLE CARTE E DELLE PUBBLICAZIONI NAUTICHE	2015
-----------	--	------

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. Since May 2015 a new station has been operational in Piombino.

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 (31 December 2014)

Nation/Area	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2
ITALY	71%	47%	24%	52%	5%	0.6%

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

7. Capacity Building

a) Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

Applications must be submitted to the Italian Ministry of Defense.

b) Training received, needed, offered

Presently, IIM offers training courses for hydrographers:

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

All courses are held 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.

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

i. Hydrographic/Cartographic data exchange agreements in force:

Tunisia:

The Italian Hydrographic Institute and the Tunisian Hydrographic Office are co-producing two INT charts of the Strait of Sicily; Hydrographic Expert meetings were held in Genoa/Italy (2013) and Bizerte/Tunisia (2014) to discuss cooperation in hydrographic survey/chart production.

ii. Hydrographic/Cartographic cooperations in force:

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.

Lebanon:

Three meetings were held in Beirut in 2014 with a delegation from the Italian Navy and some Hydrographic Experts.

The idea is to create a Lebanese Hydrographic Service, managed by the Lebanese Navy, with the help of several cooperating Navies (UK, France, Italy, Turkey, etc.).

Italian contribution:

- Hydrographic Course Category A (2014/2015): 1 Lebanese Navy Officer
- Hydrographic Course Category B (2014/2015): 1 Lebanese Navy Officer
- One hydrographic Survey Boat fitted with modern equipment for harbour survey should be commissioned in 2015 and delivered in 2016 to the Lebanese Navy.

iii. Visit to the Italian Hydrographic Institute for hydrographic/cartographic purposes:

2013

- hydrographic experts from Tunisian Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service;

2014

- hydrographic experts from Albanian Hydrographic Service and Morocco Hydrographic Service
- delegation of Uganda Navy and Nigeria MoD

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

The IIM is changing its chart production system basing it on a Database oriented workflow. This system will allow to efficiently produce paper charts, ENC's, Nautical publications and NtMs from the same database. This transition is a complex and lengthy process.

In the meantime we tested and adopted a process for paper charts production from ENC's, which is proving to be quite successful.

e) Definition of bids to IHO CBC

None.

8. Oceanographic activities

a) General

The IIM provides meteo-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.

Italy was Lead Nation for Nato IMetoc support to NRF 2013-2014: the IIM provided oceanographic (OC) support in cooperation with CNMCA, the Air Force Met and Climate Centre.

The IIM can provide high resolution sea-state in shallow water information, using the SWAN mathematical model, and current circulation information and products, in specific areas, using the DHI Mike3 mathematical model, for specific study or forecast purposes.

For the OC products and forecast, IIM often cooperates with national Research Centers, Universities and Institutions; in particular, until 2014 IIM was involved in the National Group

for Operational Oceanography (GNOO), using “Mediterranean Forecasting System” (MFS) and MyOcean data. GNOO was a group composed by several Military and Civilian entities and institutes operating within the Italian METOC context.

The IIM carries out scientific surveys and studies on oceanography, geophysics, and marine environment (e.g. the ‘MREA’ research survey in Sept.-Oct. 2014 in the Gulf of Taranto) in cooperation with other National research Centres such as National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV), National Council of Research (CNR), National Research Agency for New Technologies and Environment (ENEA), Bologna University; surveys are carried out from the Magnaghi, a major hydrographic vessel, and two coastal hydrographic vessels (Aretusa and Galatea), fitted with oceanographic data collection equipment, 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 and sends upgrades periodically when new data is available. 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

The IIM ensures the annual production and distribution of the ‘IHO’ periodical publication "Tide Tables" (I.I. 3133). IIM manages two long-time-period 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 the activities for collecting new data and harmonic constants for the prediction of tides in the main Italian ports, other radar level sensors (OTT Kalesto) are available and are installed as needed (one is still installed in the port of Gioia Tauro, another in the port of Augusta).

d) New equipment

The IIM bought a new ROV with medium/low depth capabilities.

e) Problems encountered

None.

9. Other activities

a) Participation in IHO Working Groups

At present the 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 could not 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

h) International

N.A.

10. Conclusions

During the past meeting Italy stated that 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.

It is always a must and 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 reach this goal and we are open to any suggestion on this important issue.