



§54th NHC Meeting
12 - 14 April 2010
Reykjavik, Iceland

Draft Minutes

[Draft by 15. June 2010]

Venue: Reykjavik Centrum Hotel
Chair: Mr. Georg Kr. Lárusson
Meeting coordinator: Mr. Gylfi Geirsson
Secretary: Mr. Niels Bjarki Finsen and Ms. Sigríður Ragna Sverrisdóttir
Participants: 17 persons from all NHC HOs and IHB, see Doc. NHC/54_1B

1. Opening of the Meeting

The NHC Chair, Mr. Georg Kr. Lárusson opened the meeting and welcomed all participants. He clarified the program and gave information on practical arrangements. He gave a short introduction to the work of the Coast Guard.

The Chair introduced Gylfi Geirsson as the meeting coordinator, who then went through the agenda.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The draft Agenda was approved with small amendments.

3. Minutes of the 53th NHC Meeting

The Status of Actions [*NHC53 List of Actions*] was reviewed and updated. It was noted that discussion on the feasibility of establishing a Nordic Panel for evaluation of competence of hydrographic surveyors had been postponed until this meeting. It was decided to postpone this discussion until after the next IRCC meeting.

Status of actions [*NHC53 List of Actions*] was reviewed and updated;

Action NHC53/1 Appealed to a higher court. Action kept.
Action NHC53/2 Deleted. Finland will inform on development.
Action NHC53/3 Pending.
Action NHC53/4 Done. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/5 Pending.
Action NHC53/6 Not valid any more. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/7 Completed. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/8 Done. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/9 and NHC53/10 Completed. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/11 Done. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/12 Done. Action deleted.
Action NHC53/13 Not valid any more. Action deleted.



4. Reports on activities within nautical charting and hydrographic surveying in each of the Nordic countries

4.1 Report of Denmark

Denmark highlighted some main issues in their national report [NHC/54/4.1A]. In addition to the Report Denmark informed on AIS reception in the Polar regions experiments in cooperation with Aalborg University.

4.2 Report of Finland

Finland highlighted some main issues in their national report [NHC/53/4.2A]. In addition to the Report more details were given on organizational changes and quality management and performance indicators.

4.3 Report of Iceland

Iceland highlighted some main issues in their national report [NHC/53/4.2A]. In addition to the Report Iceland reported on a bilateral agreement with Denmark and cooperation with UKHO on Arctic Pilot Vol II.

4.4 Report of Norway

Norway highlighted some main issues in their national report [NHC/53/4.4A]. In addition to the Report more details were given on tracings attached to Notices to Mariners.

4.5 Report of Sweden

Sweden highlighted some main issues in their national report [NHC/53/4.5A].

5. Reporting of joint projects

No Issues.

6. Reporting of Working Groups etc.

- 6.1 Report of the progress within NDQWG (Nordic Data Quality Working Group) by Finland. Finland reports that this working group has been inactive. Finland proposes to hold a meeting in Helsinki. It was agreed to wait until after the HSSC2 meeting in Rostock in October and after that decide on further actions and to set a date for the next meeting.
- 6.2 Report of the progress within the NCPEG (Nordic Chart Production Expert Group) by Finland. Finland reports that there has been no activity, except some correspondence within the NCPEG since it was established by NHC/53. ToR's span a wide area of interest. The next meeting is scheduled in autumn 2010 and will be hosted by Finland. Dates for the meeting to be proposed by Finland later.
- 6.3 Multibeam data. Norway proposes to host a meeting of the Workshop on Validation of Multibeam Data in Iceland next year. Iceland agrees to take part. Discussions on participants of the meetings. Should members from the industry be invited to join the meetings? A common understanding of the meeting was that the industry should not be included in the meetings at this point, but a platform should be created for communication on common matters.



7. The IHO Issues

7.1 Report by the IHB

Director Robert Ward gave a status report on IHO and IHB issues. He informed on the status of the progress of the approval of the amendments to the IHO Convention and the approval of new IHO member states. It was noted that Iceland is the only NHC member yet to approve the amendments to the IHO Convention. The Director also commented on Global Availability of ENC's and the fact that by the end of 2010 IHO's target date for 100% adequate ENC coverage will have passed. He also noted that adequate ENC coverage cannot be expected for areas where there are poor paper charts.

Shortcomings of C-55 were discussed, and in particular that C-55 in its current form lists the percentage of areas covered regardless to the quality of the underlying data.

7.2 Regional Limits

IHO reports that the formation of an Arctic Hydrographic Commission, under the terms of IHO resolution T1.3 is now under active consideration by the bordering states. The meeting had some discussions on the matter and agreed that the Nordic Commission, in effect, did not have fixed boundaries and was therefore not implicated in any requirement to define the southern boundary for the Arctic HC or a redefinition of the northern boundaries of the adjacent RHCs.

7.3 Action and inputs to the IRCC2

Norway requested inputs for the IRCC meeting in New Orleans in June as Norway represents NHC at the meeting. The meeting had some discussions on possible inputs for the IRCC meeting, including RENC to RENC cooperation and the new ARHC. IHO mentioned that capacity building is restricted by the rules of the program and that possibly it needed a new set of principles. Finland suggested that improvements to C-55 should be addressed.

8. Other international activities regarding nautical charting and hydrographic surveying

8.1 Outsourcing hydrographic survey, by Finland

Finland reported on the outsourcing of hydrographic surveying. The Finnish authorities are still working on legislation matters.

8.2 Print on Demand (Status in Nordic countries) by Finland (and all)

Finland reported on their studies of printing possibilities for Print on Demand. Norway will launch Print on Demand service in August this year. Several distributors are interested. Iceland reported that they currently print harbour plans on demand but apart from that have no plans for PoD. Sweden reports that if Print on Demand proves cost efficient, it will be considered. Sweden approached the idea of common distributors for Print on Demand Charts. This idea was welcomed.

8.3 Nordic Nautical Publication Working Group (NNPWG) by Sweden

The meeting discussed the need for NNPWG as a formal working group. It was agreed upon to hold a kickoff meeting for discussions and to determine the need for a working group. All countries agreed. Denmark will host and chair this meeting.



8.4 Status PRIMAR 2010 by Norway

Norway reported [NHC/54/6A] on the status of PRIMAR. Norway informed of a meeting with IC-ENC in Taunton, UK to be held later this month.

9. Next Chairman

According to the NHC Statutes it was agreed that Norway will Chair the next NHC meeting.

10. Date and Place of the next meeting

Norway proposed to have the next meeting in Norway from 5th – 6th of April 2011 in Stavanger.

11. Any other business

11.1 The wreck of USCG Alexander Hamilton (CDR Ásgrímur L. Ásgrímsson)

CDR Ásgrímur L. Ásgrímsson gave a presentation on the discovery of the wreck of USCG Alexander Hamilton in Faxaflói Bay.

11.2 Work agreement between the Ministry of Environment and the Self-Government of Greenland by Denmark

Denmark gave a presentation on the work agreement between the Ministry of Environment and the Self-Government of Greenland.

11.3 New TSS in Kattegat and our cooperation with Sweden by Denmark

Denmark gave a presentation on the new TSS in Kattegat and the cooperation with Sweden. This could lead to changes to the INT charts between Denmark and Sweden.

11.4 ASDI (Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure) by Denmark

Denmark gave a presentation to ASDI. Kickoff meeting is planned in Oslo in June. It was discussed if this should be included in the Arctic Hydrographic Commission.

11.5 New production system

Denmark gave a presentation on a new production system.

12. Closing of the meeting

The NHC/54 Chair thanked all on their active participation to the NHC work since last meeting and during this meeting and closed the meeting.