

Report of Nordic Data Quality Working Group

[30 March 2010]

Introduction

The NHC/53 established the Nordic Data Quality Working Group (NDQWG) approved the TORs for it. The objective of the NDQWG, according to its TORs, is to contribute to the work of the IHO DQWG and to ensure that the Nordic opinions and proposals will be duly recognised by the HSSC DQWG.

Membership

Members of the NDQWG

Organisation	Name	Email	Remarks
DK DaMSA	Jesper Vedel	jve@frv.dk	
DK KMS	Berit Holse	bes@kms.dk	
FI FTA	Mikko Hovi	mikko.hovi@liikennevirasto.fi	Chair
IS LHG	(Hilmar Helgason)	(hilmar@lhg.is)	*
NO NHS	Lynn Kolbeinson	lynn.kolbeinson@statkart.no	
SE SMA	Kennet Gustafsson	kennet.gustafsson@sjofartsverket.se	

* Corresponding member only

Finland has announced that Mr. Mikko Hovi will be replaced by Mr. Antti Castrén as member.

FI FTA	Antti Castrén	antti.castren@liikennevirasto.fi	
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Activities

The NDQWG held its second meeting on 9 June 2009 in Norrköping with all the members attending. Also present, as expert contributors, were Lars Jakobsson and Magnus Wallhagen from SMA. IHO DQWG Chair Chris Howlett was invited, but he was not able attend.

When NHC/53 approved the NDQWG TORs, it left the work plan for the group itself to create. At the meeting the working group identified two areas that it will focus on to improve quality indicator use.

1) Symbolisation

- One of the known issues of M_QUAL and CATZOC is visualisation. The S-52 way to symbolise the quality area is quite disturbing leading to non-usage. On paper charts CATZOC diagrams are rare. Finland is the only WG member to use CATZOC diagrams on paper charts.

2) Harmonisation

- Every country uses the CATZOC differently and does the classification with a different method. To get user friendly quality indicators, the way to use and classify quality areas should be comparable. In future work some harmonisation should be sought.

To proceed with the tasks above Denmark has, as agreed at the meeting, drafted some possible improved symbology for CATZOC information. Analysis of the drafts is yet to be done.

Sweden has made a proposal of a new feature to replace CATZOC. The *Minimum standard necessary for safe navigation* (MSNFSN) could be more simple to symbolise and for a mariner to understand. The WG has discussed the proposal and agreed that more work on the concept should be done. As requested by Sweden, the proposal was also presented at the IHO DQWG2 by NDQWG Chair.

IHO DQWG

IHO DQWG2 was held in Norfolk, USA on 10-11 May 2009. The DQWG was given a report on Nordic DQWG's kick-off meeting and the MSNFSN proposal by Sweden was also presented.

The DQWG2 also decided to suspend the development of new data quality indicators (FITUSE, MSNFSN, etc.) while the existing quality indicators are reviewed. The review process includes a test data set populated with all the existing indicators and a master's thesis study on indicator usage. The test data set has not been distributed yet.

Following the change of chairman there has been some discontinuity in the work of IHO DQWG. The IHO DQWG also suffers from lack members which has a negative effect on the work of the WG.

Next meeting of IHO DQWG is still undecided. Finland has made a proposition to IHO DQWG Chair to organise DQWG3 in Helsinki on 26-27 May 2010 with 25 May available for a possible NDQWG meeting.

Actions requested from NHC/54 Conference

The Conference is requested to

- take note on this report
- to nominate a new Chair for NDQWG
- give guidance, if any, to the future work for the NDQWG.