

54th NHC Meeting
Reykjavik, 13-14 April, 2010

Members view on NNPWG (Nordic Navigational Publication Working Group).

The Proposals from Sweden (10.2.2010):

As a result of a comment in the Swedish national report to NHC 53 in Helsinki 2009 it was agreed to further study guidelines concerning Nautical publications. Sweden was appointed to propose ToRs for a new regional working group.

It should be noted that similar work is ongoing within the IHO SNPWG (Standardization of Nautical Publications Working Group) and the relation to this working group has to be clarified.

To continue the work with Nautical publication we primarily see two alternatives:

- 1) Encourage all NHC members to actively engage in the SNPWG activities directly. We have noted that Denmark and Norway are already active.

 - 2) Form a Nordic WG and find the best way to offer active support to the work of SNPWG. (This model has been used in other cases). A proposed draft ToRs is enclosed.
- I would be pleased to have your views concerning alternative 1 or 2? Looking forward to have your response by 15 March, then I will be able to report at the next NHC-meeting in April. If you prefer alt 2, you are of course welcome to provide comments/modifications/additions etc to the proposed ToRs.

Best regards
Åke Magnusson

Norway (26.2.2010):

After an internal discussion at the Norwegian Hydrographic Service we have concluded that we primarily support alternative 1. As both Denmark and Norway are members of SNPWG a transfer of information to NHC and a harmonization of the Nordic views should be facilitated. We have experienced that some linkage exists between the work in SNPWG and TSMAD and being a member of both groups has been advantageous.

Best regards
Noralf Slotsvik

Denmark respond (1.3.2010):

In the Danish Hydrographic Office, we have received and reviewed the suggestions in your email of February 2nd regarding the coordination of guidelines regarding nautical publications in the Nordic region.

We find your suggestion to develop a Nordic Working Group to be a strong one. Taking a regional approach to our nautical publications would be fitting for the Nordic countries, given the close cooperation we already have in a number of areas and the similar challenges that our Hydrographic Offices face in several contexts.

54th NHC Conference in Iceland, 13-14 April 2010

While our office is highly involved in the international work in SNPWG, we believe that a NNPWG would be a good supplement to the work at the large scale. The NNPWG would provide an avenue for our countries to develop shared approaches and multicountry feedback to SNPWG, while sharing our experiences as a region in the implementation of SNPWG's findings.

At the same time, the NNPWG would provide a forum for improving our individual and regional approach to nautical publications that are not addressed by SNPWG. By sharing our Hydrographic Offices' best practices, the NNPWG would provide a valuable resource as we begin to examine what the future of nautical publications can be in a time of digital transformation.

We therefore strongly support alternative #2 of your correspondence. To the TORs, we would like to add the following:

- We recommend that a working plan for NNPWG be proposed to, and approved by, the NHC on an annual basis.

In the list of potential issues to be addressed by the NNPWG in its first year in operations, we suggest that the following be considered as possible agenda items:

- A definition of nautical publications in a Nordic context, given the current developments of the individual Hydrographic Offices
- An identification of best practice in the various areas of nautical publications, including updating techniques, resulting in a report back to NHC
- Development of a strategy for how various end users' needs can be met through various publication formats and distribution avenues
- A discussion of the consequences of SNPWG results for the spectrum of nautical publications

We will be happy to participate in the NNPWG.

Best wishes,
Jens Peter Weiss Hartmann, Head of the Hydrographic Office
Jes Carstens, Head of Nautical Publications Division
Pelle Aagard, Editor of Nautical Publications
Suzanne Slarsky Dael, Communications & Project Manager

Finland 15.3.2010:

Thank you for your information and proposals for Nordic guidance for SNPWG. Unfortunately due my fault I missed to forward this e-mail and our experts have had a limited time to consider this issue. Based on their quick feedback we have the following preliminary opinions:

- Norway and Denmark are already members of SNPWG, Finland also nominates its own member (Mr. Jan Nyholm) ; so Sweden and Iceland are only missing in SNPWG
- It may cause some double work if a Nordic NSNPWG will be established.
- It may be more productive if more informal co-operation between NHC members will be activated. This may be done in a similar way as with currently with the Paper chart production experts (NCPEG). The main emphasis may be training and exchange of information between the Nordic experts on this area.
- Also the IHO SNPWG members may discuss on SNPWG issues when needed or have ad-hoc meetings before SNWPEG meeting if found feasible

54th NHC Conference in Iceland, 13-14 April 2010

- Perhaps the Nautical Publications may be also on the Agenda of the forthcoming NCPEG meeting (planned in autumn 2010), or a "Nautical Publication Seminar" may be held.

So, as a quick summary, we prefer more alternative 1. We are willing to discuss this issue in more details at the NHC/54 meeting and are open to consider other proposals too.

Best regards,
Juha

Iceland:

After an internal discussion at the Icelandic Coast Guard, Hydrographic Department, we found that Iceland has not resources to take part in this work.