

Final Minutes
for the
NHC 58th Meeting on 19 - 20 August 2014
Helsinki, Finland
[16 September 2014]

A.1 Opening of Conference

Docs: NHC58 List of Participants, NHC58 List of Documents

The meeting was opened at 9:00. The NHC Chair, *Mr Rainer Mustaniemi*, warmly welcomed the participants to the 58th Meeting of the Nordic Hydrographic Commission and looked forward to a fruitful and constructive meeting. He wanted to especially welcome the director of the IHB, *Mr Gilles Bessero*, to Finland.

It was approved that *Mr Jarmo Mäkinen* will act as secretary of the Meeting and *Ms Tuulia Soini* will assist.

Mr Evert Flier thanked the Chair for the reception and observatory visit on the previous evening.

A.2 Welcome from the host country

Docs: NHC58_A2_NHC58 Program

Mr Jarmo Mäkinen also welcomed everyone to Finland and informed the guests on practical arrangements.

A.3 Adoption of the Agenda

Docs: NHC58_A3_Draft Agenda Version 3.

The Draft Agenda was approved with the following amendment:

Agenda items in section D (D1, D2, D3, D4, D5) were moved after item C.5 by the request of Norway. Items C.6 and C.7 will be handled during session 5..

A.4 Minutes and actions from the previous NHC 57th Meeting

Docs: NHC58_A4_NHC57 Final Minutes, NHC58_A5_Status of NHC57 Actions

NHC57 Minutes has been commented and approved by correspondence. There were no further comments given in the meeting.

The action list from NHC57 was reviewed. Most of actions were considered as done or on-going. Following comments and additional information were given:

- #1: IHB has not received any new applications, but Malta might be the next applicant.
- #3: in Progress, will be on the agenda of 5EIHC
- #4, #8 and # 12 will be handled later in this meeting.

B. IHO Work Programme 1 "Corporate affairs"

B.1 Report from the IHB

Docs: NHC58_B1_IHB_Report , Presentation

IHB Director, *Mr Gilles Bessero*, presented the IHB Report, highlighting the main issues: on-going approval process of the IHO Convention , status of IHO membership, general information of forthcoming 5EIH, IHO ENC catalogue and the IHB reference collection, C-55 updates, status of IHO GIS database and IHO publicity.

He also reviewed the appropriate actions for NHC. NHC58 adopted the following actions:

Action #1: Member States to review national ENC Backup Requirements (CL 41/2014 Para 7 refers).

Action #2: Member States to provide updates for C-55 and Year Book entries as appropriate.

Action #3: NHC Members to consider promoting the views and interests of IHO in post 2015 UN processes through national delegations.

B.2 National Report of Denmark

Docs: NHC58_B2_DK_National Report Denmark

Mr Stig Gelslev reported very recent organisational changes. There have been many changes, now settling down. However the internal organisational changes does not mean any changes in the named contact persons: Hydrographer Mrs. Anne-Sofie Jensen, Mr. Jens Peter Weiss Harmann (International contacts) and Mr. Lars Hansen (issues related to surveying).

Cdr Lars Hansen informed other MSs about Denmark's new survey concept for Greenland waters. Denmark has got some good test results. The concept aims at a more geographically flexible capacity with one large ship and two in situ launches. The concept is planned to be fully implemented in 2016.

They reported some concerns with the new chart production system. It was proposed that a list of chart productions systems in use may be helpful to other Member States and RHCs. The issue could be brought to HSSC. A proposal could be sent according to CL 48/2014. *Dir. Gilles Bessero* offered to help to write the proposal. *Mr Hilmar Helgason* promised to send a questionnaire to NCEP members to update the list of chart production systems.

Action #4: Chair to forward a proposal to HSSC to consider preparing a list of chart production systems in use and to report on experiences.

B.3 National Report of Finland

Docs: NHC58_B3_FI_National Report Finland , Presentation

Mr Rainer Mustaniemi briefly highlighted main issues. Production of nautical charts and hydrographic surveys has been performed as planned; 5400 km² has been surveyed in 2013. As product harmonization action, 15 m depth curve has decided to add in Finnish chart products. The new source data management system 'Loki' was adopted in 2013.

Due to the reorganization of the Finnish Transport Agency and retirements, some changes in key positions has been taking place in FHO.

B.4 National Report of Iceland

Docs: NHC58_B4_IS_National Report Iceland

Mr Hilmar Helgason reported Survey status. There were only few new surveys in 2013. No new chart products were published in 2013, but updating service for both paper charts and ENC continued as planned. New chart products will hopefully be published in 2015.

B.5 National Report of Norway

Docs: NHC58_B5_NO_National Report Norway

Mr Evert Flier reported that a lot has happened since the last meeting, especially in the technical field. They have ordered three new survey launches and studied possibilities to use land Lidar for sea surveying and continued activity in Mareano-project.

He informed on the current research on how to harmonize production systems between Land Mapping and Hydrographic Office in Norway.

Norway plans to discontinue the printing of paper charts by 2016 at the latest. They have already stopped printing of Pilot Guides , which are today delivered free in PDF-format.

B.6 National Report of Sweden

Docs: NHC58_B6_SE_National Report Sweden

Mr Patrik Wiberg and *Ms Annika Kindeberg* reported on extensive surveys in 2013 and publishing new charts and chart series, decreasing sales on paper charts and growth in ENC sales and the users of ENC. Sweden has discontinued printing of NtMs from the beginning of 2014. NtMs are issued only in digital format, updated weekly basis. He also reported on a new project to prioritise environmentally hazardous wrecks.

C. IHO Work Programme 2 "Hydrographic Services and Standards"

C.1 Nordic Nautical Publication Working Group (NNPWG)

Docs: NHC58_C8_DK_NNPWG Report

Mr Stig Gelslev made a reference to the Nordic Nautical Publication WG (NNPWG) Report forwarded by the Chairperson and his conclusions and recommendations to postpone the work in the NNPWG until the restructuring of the working groups of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) is finalised and ToR for NCIWG is approved and the necessary resources is allocated to the WG. It is foreseen that there will be a need to address some tasks related to e-Navigation and use of ENCs.

The NHC58 was therefore asked to consider this report and proposed that the continuation of NNPWG will be discussed and decided at NHC59.

Decision: It was agreed, that continuation of NNPWG will be decided at NHC59.

Action #5: All MS to report status and plans of their nautical publications at NHC59. [as separate reports].

C.2 Validation of Multibeam data

Docs: NHC58_C8_DK_NNPWG Report

Cdr Lars Hansen reported that Denmark will arrange a workshop on Validation of Multibeam data after the 5EIHC, probably in November 2014. Meeting is meant for discussion and sharing information, no decisions will be made. Invitations will be sent to 1 – 2 participants for each country. NHC Members found the workshop beneficial.

Action #6: Denmark to invite a Workshop on Validation of Multibeam data in September 2014

C.3 Report of Nordic Chart Production Expert Group

Docs: NHC58_C3_IS_NCPEGReport

Mr Hilmar Helgason reported the outcome of the Nordic Chart Production Expert group meeting in Reykjavik. NHC gave some guidance to next NCPEG meeting. NCPEG members were asked to expand their report by adding their experiences in GIS-systems with pros and possible challenges and to describe their chart production process.

Denmark will investigate the option of having the NCPEG meeting in 2015 as they have to announce the appropriate people and participants after the organisational change.

Action #7: Denmark to arrange NCPEG meeting in September 2015.

Action #8: All to report their experiences and best practices to NHC59.

C.4 Report of Finland-Sweden Pilot project on harmonisation of depth presentation

Docs: NHC58_C4_SE_Status Report – Harmonization of Depth Information, Presentation

Mr Patrick Wiberg introduced the Finland-Sweden pilot project (established by BSHC) and briefly presented some highlights. He presented the list of mismatches that will be harmonized such as: scale ranges, density between soundings, SCAMIN settings, generalisation of contours, depth contours and decimetres beyond 20m. Draft guidelines were made in Aug 2014. Final report on this project will be presented at BSHC20.

It was discussed, whether HOs use too much efforts in preparing uniform cartography on charts, for example with depth curves? What is the real need for the end-user? NHC58 stated that it is important that the user understands which contours are safe and which not. Contours may look different, depending on the source data. . NHC58 decided to discuss more about the issue later on.

Mr Gilles Bessero suggested that the project should address the requirement for high density contour lines in the context of e-Navigation and consider how its work relates with the IHO-wide on-going work on refining ENC standards.

C.5 Finalising the Baltic Motorways of the Sea (FAMOS)

Docs: NHC58_C5_SE_Finalising the Baltic Motorways of the Sea (FAMOS), Presentation

Ms Annika Kindeberg informed NHC MSs on FAMOS project. EU call for tenders will open in September 2014. Project is planned to last until 2020 and its budget is about 69 Mill € (of which 30% funded by EU). Surveys to be made in about 70.000 km² area, and in addition the project includes harmonisation of vertical datums, gravity measurements, improving on survey equipment and improving data workflow from sounding to bridge.

C.6 Experiences with new survey launches

Docs: NHC58_C6_NO_ Experiences with new survey launches, Presentation

Mr Noralf Slotsvik presented Norway's experiences with new survey launches. He briefly presented the technical details, vessels and operations and experiences. Norway has ordered three identical vessels and has got good results in surveying this summer. Survey speed can be up to 12 knots (depends on weather). They are collecting also water column data, to be delivered to other institutes on request.

IHB asked for an article to IHR on experiences.

C.7 Results from the Norwegian TopoBaty pilot project

Docs: NHC58_C7_NO TopoBaty 2014- Testing LIDAR mapping in the coastal zone of Norway, Presentation

Mr Noralf Slotsvik informed that the Norwegian Hydrographic Service has established a pilot project called ToboBaty 2014, to see whether the new generation of topobathymetric lasers can be used to survey the Norwegian coastal zone. He presented and reviewed the preliminary results of the pilot project. Both sea and land area can be surveyed with the same laser.

Action #14: Norway will report the final results and experiences of the TopoBaty pilot at NHC59.

D. IHO Work Programme 3 "Inter Regional Coordination and Support"

D.1 Outcome of IRCC6 meeting

Docs: NHC58_D1b_DK+FI_Report of WENDWG issues, Presentation IHB, Presentation DK+FI

Mr Gilles Bessero presented the outcome of the IRCC6 meeting (see IHO CL 57/2014) and introduced the most relevant decisions and actions made by the IRCC6 that are related to NHC (RHCs).

IRCC6 Decisions relevant to NHC:

- 12: to urge Regional Hydrographic Commissions to support GEBCO regional projects.
- 13: to encourage Regional Hydrographic Commission member states to submit data to GEBCO.
- 25: to recommend the use of the Risk Assessment methodology to establish Hydrographic Survey priority by Member States.

IRCC6 actions relevant to NHC

NHC discussed following actions:

- I RCC6/03 Consider the participation of stakeholders the RHC conferences (NHC Chair, Permanent).
- I RCC6/05 Provide the IRCC Chair with progress reports on the relevant tasks in the IHO 2014 Work Programme (NHC Chair Jan 2015)
- I RCC6/17 Invite Hydrographic Office representatives to be prepared to discuss Proposals 4 (Crowd Sourced Bathymetry - CSB) and 6 (Satellite Derived Bathymetry- SDB) during EIHC5 (NHC58 Agenda point E.3).

- IRCC6/40 Facilitate resolution of inconsistencies between paper charts and ENC's and between ENC's from different producers (NHC Chair, Permanent).
- IRCC6/ 41 Consider opportunities to interact with stakeholders in 2014 and encourage participation in the relevant events (on-going).
- IRCC6/42 Notify Member States in their regions of opportunities for interaction and encourage participation with relevant stakeholders in accordance with CL 8/2014 (on-going).

Mr Gilles Bessero also reported on IRCC considerations of WEND issues as follows:

Procedure on ENC overlaps

- Decision 15: RENCs to first use the procedure on overlaps (proposed by the WENDWG) as an IRCC procedure until more input is received and then possibly propose this to be an IHO resolution.

Admiralty Information Overlays (AIO)

- Action 29: UK and France to address the AIO issue bilaterally and report back to IRCC7 (deadline: IRCC7)

WENC concept

- IC-ENC explained that the Member States belonging to the RENCs do not support the view that the IHO WENC is made of the ENC's available via RENCs and think this is too prescriptive, as the way to distribute the ENC's is a national decision.
- Action 30: WENDWG Chair to report back to IRCC7 on the evolution of the WENC Concept (deadline: IRCC7).

NHC58 stated that none of the MSs were feeling positive about AIO. NHC notes that ENC's are solely responsibility of HO's, however UKHO is distributing AIO's including amendments to ENC's. Member States have well-functioning ENC-Services with updating procedure. AIO is not needed and it could be misleading for the mariner.

It was proposed that NHC demands UKHO to discontinue AIO in HO's national ENC's. FI, NO, SE supported that. Denmark and Iceland were not enough familiar with the issue to make an official statement at this point.

Action #9: DK and IS to evaluate if they could support a statement to request UKHO to discontinue AIO in national ENC's and report back to NHC Chair (with copies to all).

Action #10: After DK and IS feedback a statement to discontinue AIO-in national ENC's will be sent to UKHO.

WENDWG report

Mr Jarmo Mäkinen overviewed the WENDWG4 meeting items and actions, highlighting: WEND principles and guidelines, overlap management process, ENC coverage, RENC and WENC developments.

It was mentioned that the meeting documents came very late and some previous actions were removed from the agenda. There was some discussion on IHO RENC/WENC concept.

Decision: NHC58 decided to support the definition of WEND Database as proposed to IRCC6.

Decision: It was decided by consensus to nominate *Mr Evert Flier* (Norway) as the NHC representative to WENDWG.

D.2 Status of IHO-EU Network

Docs: NHC58_D2_NO Report of IH-EU Network, Presentation IHB

Mr Gilles Bessero presented the current membership of the IHO-EU Network WG. Norway represents NHC. He highlighted the importance of how HOs should be seen by EU.

Mr Noralf Slotsvik presented Norway's report on IHO-EU network. There will be a meeting on 2 September 2014 in Paris. It is expected that the NSHC EU2MPWG will be disbanded and its tasks moved to the IHO-EU Network. He also showed and reviewed briefly an annex/attachment on Call for tender. *Mr Noralf Slotsvik* will distribute the link to the Call for tender document to participants.

Action #11: Norway to distribute the link to the Call for tender document to participants.

The IHB noted the strategic importance of the Call for tenders which offers the opportunity for HOs to position themselves as solution providers to the European Commission.

D.3 Reports of RENC operations

Docs: NHC58_D3_NO PRIMAR Report

Mr Ever Flier briefly presented the PRIMAR report. Ukraine has just joined Primar. There are currently 16 members in Primar RENC. He also reported ongoing Primar updates; Primar Distribution Service, Primar Update Tracker and Primar WMS.

Mr Stig Gelslev and *Mr Hilmar Helgason* briefly told about their experiences with IC-ENC. Overall, they are satisfied with the co-operation.

D.4 ENC to leisure markets

Docs: NHC58_D4_DK_ENCs to leisure market, NHC58_D4b_FI_Pilot project for quality controlled ENC for leisure markets, NHC58_D4c_DK_Interational Standard for ECS, Presentation DK, Presentation FI

Safe Course project

Mr Stig Gelslev gave a presentation in summary about the Danish experiences gained of the project Safe Course carried out in 2013 regarding the use of ENCs, a privately produced software and a PC-tablet as a primary means for navigation. Based on the Danish experiences Denmark invited the NHC to initiate a discussion about which preconditions that should be fulfilled nationally before a common Baltic regional ENC service targeted to the non-commercial market could be a reality. No conclusion was made during the meeting.

Action #12: Denmark to report the progress of "Safe course" -project at NHC59 .

Quality controlled ENCs for leisure market

Mr Juha Tiihonen informed the NHC about the Finnish pilot project for quality controlled ENC for leisure markets. The aim of the pilot project is to provide quality controlled ENCs for non SOLAS vessels and to clarify the unclear situation in the market. The foundation for the project is the ENC database which is been kept up to date all the time. *Mr Tiihonen* asked NHC to note the information gained in the pilot.

Action #13: FI to report the progress of the project for quality controlled ENCs for leisure markets at NHC59.

IEC 62376 standard

Mr Stig Gelslev introduced the International standard IEC 62376 with the title "Maritime navigation and radio-communication equipment and systems – Electronic chart system (ECS) – Operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results" and the process that had been carried out by the IEC for its termination in September 2013.

Mr. Stig Gelslev informed that this standard is of importance for Denmark because it is preparing a revision of its national interpretation of the IMO SOLAS V and the STCW conventions with the aim to have the European version of this standard as a precondition that shall be met in the future process of having commercial navigational software (targeted the leisure craft market) tested and certified by a recognised organisation. Denmark believes however that it would be in the interest of all to have the IEC standard re-opened with the aim to have it revised and invited NHC58 to discuss the possibility to have a mutual Nordic initiative for such a reopening and revision of the IEC 62376 standard. No decision was made during the meeting but it was agreed to return back to this issue at the next NHC meeting.

D.5 Admiralty Information Overlay

Docs: NHC58_D5_Admiralty Information Overlay

This issue was discussed under Agenda item D.1.

E. Any other business

E.1 Revision of NHC Statutes

Docs: NHC58_E5_FI_Revision of NHC Statutes, Presentation

Mr Juha Korhonen presented the proposal of Revised NHC Statutes.

IHB suggested changes in Statutes Article 4:

- c) Approval of observers will be made by full consensus of member countries
- d) IHO representative shall be invited to NHC meetings

Decision: All Members approved the Revised NHC Statutes with the amendments in article 4.a and 4.b and with minor editorial corrections.

Action #15: Finland will send the final corrected version of the revised NHC Statutes to all NHC Members.

Action #16: Iceland will call the heads of each HO's to sign the revised NHC statutes during the 5th EIHC.

The IHB informed the Commission on how the MACHC and MBSHC addressed the issue of representation to the IHO Council.

E.2 NHC Logo-proposal

Docs: NHC58_E2_FI_NHC Logo, Presentation

Mr. Juha Korhonen presented Finland's proposals of a new NHC logo. Chair opened a discussion for commenting the logo proposal.

DK prefers proposal 1a and 1c combined so that the establishing year would be by a larger font. SE proposed adding the Northern star into the logo. FI promised to forward some new modified logo candidates and asked the others to forward proposals if they have.

It was agreed that the new logo will be decided via correspondence before signing the Statutes at 5th EIHC.

Action #17: Finland will circulate the modified logo candidates and MSs can send new candidates by 31 August for commenting or approval.

Action #18: MS to Approve or comment NHC logo candidates. Final decision of the logo made via correspondence by 15th September.

Action #19: Final decision of the logo to be made via correspondence before 5th EIHC.

E.3 NHC preparations for 5EIHC

There was some discussion on the issues of 5EIHC. It was noted that for the time being there are no actions needed for NHC to harmonise their opinions before the Conference.

E.4 Nomination of NHC representative to IHR Editorial Board

There were some discussions on the role of the IHR Editorial Board and the period of the mandate of the NHC representative. It was concluded to continue the practise that the Chair will present NHC at IHR Editorial Board.

E.Add. Capacity building [proposed by Norway]

Mr Noralf Slotsvik presented some information on the revision of the IHO capacity building strategy. He proposed to add capacity building on the agenda for the next NHC 59 meeting as a permanent topic. He shortly explained about assisting developing countries and the cooperation between Norway and other countries e.g. the Balkan countries.

Decision: NHC decided to add Capacity Building as a permanent agenda item to NHC meetings, starting from NHC59. Norway will coordinate the issue.

Action #20: Chair to put Capacity Building as a permanent item on NHC agenda.

F. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair

Iceland will have the next chairing turn and *Mr Georg Larusson* was elected as a new chair of NHC.

G. Place and date of next Conference

Iceland informed that the next Nordic Hydrographic Commission NHC59 meeting will be held tentatively on 13 – 15 April 2015.

Action #21: Chair will confirm the the date and place for NHC59.

H. Review of NHC58 List of actions

Docs: NHC58_List of Actions

The secretary reviewed the actions from NHC58 and they were approved.

Action #22: Secretary to forward Draft Minutes and Draft List of Actions to all participants by 27 August 2014.

Action #23: All to forward their comments to Draft Minutes and List of Actions to secretary by 3 September 2014.

Action #24: NHC chair/secretary to distribute Final Minutes and List of Actions by end of September.

I. Closing Ceremony

Mr Georg Larusson informed on the latest status of the volcano eruption in Iceland. The Chair thanked the participants for their active contribution to the meeting. *Mr Lars Hansen* thanked *Mr Juha Korhonen* on his long and active contributions to the work of NHC. *Mr Gilles Bessero* thanked the hosts on the excellent arrangements and hospitality. The Chair closed the Meeting at 12:30.

Annexes:

1. Draft List of NHC58 Actions