

**NHC 59<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 14 – 15 April 2015**

Reykjavik, Iceland

**Minutes**

[7 May 2015]

**A. Opening Formalities****A.1 Opening of Conference**

*Docs: NHC59\_1A\_List of Participants  
NHC59\_1B\_List of Documents*

The NHC Chair, *Mr Georg Kr. Lárusson*, gave a short presentation and welcomed the participants to the 59<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Nordic Hydrographic Commission. He then handed chairing of the meeting to *Mr Níels Bjarki Finsen*.

**A.2 Welcome from the host country**

*Docs: Program NHC59\_2A\_Program\_ver4*

The chair welcomed everyone to Iceland and informed the guests on practical arrangements. Secretary of the meeting: *Mr. Árni Þór Vésteinsson*.

**A.3 Adoption of the Agenda**

*Docs: NHC59\_3A\_Draft Agenda\_ver4*

The Draft Agenda was approved with the following amendment: Request by Norway to add to section D discussion on IRCC (D4) and discussion on Capacity Building (D5).

**A.4 Minutes and actions from the previous NHC 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

*Docs: NHC58\_Final Minutes, NHC58\_List of Action  
NHC59\_3B Status of NHC58 List of Actions*

NHC58 Minutes has been commented on and approved by correspondence.

The issue of AIOs was raised and MSs expressed their discontent with the lack of response from UKHO to the letter sent by NHC chair on October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014. Agreed to add the issue of AIOs to the agenda (D3).

The action list from NHC58 was reviewed. Most of actions were considered as done. Two actions were retained:

- Action #1 Member States to review national ENC Backup requirements (CL 41/2014 Para 7 refers)
- Action #9 DK to arrange the NCPEG meeting in September 2015

**B. IHO Work Programme 1 "Corporate affairs"****B.1 Report from the IHB**

*Docs: NHC59\_4A\_IHB\_Report*

IHB Director, Mr Gilles Bessero, presented the IHB Report, highlighting the main issues: IHO Administration, Current issues (e.g. Capacity Building and Crowd Sourced Bathymetry), Public Relations and Actions requested:

- Action #2 Expedite the approval of new applicants to IHO membership
- Action #3 Revise annually entries in C-55 and IHO Yearbook P-5
- Action #4 Implement the bi-annual reporting regime
- Action #5 Promote IHO interests at the national and regional level in the preparation of the post-2015 agendas
- Action #6 Consider submitting papers for publication in the IH Review

**B.2 National Report of Denmark**

*Docs: NHC59\_5A DK Hydrographic national report 2015*

*Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann and Mr. Lars Hansen* highlighted a few items in the report. Structural changes in the Danish Geodata Agency (GST) focusing on data and infrastructure have been implemented. New survey concept regarding Greenland waters utilizing navy assets is under development. A new online Greenlandic Harbour Pilot (in Danish) and the Greenland LAT-oide project have been launched.

**B.3 National Report of Finland**

*Docs: NHC59\_5B\_National\_Report\_of\_Finland*

*Mr Rainer Mustaniemi* highlighted main issues. Targets met in Hydrographic surveying and production of nautical charts. Increase in sales of charts, both paper and ENC's. Work is ongoing on development projects regarding Bathymetric Database, Nautical Chart Production, Source data Management and Online Publication systems.

**B.4 National Report of Iceland**

*Docs: NHC59\_5C\_National\_Report\_of\_Iceland*

*Mr Hilmar Helgason* briefly highlighted main issues. Survey work for a new chart of the North-west coast of Iceland continued in 2014. Some surveying still to be done to finish the chart. New ENC covering Iceland EEZ will be published in 2015 replacing UKHO cell.

**B.5 National Report of Norway**

*Docs: NHC59\_5D\_NOR\_National\_Report\_Norway*

*Mr Evert Flier* highlighted main issues of the report. Organizational Development project within NHS launched. New multibeam data processing software implemented. Final report of the LiDAR pilot project (Topobaty) has been delivered. The Mareano project continues. CARIS software is being implemented. Plans to use Open Source software more.

NHS POD service will include all Paper charts by the end of 2015. No printing of charts will take place after March 2015. New editions will only be available as POD-charts. Network of four national distributors and four international. Printers, paper and the ink have to be certified.

## **B.6 National Report of Sweden**

*Docs: NHC59\_5E National Report Sweden*

Mr Patrik Wiberg highlighted main issues of the report. Sweden HO ISO 14001 certified from 2014. The quality management system encompasses all activities within the Swedish Maritime Administration which SHO is part of. New survey project FAMOS was mentioned – 48% of Swedish waters are surveyed in accordance with FSIS-44. Plan to reach 70% in 2020. New bar-sweeping survey vessel will be launched this summer.

New ENC of outer fairway approach to Stockholm issued in May 2015. A paper chart of the same area will not be produced. Commission on national maritime boundaries has reported and proposed revised base lines and presented recalculated maritime borders for Sweden. The commission also suggested that Sweden will establish a contiguous zone in accordance with UNCLOS.

## **B.7 NHC59-7A**

*Docs: Report from the multibeam workshop Copenhagen 2014*

Mr. Lars Hansen informed that no formal report has been made, only internal report for members of the workshop.

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

### **C.1 Report status and plans of their nautical publications**

*Docs: NHC59\_6A Danish publications  
NHC59\_6A Danish publications 2015 (presentation)  
NHC59\_6B Status and plans for nautical publications Finland  
NHC59\_6B Status of Nautical publications\_FI (presentation)  
NHC59\_6C Report on nautical publications of Iceland  
NHC59\_6D Status for Nautical publications in Norway  
NHC59\_6E Status and plans of nautical publications\_SE  
NHC59\_6E Status and plans of nautical publications\_SE (presentation)*

DK gave a short presentation and introduced a web based Greenlandic Harbour Pilot.

FI informed MSs that their NMs are only available in pdf in web service (from 1.1. 2015). Plans to have online version of NMs List of Lights (downloadable) and web service for List of Lights in 2016.

IS briefly discussed their nautical publications. The Icelandic Sailing Directions (1991) outdated and needs to be updated.

NO informed MSs that from 1.1. 2015 the NMs are only available as pdf-files on Internet. New web service for Tide tables (+/-10 years available) launched.

SE Informed MSs about Avanti, a UKHO owned product with links to the IHMA (International Harbour Masters Association), a web-based platform with the long-term goal to include all ports in the world providing the mariner with the up-to-date information that is needed for its

passage. Sweden's goal is to support the launch of Avanti in an industrial version by the beginning of 2016.

NHC MSs are offering more online services when it comes to publishing and distributing their nautical publications.

## **C.2 NHC59-6F Future of the Nordic Nautical Publication Working Group**

*Docs: NHC59\_6F NNPWG*

*Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann* presented a report on the future of the Nordic Nautical Publication WG. Recommended that NHC discontinues the work of NNPWG. MSs agree.

It is recommended that each MS gives a yearly status report about their nautical publications and if deemed appropriate NHC can address relevant items to HSSC.

**Action #7:** Report status and plans of nautical publications

## **C.3 Finalizing the Baltic Motorways of Sea (FAMOS)**

*Docs: NHC59\_8A Project\_FAMOS\_Dx\_SE  
FAMOS\_for\_NSHC59 (presentation)*

*Mr. Ralf Lindgren* briefed MSs on the FAMOS project.

Project aims at improving safety of navigation in the Baltic Sea by increasing hydrographic survey efficiency. Time period 2014 to 2020 in three phases. HOs of Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Germany and Denmark actively involved. Planned FAMOS project activities: 1) Hydrographic surveying. 2) Harmonizing vertical datum. 3) Surveying infrastructure. 4) Improving data workflow from sounding to chart. Project participants have submitted a project proposal for EU co-financing.

## **C.4 Experiences of the TopoBaty 2014 pilot**

*Docs: NHC59\_8B TopoBaty project  
NHC59\_8B RapportTopoBaty2014\_final  
NHC59\_8B - Attachment A\_Report from Contractor*

*Mr Evert Flier* presented report on the TopoBaty project - Testing LiDAR mapping in the coastal zone of Norway (Action Item 14 from NHC58).

Main goal of the project was to gather knowledge to plan future surveys; suitability of method, economical feasibility and what to consider when preparing calls for tenders.

Main conclusions of the pilot project are:

- The automatic classification algorithm used by the Contractor should be improved.
  - Automatic classification rejects too many observations that should have been accepted as bottom detection.
- The results of the surveying vary from area to area, but also within areas.
  - Variations seem to be related to the colour of the bottom. Dark bottom give less return signals.
- In the most successful areas, reliable observations down to 3-4 meters are obtained.
- In a future utilization of laser, improved specifications and control mechanisms should be available
- Reference surfaces should be available on land, and preferably also for the sea, for calibration purposes in advance of survey campaigns.

## C.5 ENC's to leisure markets

*Docs: NHC59\_9A New Danish national ENC service for leisure craft users*

*Docs: NHC59\_9B\_Status of Pilot project Quality Controlled ENC's for Leisure Craft*

*Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann* presented GST New national ENC Service for leisure craft users.

The aim of the new ENC service is to enhance safety at sea among leisure craft mariners by providing an official alternative to paper charts as the primary means of navigation. The new ENC service should be seen as an official alternative to the official paper charts for the leisure market.

MSs discussed official paper charts, ENC's and other electronic charts in relation to the non-SOLAS ships.

*Mr. Jarmo Mäkinen* presented report on status of Pilot project for quality controlled ENC's for commercial vessels, not carrying ECDIS and for leisure market. Will present final results at next NHC meeting.

## C.6 Report their experiences and best practices on chart production systems

*Docs: NHC59\_10A Chart production systems DK*

*NHC59\_10A Chart production systems DK (presentation)*

*NHC59\_10B Report of Finnish nautical chart production system renewal*

*NHC59\_10B Report of Finnish nautical chart production\_system\_renewal – presentation*

*NHC59\_10C Iceland – Nautical Chart Production and Survey Processing Systems*

*NHC59\_10E NHC59\_ChartProdSystem\_SE*

*Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann* presented Production system for Greenland. Two different production systems at the moment. One for Denmark (CARIS) and one for Greenland (ESRI). MSs discussed the two production system situation.

*Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi* presented a Report of Finnish nautical chart production system renewal project. FTA will use ESRI solutions and tools as a development platform for rebuilding a new nautical chart production system. Planning phase ongoing.

*Mr Evert Flier* discussed NHS plans. NHS have depended on in-house software solutions for too long. Intend to use CARIS and Open Source software.

*Mr. Árni Þór Vésteinsson* gave a short presentation on the situation in Iceland. The HO is currently planning and preparing to take the step to upgrade the chart production system to CARIS Paper Chart Composer and Base Editor.

*Mr. Ralf Lindgren* presented a report on Chart Production System at the Swedish HO.

At SHO in-house developed systems have been in use for decades. The need for a major renewal is urgent and imminent. SHO is working with a requirements specification in preparation for an open procurement. They foresee a stepwise approach when commissioning a new system. A supposed first step is data migration for the ENC part of the data. There is a higher degree of uncertainty with regard to the "cartographic" extra data needed for paper charts. They expect to make more detailed plans for the re-establishing of cartographical products when they have chosen the system.

## C.7 MSDI

*Docs: NHC59\_11D MSDI 2015 (presentation)*

Mr. Jens Peter Hartmann gave a presentation on The Danish Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) - Geo Data of the Sea.

Almost 80 datasets identified associated with MSDI and MSP. GST is responsible for 8 of those datasets. Approximately 40 dataset will in the future have relevance for GST chart production.

**Action #8** Liaise with Nordic Council Marine Group for coordination of MSDI activities

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

### D.1 IHO-EU Network Working Group

*Docs: NHC59\_14A\_Report of the IHO-EU Network WG*

Mr. Noralf Slotsvik presented a Report of the IHO-EU Network WG (IENWG).

The new IHO-EU Network Working Group (IENWG), chaired by France, has met twice since NHC58, in September 2014 and in January 2015. NHC was represented by Norway in both meetings.

- *The Joint European Coastal Mapping Program (JECMaP):* A detailed project proposal has been prepared.
- *EMODnet III:* The chair of IENWG has approached all chairs of HC within Europe about the subject "Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database (BSBD) concept".
- *Marine Spatial Planning (MSP):* The MSP Directive recently launched by EU has a much broader scope than the traditional responsibilities of a HO. IENWG has met with DG Mare to be informed about and discuss the implications of the MSP Directive
- *European Parliament Intergroup for Seas, Islands, Rivers and Coastal areas:* IENWG plans a meeting with the chair of the Intergroup during May 2015 to promote the action of European HOs.
- *Horizon 2020:* The project covers research activities supported by EU 2014-2020. IENWG will stay updated on the Horizon 2020 development.

### D.2 RENC operations

*Docs: NHC59\_15A\_Status PRIMAR 2015*

Mr. Noralf Slotsvik presented PRIMAR Report 2015.

- A new joint RENC PAYS specification has been finalized and implemented.
- A new PRIMAR distribution service, related to data on S-102 format, is under development and testing.
- The PRIMAR Update Tracker (PUT) has been launched as new PRIMAR service.
- A new updated PRIMAR Web Chart Service (WMS) was launched in June 2014.

### **D.3 Admiralty Information Overlay (AIO)**

*Docs: NHC – UKHO Statement*

MSs discussed AIO issues and lack of response from UKHO to a letter sent by NHC Chair dated October 2, 2014. MSs decided to send another letter stating NHC demands to discontinue Admiralty Information Overlay (AIO) in national ENC's produced by NHC Member States.

A letter dated April 15, 2015 was sent to UKHO signed for the chair by Mr. Hilmar Helgason.

### **D.4 IRCC**

*Mr Evert Flier* reminded MSs that the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) will meet in June 2015 (IRCC7 - Mexico City, 1-3 June 2015). A deadline for submission of papers for the IRCC meeting is May 11, 2015. MSs were asked to keep that in mind.

### **D.5 Capacity building**

*Mr. Noralf Slotsvik* followed-up that CB should be a permanent agenda item at NHC meetings (decided at NHC58).

*Mr. Noralf Slotsvik* discussed and informed MSs on ongoing project in Albania where NHS is assisting in building a hydrographic service.

### **E. Any other business**

None.

### **F. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair**

Norway will host next meeting. *Mr Evert Flier* was elected as a new chair of NHC and *Mr. Noralf Slotsvik* as Vice-Chair.

### **G. Place and date of next Conference**

Norway informed that the next Nordic Hydrographic Commission meeting, NHC60, will be held on 11 – 13 April 2016.

### **H. Review of NHC59 List of actions**

*Docs: NHC59\_List of Actions*

The secretary reviewed the actions from NHC59 and they were approved.

### **I. Closing Ceremony**

*Mr Georg Lárusson* thanked the participants for their active contribution to the meeting. The Chair closed the Meeting at 11:00.