

**MEETING REPORT****10<sup>TH</sup> NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
DHAKA, BANGLADESH (23 – 24 FEBRUARY 2010)**1. **Opening Formalities.**

(a) **Address by Host.** The Conference was opened by the Chief of the Naval Staff Bangladesh Navy, Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed. He expressed his pleasure and privilege at being able to host the Conference. He extended a warm welcome to all the delegates and hoped that the administrative arrangements for the Conference were commensurate with its international stature. He stated that NIOHC is an important platform for mutual understanding and cooperation in the field of hydrographic activities in the region. The Admiral also highlighted that the NIOHC forum would facilitate identification of shortcomings to enable the MS to resolve them through mutual exchange of professional knowledge, know-how and expertise.

(b) **Address by the Chairman.** NIOHC Chairman, Vice Admiral BR Rao, thanked Vice Admiral Zahir Uddin Ahmed and conveyed his sincere appreciation and gratitude to the Bangladesh Navy for hosting the meeting and making excellent arrangements to ensure a comfortable stay for the delegates and smooth conduct of the meeting. He highlighted the importance of mutual co-operation and development in the field of hydrography amongst the member nations of the region for promoting greater navigational safety in the area. He also thanked the member states for extending sincere support and cooperation to the NIOHC. He welcomed the representatives from the neighbouring regional hydrographic commissions and emphasised the importance of sharing mutual experiences in matters of hydrographic cooperation for mutual gains besides ironing out any conflict in the otherwise fuzzy boundaries. He stressed the continued requirement of capacity building in the region to facilitate the streamlining of the products while simultaneously improving the multilateral efforts towards enhanced ENC coverage in the area of concern.

(c) **Address by the President, IHB.** Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos, President IHB, explained the importance of the RHC. He brought out the changes taking place within the organisation of IHO, which would enable it to effectively meet the requirement of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He thanked the participants for their attendance and extended his gratitude to Bangladesh authorities for hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> NIOHC.

(d) **Address by the Chief Guest.** Dr Dipu Moni, Hon'ble Foreign Minister of the Bangladesh, was the Chief Guest at the meeting. She expressed Bangladesh's firm and sincere commitment in all types of initiatives towards maritime peace and harmony. She also hoped that through this important meeting Bangladesh would find a common platform to work together to enhance various capacity building measures in the maritime arena. She also opined that the meeting would provide Bangladesh better guidance and help it

to improve the quality of hydrographic activities to ensure effective use of the sea.

2. **Proceedings.** The Chairman welcomed the delegates and thanked Bangladesh Navy for the excellent administrative arrangements.

(a) **Agenda Point No 5 – Administrative Arrangements.** The meeting was held at Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Capt MI Haque, Director of Hydrography, Bangladesh Navy gave a brief outline about the programme and various administrative arrangements. The list of participants of 10<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting is placed at **Annexure A**.

(b) **Agenda Point No 6 – Adoption of Agenda.** The Chairman confirmed from the delegates about the receipt of the Agenda for the meeting and requested for comments, if any. The delegates from the member states concurred with the Agenda and the Agenda for the 10<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting was adopted.

(c) **Agenda Point No 7 – Review of Action List from the 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Meeting.** The Action Taken Report of the pending points of 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting was reviewed by the Chair and requested member states to confirm the status of the actions. The Action List of the 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting is as follows:-

9 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC Action Number	Action	Action By	Status
9.0	IHB to complete task of getting MS to sign revised Statutes	IHB/MS	IHB stated that three countries namely Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Egypt from the region are yet to sign the Statutes. Point existing since 8 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC. IHB requested to follow up with MS.
9.1	MS to pursue completion of their country's ratification of the amended IHO Convention.	MS	MS to approve the amendment at an early date.
9.2	Chair to provide review NIOHC disaster response contacts and plans, for review by MS, with minutes of 9 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair / MS	MS stated that the disaster management in their countries are not coordinated by the HOs and several agencies are involved in the disaster management. Since this point is also in the Agenda of 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC, it was decided to undertake detailed discussions then.
9.3	Within the next 6 months, Chair to request confirmation that points of contact in event of emergencies remain able to provide information required by IHO CL89/2005 within 72hrs of the request being made	NIOHC Chair	MS requested to forward the data to IHB under intimation to the Chair.

9 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC Action Number	Action	Action By	Status
9.4	Agenda 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC to include session Western Marine project management, experiences, etc	France	Included as Agenda No. 12 in 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC
9.5	To update S-55 database on a regular basis( not less then annual).	MS	Data recd from Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UK, France & India. <b>Not recd from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Seychelles, USA, Malaysia &amp; Oman.</b> Chair requested MS to forward and thereafter on regular basis.
9.6	Chair to write to MS on importance of completion and updating of S-55	Chair	Completed
9.7	UK to provide lecturer for CPRNW MSI Workshop in India (Venue & date to be decided)	Chair / UK	<b>Completed.</b> Chair brought out that India could not attend the MSI workshop held at Muscat in Oct 09 due to difficulty in obtaining visa. Chair stated that the necessary administrative arrangements are required to be looked after by the host country for smooth conduct of any workshop / seminar. President IHB also reiterated the same.
9.8	MS to provide details to India on the progress of their INT Chart production. Thailand to be allocated INT Nos for 04 charts.	India /All MS	On query from the Chair to IHB about the allocation of INT Chart Nos, President IHB stated that the INT Chart Nos are to be allotted by RHCs and IHB updates only S-11. Chair to allot INT Chart Nos to Thailand.
9.9	India to produce a status report regarding INT Chart production in area J and advise IHB	India	Chair stated that the updated status is being presented during the 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC and requested MS to provide updates.
9.10	Response to be forwarded for the France proposal of Djibouti INT scheme revision	Chair / MS	Completed
9.11	Confirmation by MS towards appropriate scale, accuracy standards ENC towards INT key shipping routes along with timeline / scale of production	MS	MS stated that the matter is in process. Chair requested MS to provide updates on a regular basis
9.12	Regional Survey Team prototype operation for joint survey completed. Guidance document & presentation for future projects to be provided to 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC.	US / Pakistan	Pakistan stated that the project was completed and is being presented in 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting.

9 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC Action Number	Action	Action By	Status
9.13	MS to maximize the opportunity presented by World Hydrography Day to raise profile of hydrography, and to contact IHB via letter, with ideas and information about their plans to celebrate World Hydrography Day.	MS	MS summarised the activities in their National report.
9.14	Specialised courses circular to states not represented in the present NIOHC meeting under CBC funding in collaboration with IOC	Chair	Completed.
9.15	NIOHC Chair to collate and put in submission to CBC (9 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC report)	Chair	Chair requested IHB to provide updates on the CBC activities which were presented by IHB.
9.16	CBC to be approached towards policy decision for utilising CBC funds towards equipment funding, sponsoring delegates for attending NIOHC meeting.	Chair / France	IHB stated that CBC does not have provision for sponsoring delegates.
9.17	Formation of S-23 working group of NIOHC	Chair / MS	IHB stated that S-23 pertains to the limits of the oceans and since the present document is about 32 years old, it is required to be redefined. Chair stated since IHB is a technical body of experts and redefining S-23 may have political connotations, status quo on the issue be maintained. He further stated that though S-23 is just a guiding document with no legal sanctity as such, it is bound to be exploited by certain countries for political agenda. Chair requested MS to offer comments. With no comments forthcoming and considering the sensitive nature of the subject, Chair requested MS to deliberate with their respective governments and forward comments directly to S-23 WG.
9.18	Pakistan as INT coordinate for Area 'I' has requested for inclusion of 03 Pak charts in INT Series Area 'I'	Pakistan	Pakistan to take up with IHB
9.19	Chair to confirm venue of 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	Completed
9.20	Chair/Host to discuss date of next meeting and advise MS.	Chair / Host	Completed

(d) After further deliberations pertaining to the issues related to CBC and certain clarifications by IHB, the Action Taken Report of 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC was accepted by the MS.

3. **Agenda Point No 8 – NIOHC Statutes.** Three States viz Egypt, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia have yet to sign the NIOHC Statutes. MS were requested to follow up with their diplomatic missions /concerned official for outstanding signatures and the point has been retained for the next meeting. Oman is requested to indicate to the IHB whether it prefers the Bureau to make the change from Member to Associate Member in the current signed form or a new form to be sent for signature.

### **10<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Business**

4. **Agenda Point No 9 – Report by NIOHC Chair, Noting IHO WP 3.1.13.** Chair stated that NIOHC has achieved quite a few milestones by holding regular meetings and active cooperation and coordination by the MS with a short span of time. He reiterated the importance of hydrographic cooperation between MS towards contributing to the overall navigational safety in the region. He also maintained that the hydrographic cooperation is purely a technical exercise vis-à-vis navigational safety of the region and should be kept free from the political compulsions of the MS. He further stated that restructuring of IHB is being progressed under the able stewardship of Vice Admiral A Maratos to meet the changing and complex challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He also discussed at length about the various important aspects of 4<sup>th</sup> EIHC and IRCC reports.

5. **Agenda Point No 10 – Report by IHB.** President IHB has briefly highlighted the ongoing restructuring of IHB and its importance in view of the changing circumstances and challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He requested MS to provide active support and cooperation for enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the IHB. He brought out several issues pertaining to CBC and urged Chair and MS to utilise the various CBSC avenues for the betterment of the region. He informed the MS that the new definition of Hydrography has been accepted by MS during the 4<sup>th</sup> EIHC, under the approval of the revised IHO Strategic Plan. He also informed the MS that the theme for the next year's World Hydrographic Day is ***“Hydrographic Services – The essential element of Maritime Trade”***.

6. **Agenda Point No 11 – Review Arrangements by MS to Respond to Disasters in Accordance with Annex B of CL 89/2005.** On query from the Chair, Bangladesh stated that the hydrographers from Bangladesh Navy are not associated with the country's disaster management program and hence expressed difficulty in commenting on this aspect. Other MS also expressed the same difficulty and Chair requested the President of IHB to state the exact scope and nature of the arrangements. President IHB explained that after the 2004 Tsunami disaster MS, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> EIHC, tasked the Bureau to develop a Marine Disaster Strategy for the Organisation. MS have approved the strategy presented to MS through CL 89/2005 dated 06 September 2005 in which the various actions required to be put in place by MS, RHCs and the Bureau are described in detail. It has been accepted that for the proper coordination of possible actions needed at regional level, a list of focal points of contact needs to be maintained. This list can be posted on the IHO website under the NIOHC. The coordination is needed for the identification of possible damages in coastal and marine facilities, the actions that need to be taken for the evaluation of the damages, the production of new charts or revision of the existing ones and the

promulgation of necessary MSI. Chair thanked the President of IHB for clarifying the issue and further opined that the role of the Hydrographers is only after the occurrence of disasters and not towards the management of the disasters; which falls into the charter of different agencies in the countries. After further deliberations, Chair requested MS to forward the name of the Nodal Hydrographer of the concerned HO to IHB under intimation to the Chair.

7. **Agenda Point No 12 – National Reports.** MS presented short briefs highlighting salient aspects of the National Reports. President IHB made a presentation on behalf of France, which could not participate in the meeting, explaining the scope, status and future work of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway. The salient points of the National Reports are as follows:-

(a) **Bangladesh.** Bangladesh stated that existing dimensions of INT charts related to the relevant area of Bangladesh (INT 7425 & 7426) is not very accurate, therefore it needs minor adjustment. In addition, it has been noticed that Northern part of INT 7428 chart has covered large land area which is not relevant to international navigation. Moreover, the chart did not cover relevant sea area around St Martin's Island which lies near the international shipping route. Considering the safe international navigation through established sea route, Bangladesh proposed to re-adjust the area of INT chart 7428 keeping its dimensions as it is stated in M-11. The coordinates of the Bangladesh INT charts are included in its National Report. Chair requested Bangladesh to consolidate and forward the specific proposal so that India could coordinate to resolve the issue. Bangladesh also brought out the issues pertaining to the ENC training conducted by UKHO. It stated that the ENC training, which is conducted in three phases, should be combined so that it would benefit the countries for production of ENCs. Chair brought out that during 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC, India offered to provide On-job training (OJT) at NHO, Dehradun (India) to Bangladesh for about three months wherein Bangladesh could get its own data and charts and utilise the expertise and infrastructure of NHO to produce the ENC for its own use. He further stated that India would like to re-offer the same again for consideration of Bangladesh.

(b) **India.** India flashed the latest equipment and technology being used / inducted. It stated that apart from the fleet of eight ocean-going survey ships, India is constructing six catamaran-hull survey vessels for coastal surveys which are being inducted starting from end 2010. India also highlighted various capacity building measures undertaken with Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles and also the active participation in the cooperative mechanism for the safety, security and environmental protection of Malacca & Singapore Straits.

(c) **Pakistan.** Hydrographer Pakistan Navy briefed about the capabilities and tasks being undertaken by the department regarding hydrographic surveys, production of paper charts vis-à-vis ENCs, in addition to the promulgation of MSIs. He also presented to President IHB the survey report of Seychelles jointly conducted by PNHD, US, Seychelles, Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia. Pakistan is working on the installation of national network of automatic tide gauges along the coast under UNESCO/IOC project for

Tsunami Early Warning System. One tide gauge is working at Karachi and three more gauges will be installed by the end of the year 2010.

(d) **Mauritius**. Mauritius stated that it does not have any hydrographic unit presently and sought India's assistance on many occasions for undertaking hydrographic surveys. It sought assistance from NIOHC for setting up hydrographic unit so as to enable it to undertake small hydrographic surveys within the lagoon.

(e) **Oman**. Oman stated that it is planning to establish a suitable organisation for the production of ENC's. It brought out that new editions of the existing navigational charts have been published. It has deputed its officers to UK and Singapore for participating in courses as part of the capacity building initiatives.

(f) **Thailand**. Thailand stated that it is planning to produce 42 ENC cells for the main Thailand shipping routes (covering ten shipping routes) out of the total of 78 cells. It has already finished production of 30 cells with 3 are being produced shortly. The remaining 9 cells will be produced by 2012.

(g) **UK**. UK stated that it has produced 123 ENC cells covering the entire region thereby ensuring complete coverage of the region. It clarified that as and when the countries within the region produce their own ENC cells, these cells will be accordingly withdrawn. It further stated that it is actively pursuing the capacity building measures in the region.

(h) **USA**. USA stated that it has produced only US specific ENC's.

8. **Agenda Point No 13 – Review of Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting in NIO Region**. The status of the hydrographic surveying and nautical charting in the region was discussed by the MS and the Chair expressed satisfaction over the progress made by the MS. Chair urged MS to provide regular updates on S-55 (C-55) as and when they occur.

9. **Agenda Point No 14 – Promulgation of Radio Nav Warnings and MSI within NAVAREA VIII**. India gave a brief presentation on the methodology of promulgation of Radio Nav Warnings and MSI within NAVAREA VIII. Chair requested National Coordinators to provide continued inputs to the NAVAREA Coordinator. He stressed the importance of validating the inputs prior to forwarding it to the NAVAREA Coordinator since some instances have occurred in the past wherein the wrong inputs were received and subsequently promulgated leading to awkward situations. President IHB stated that the Arctic area has been covered by five new NAVAREAs. Russian federation, Norway and Canada have accepted to become coordinators in these NAVAREAS, and it is expected to become operational at the end of 2010. Canada has coordinated the required actions for the establishment of an Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission. It is expected the first meeting to be organised before the end of 2010.

10. **Agenda Point No 15 – Report by INT Chart Coordinator.** India gave a detailed presentation on the INT Chart status to the MS. The consolidated status along with the comments of the MS is as follows:-

INT Chart No	Originally Allotted	Present Status	Balance	Total Charts	Remarks
<b>OMAN RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
749 7170 7172 7173 7015	05	03	02	05	Oman to give updated status
<b>PAKISTAN RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
751 7312 7019	03	03	00	03	Completed
<b>THAILAND RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
----	05	04	01	05	Thailand to give updated status. INT Chart Nos allotted by India.
<b>INDIA RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
54 (numbers)	54	49	05	54	INT 756 & 757 being published in 2010. INT 755, 7365 & 7419 will be published later.
<b>FRANCE RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
7004 7114 7115 7118	04	04	00	04	Completed
<b>USA RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
7112	01	01	00	01	Transferred to UK for production
<b>BANGLADESH RESPONSIBILITY</b>					
7425 7426 7428 7430	04	01	02	04	Bangladesh stated that INT 7430 does not pertain to Bangladesh. To be reviewed and commented by India. As per Bangladesh, only 02 INT charts are balance out of 03 (excluding INT 7430)



UK RESPONSIBILITY					
73 (numbers)	68	73	00	68+5	Produced additional INT 703, 704, 707, 758 & 7112

11. **Agenda Point No 16 – ENC Issues.** The Chair highlighted the importance of the ENC coverage and urged MS to ensure complete coverage of the top 2000 ports and associated routes by 2010. UK stated that complete coverage of ENCs has been achieved in the region for the top 800/2000 ports. Chair expressed satisfaction over the coverage and stated that it was a positive development for the region and complimented MS for cooperation and coordination. India clarified to all the MS that the paper INT chart producer is also the relevant ENC producer and MS are not required to produce these ENCs on their own. India stated that they would, in due course, become a RENC or a sub-RENC.

12. The specific issues pertaining to the ENC were discussed at length and are appended below:-

(a) **Update On The Identification Of Key Shipping Routes And Ports Within The NIOHC Region.** The Chair requested UK to provide an update on the ENC coverage in the region. UK stated that all the routes and top 800 ports have adequate coverage owing to the concerted efforts by MS and assistance of UKHO. It clarified that the GB cells would be removed subsequently as and when the relevant National ENCs for the areas are available. There have been some issues with datum transformations (especially with Archipelagic States) and more ENCs are needed to the North of Sumatra. Further, the coverage of the Western approaches to the region would improve on completion of the West Indian Ocean Marine Highway surveys.

(b) **ENC Scheme And Timescales For Production.** The Chair requested MS to provide the update on their coverage and plans. Pakistan stated that their coverage is complete. Bangladesh stated that UK have already completed coverage of their waters but they did have plans to produce their own BN ENCs (both INHO and UKHO offered to assist). IHB reminded the MS that during the previous IMO NAV sub-committee meeting, it was reported that there were no significant gaps in the coverage. Mauritius reported that INHO has been assisting them with the production of their ENCs. Thailand reported that they have completed 30 of their 42 cells. The remainder needed re-survey as there were problems with the datum shifts. Oman reported that their area was covered by GB ENCs. India reported that their coverage is complete. UK stated that the coverage is beginning to be less of an issue but highlighted the real need of MS to tackle the issue of overlapping data (both internally and with neighbouring nations).

(c) **Identification Of Producer Nations.** This item was no longer applicable and was removed.

(d) **Assistance With ENC Production**. Bangladesh, Oman, Pakistan and Thailand expressed their gratitude for external assistance from the other MS. Both INHO and UKHO offered further assistance (and on the job training) to Bangladesh to assist in the production of BN ENCs. UKHO further stated that they would be prepared to maintain the BN cells if Bangladesh felt that they could not afford the necessary software and hardware.

(e) **ENC Distribution Including RENCs**. The Chair requested UKHO to brief the MS about the various distribution routes available. UK explained that IC-ENC and PRIMAR were in discussion to try and ensure that their models are more closely aligned. UK further explained the need to ensure consistent licensing arrangements. The Chair requested IHB for their opinion on licensing. IHB clarified that IHO do not have a policy on the licensing issue but recommended to consider flexible licensing by MS. The Chair requested UK to forward a communiqué to the relevant MS of NIOHC describing the reasons why flexible licensing should be allowed and also identifying those nations that have already agreed to this.

13. The Chair asked UK if they could give an update on “Google Water”. UK stated that they believed the Google has been given access to GEBCO data but further brought out that whilst the data is accurate, it should never be used for navigation. IHB confirmed this position and suggested that HSCC should look into this issue as they were aware that Google is planning to include larger scale data.

14. UK requested MS about the periodicity of updation of paper charts and ENCs. MS stated as follows:-

- (a) **Bangladesh** – Updates when change occurred.
- (b) **India** – Fortnightly NTMs and immediate dangers through Radio Nav warnings. ENCs in tandem.
- (c) **Oman** – Monthly NTMs and dangers through IMMEDIATE NOTICES.
- (d) **Pakistan** – Updates when change occurred and immediate dangers through nav warnings.
- (e) **Thailand** – Monthly Updates.

15. The Chair requested UK to explain the contents of the recent letter sent to MS regarding the EXPSOU=2 issue. He also requested IOC to comment on the ECDIS not generating alarm for this issue. UK explained in detail the reasons why this has occurred. IOC commented that the issue is not under their mandate.

16. IHB stated that the overlapping data is an issue that needs to be resolved by clipping data to a cartographic boundary. However, he recognised that some nations could face difficulty on this front and further stated that if neighbouring nations could not agree a limit to clip the ENCs, then perhaps some End User Providers would be able to clip the data before distributing.

17. At the end of the discussion, India stated that their ENCs would be harmonised and edge-matched (seamless) once there HDB is completely installed and integrated.

18. **Agenda Point No 17 – Capacity Building.** The Chair informed the MS about the different routes available for the provision of Capacity Building. He clarified that the assistance is not only available from IHB but also from other MS by way of bilateral arrangements and from organisations like IOC. IOC informed the MS that they had trained over 70 people in the NIOHC and would like to combine their efforts with those of the IHB. UK brought out that regular training capsules for MSI and ENC training are conducted under CBC. Bangladesh and Oman stated that they were not given complete ENC training resulting in difficulty in the production of ENCs. Other MS also voiced concerns about the limited participation in the various training capsules under CBC. Chair requested MS to forward specific training proposals to CBC under intimation to the Chair. UK stated that the following countries requested for the CBC training in the coming year:-

- (a) Bangladesh - 3 x ENC
- (b) Oman - 2 x ENC and 1 x Multibeam
- (c) Saudi Arabia - 2 x ENC
- (d) Thailand - 2 x ENC

19. The Chair requested all MS to forward their current requirements within 30 days so that a request could be submitted before the next CBC meeting. India reiterated their offer for on-the-job training in both surveying and ENC production. The Chair suggested seeking theoretical training from UKHO whereas practical training could be imparted by INHO.

20. President IHB brought out that considerable efforts and funds of CBSC are utilised for training the MS personnel on various hydrographic aspects. He requested Chair to examine the CBSC training issues of the MS in totality and to ascertain the number of personnel trained by CBSC and their present employability. He brought out that several MS deputed their personnel for CBSC training capsules who, due to the local compulsions of the MS, were subsequently employed in non-hydrographic billets resulting in wastage of efforts and funds of CBSC. He requested Chair to collate the information regarding the number of personnel from the region trained by CBSC, the training capsules undertaken, which country imparted training and their present employability and forward the same to IHB for taking up the specific issues with CBSC.

21. Chair, thereafter, requested MS to forward the above-mentioned details so that it could be collated and forwarded to IHB. He further urged MS to forward the specific training proposals to the Chair at least three months in advance from the date of NIOHC meeting so that the proposals could be consolidated and discussed during the NIOHC meeting. Considering the specific requirements of the region, UK suggested NIOHC to take up the consolidated training requirements directly with the CBC which the Chair agreed.

22. Chair recommended that a letter could be sent by the Chair to MS requesting for the CBC requirements before future NIOHC meetings so that the issues could be discussed at length. The CBC requirements could include information on what a particular MS require, why and how it will benefit them. INHO and UKHO agreed to look into how they could work together in the region to deliver some joint training.

23. Chair acknowledged the considerable efforts of the IOC UNESCO for enhancing the capacity building in the region. Mr Dmitri Travin of IOC stated that significant capacity building in the region was achieved towards production of coastal bathymetry in countries such as Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bangladesh and Mauritius through IOC COAST MAP IO.

24. Chair asked IHB about guidance for the industrial participation during the NIOHC. He stated that CARIS approached NIOHC for setting up a small workshop about the latest technological developments and its products. President IHB stated that no specific guidelines exist for the industrial participation but stated that it's entirely up to the RHCs to take a call on that. He however cautioned that the industrial participation could be permitted only on the technical issues and should in no way assist the vendors in furthering their commercial interests. He further suggested that the RHCs could invite the industrial participation wherein a separate session could be slotted for the vendors for discussing only the technical matters of interest of the MS.

25. **Agenda Point No 18 – Results of 4<sup>th</sup> EIHC.** President IHB briefed the MS about the results of the 4<sup>th</sup> EIHC held from 02 – 04 June 2009 at Monaco. He stated that the new definition of Hydrography was accepted during the conference. He discussed at length the proposals and decisions taken during the conference and requested MS to go through the proceedings hosted on the IHB website.

26. **Agenda Point No 19 – Progress/Problems with the ratification of the Protocol of Amendments to IHO Convention.** Towards restructuring of IHB, President IHB stated that the protocol of amendments to IHO convention was approved by the countries namely Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Cuba, Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, UK and USA. He requested the MS to approve the protocol of amendments at an early date.

27. **Agenda Point No 20 – Any Other Business.** Chair asked MS about any other issues which require discussions. UK brought out Indonesia's request for joining NIOHC. Chair stated that the countries were most welcome to join the NIOHC but they are required to attend at least one meeting as Observer and their inclusion can be approved by the MS as permanent member. Alternatively, the country can send a request to the Chair directly which can be routed to the MS for seeking approval and the country can then subsequently become the permanent member and attend the forthcoming meeting.

28. **Agenda Point No 21 – Review of 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Decisions & Actions.** Since the action taken report of the 9<sup>th</sup> NIOHC meeting was already approved by the MS, Chair asked for any specific comments / suggestions by the MS. No comments / suggestions were put forth by the MS.

29. **Agenda Point No 22 – Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman.** Chair asked the MS about the nomination of the new Chairman of NIOHC. He proposed UK as the Chairman which was concurred by the MS. Regarding Vice Chairman, Chair suggested that the MS willing to host the next NIOHC meeting could be the

Vice Chairman which would facilitate smooth conduct of the meeting and necessary administrative arrangements. The proposal was accepted by the MS.

30. **Agenda Point No 23 – Date & Venue of Next Meeting.** Chair asked about the volunteers to host the next NIOHC meeting. Since several MS could not attend the meeting, he requested UK, as the next Chairman, to coordinate with the MS to finalise the date and venue of the next meeting.

31. **Agenda Point No 24 – Closing Remarks by the Chairman.** Chairman expressed his gratitude to the Bangladesh Navy, especially Capt MI Haque, for the impeccable administrative arrangements for the meeting and the warm hospitality. He thanked the MS for sparing their precious time to attend the meeting and for their invaluable contribution towards making NIOHC a success. He brought out the importance of the region for the world economy and urged MS to continue to contribute for making the region safe for navigation. He also thanked Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos, President IHB for taking the time and trouble in attending the meeting for providing direction and guidance.

32. **Action Pending List.** The consolidated action pending list of 10<sup>th</sup> NIOHC along with the cardinal dates is placed at **Appendix 'B'**.

**Annexure-A**  
[Refers to Para 2(a)]

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS - 10<sup>TH</sup> NIOHC**

SER	COUNTRY / ORGANISATION	NAME & DESIGNATION	E-MAIL & FAX
1	IHB	Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos President	<a href="mailto:amaratos@ihb.mc">amaratos@ihb.mc</a>
2	Chairman 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC, India	Vice Adm BR Rao Chief Hydrographer to Govt of India	<a href="mailto:info@dataone.in">info@dataone.in</a> + 91-135-2748373
3	Vice Chairman 10 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC, Bangladesh	Capt Mir Imdadul Haque Director of Hydrography, Bangladesh	<a href="mailto:dhydro@bangladeshnavy.org">dhydro@bangladeshnavy.org</a> + 88-02-875 42 70
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**Annexure-B**  
[Refers to Para 32]

**ACTION PENDING LIST - 10<sup>TH</sup> NIOHC**

<b>10<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda Point</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Action By</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
7 & 8 [Action No 9.0 of Para 2(c)]	Saudi Arabia, Malaysia & Egypt to sign the NIOHC Statutes	IHB/MS	Before 11 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC meet
11	MS to forward name of Nodal Hydrographer towards disaster management to IHB under intimation to the Chair	All MS	31 May 10
12	Bangladesh to forward specific proposal to India for changing the limits of its INT chart 7428	Bangladesh/ India	31 May 10
	Mauritius to seek assistance from NIOHC for setting up hydrographic unit by forwarding a suitable correspondence	Mauritius	31 May 10
13	MS to update S-55 (C-55) regularly.	All MS	Ongoing
14	National Coordinators to validate and verify the correctness of inputs prior to forwarding to NAVAREA Coordinators.	National Coordinators	As required
15	Oman to give updated status of INT charts produced.	Oman	31 May 10
	India to allot INT Chart Nos for Thailand	India	31 May 10
	India/.Bangladesh to resolve status of stated INT 7430.	India/Bangladesh	31 May 10
17	MS to forward details regarding number of personnel trained by the CBC, the training capsule undertaken, country imparted the training and their present employment to Chair.	All MS	15 May 10
	Chair to collate the information and forward to IHB for further action.	Chair	31 May 10

	MS to forward specific training requirement to the Chair at least 3 months in advance from the date of next NIOHC meeting for consolidation and discussions during the next NIOHC meeting.	MS / Chair	30 Oct 10
	Industrial participation for the next NIOHC meeting could be sought by scheduling a separate session for discussions on only technical matters of interest of the MS	Chair	31 Dec 10
19	MS to approve the protocol of amendment of IHB at an early date.	MS	15 May 10
23	Date and Venue of next meeting	Chair	30 Nov 10