



## 13<sup>th</sup> NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CONFERENCE



Yangon, Myanmar

19 – 21 Feb 2013

### Minutes

#### 1. Inaugural Session.

Rear Admiral Thura Thet Swe Commander-in-Chief, Myanmar Navy was pleased to host the conference for the first time. Vice Admiral S K Jha, Chairman, NIOHC, thanked Myanmar for hosting the 13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC conference and making excellent arrangements. He emphasized the importance of hydrography because of the increased economic activity at sea, especially in this region and mentioned that the large participation by the stake holders demonstrated the awareness and the attention the area has attracted. He further added that some of the important topics that would be discussed at the conference are the capacity building, INT Charting and ENC production to provide better products to the mariner. The Chairman thanked the previous Chairs of NIOHC for their contribution towards making NIOHC meetings meaningful in the past and bringing them upto the present level of cooperation and coordination. Rear Admiral (retd) Mustafa IPTES, Director, IHB, thanked Myanmar for hosting the conference and gave a brief on the developments in the IHO and renewed importance being given to capacity building, ENC coverage and other aspects. He wished that all MSs will benefit from interaction in general during the conference and assist Myanmar in developing their hydrographic capability.

2. **Conference.** Before the commencement of the proceedings, Lt Oo, MNHC familiarised all participants about the administrative arrangements. To assist in the proceedings of the meeting, the Chairman announced that Cmde V Badhwar would be secretary for the meeting.

2.1. **Agenda and Timetable approval.** The timetable and the agenda was available as part of the list of documents for the meeting. The delegates adopted the timetable. UK suggested that ENC scheming issues for the region be discussed under agenda item 7.1 (NICCWG Meeting) and the shallow water bathymetry for the GEBCO database to Item 8.2 (GEBCO). The chairman noted UK's suggestion and elaborated that the ENC scheme would be addressed by the NICCWG as suggested and if they have any specific recommendations it will be brought before the plenary. He proposed that as such, each of the items including WENDWG Report had been listed separately and will be covered under the respective agenda points. Typing error in agenda point 7.1.3 (New INT

Chart Scheme of Saudi Arabia) was corrected and the Chairman clarified that NIOHC covers only the Red Sea area. Recommendation by France and UK to move Items 13.2 and 13.3 (RENC and WEND-WG) to agenda item 7 was accepted by the Chairman. There being no further comments, the time table and the agenda was adopted.

2.2. **List of Documents.** The Chairman brought the attention of all members to the list of documents posted on the IHO website. The chairman further stated that some of the national reports were not received and these could be handed over during the meeting. There being no comments, the delegates adopted the list of documents provided for the conference.

3. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Minutes Approval.** The Chairman had certain observations as regards election of Chairman and Vice Chairman which he proposed for further discussion in the meeting under Agenda item 13 (Any Other Businesses).

3.1. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Review of Action List.** The action list of the 12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC (Annex A) was reviewed. Elaborating on other items of the Action list, the Chairman clarified that:-

3.1.1. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 4.** IHB clarified that the letters to Egypt and Malaysia had been sent in Mar 2012 and there was no positive response.

3.1.2. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 5.2.** This would be discussed under agenda item 5.1 by the IHB.

3.1.3. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 7.3.** This action pertaining to NICCWG be discussed under this meeting's agenda item 7.1.

3.1.4. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 7.4.** This agenda item pertaining to Capacity Building be discussed during the 13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC under Agenda item 7.2.

3.1.5. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 8.** This being an ongoing process it was recommended for retention in action points for NIOHC13. He reiterated to all MS to update their data in C55 and submit it to IHB.

3.1.6. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 16.** VIMSAS has been included under Agenda item 12.

3.1.7. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 17.** RENC presentation and WENDWG have been included in the Agenda 7 as suggested by France and UK.

3.1.8. **12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda item 17.** The Chairman stated that the theme for 13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC was appropriately chosen and had requested the industry to participate in providing assistance to MSs who are trying to develop their hydrographic infrastructure under Agenda item 13.5.

3.2. There being no further discussions, the Action List and the Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC were approved by the delegates.

4. **NIOHC Statutes.**

4.1. **NIOHC Member Applications.** The Chairman called for States eligible as Observer, Associate or Member status may bring up such requests. The Chairman brought out that Maldives was the only non-MS in the region and has not been participating in the NIOHC. He sought views of the delegates on the agenda item and there being none, the agenda was closed.

<b><u>No.</u></b>	<b><u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda Item</u></b>	<b><u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC ACTION</u></b>	<b><u>ACTION BY</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
4.1		Encourage non-MS for membership	All concerned	On going	

4.2. **Review of NIOHC Statutes.** Introducing the agenda, the Chairman stated that the tenure of the Chairman was fixed for a period of 2 years in the 12<sup>th</sup> NIOHC. In addition, article 1 paras e & f have also been amended to read that Vice Chairman will automatically succeed to Chairman. The fixing of tenure for both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman for 2 yrs needs to be discussed and Statutes amended accordingly. UK suggested using the phrase ‘a maximum of 2 years’ which will allow flexibility. Saudi Arabia and IHB agreed with the UK proposal. IHB also recommended that the outgoing Chairman should not be eligible for Vice Chair as this will give opportunity to other members. The Chairman gave a brief on what was being followed in other RHCs. Thailand stated that 2 years and automatic succession of Vice Chair to Chair helps the organisation and planning NIOHC activities. Bangladesh recommended 1 year each for the Chair and the Vice Chair. It was decided to give more time to the MSs for discussion/consultation and take up this point under other businesses later on. This agenda was brought up subsequently and the Chairman once again brought up two points viz. should the tenure of the Chair and the Vice Chair be 2 years each and secondly, automatic succession of the Chair by the Vice Chair. Saudi Arabia stated that with eight members and 2 year tenures each, it will take atleast 16 years which is not healthy and therefore supported 1 year each to ensure faster rotation amongst the MSs. Thailand once again recommended 2 years each for Chair and Vice Chairman which gives time for consolidation and preparation for the meeting. Bangladesh recommended 1 year for each with automatic succession. UK stated that rotation is a fundamental requirement and there is need for maintaining consistency, therefore recommends one year each for the Chair and the Vice Chair. France and Myanmar recommended one year each. Sri Lanka recommended 2 years each. Voting in favour of

1 year tenures with automatic succession was done and 5 MSs agreed except Thailand. Subsequently Thailand also agreed to go with the majority thus bring the votes to the required 6 for amending the statutes.

4.3. **Amending Statutes to allow non-IHO MSs to host RHC Conferences.** Saudi Arabia considered it premature to amend the statutes at this stage because if a non-member does not attend NIOHC meetings how are they expected to host one. IHB stated that this was an attempt to encourage more states to become members. As an example, Seychelles from this HC hosted a meeting in the past. While examining the Statutes it was felt that Para 1d already implied that non-MSs could host meetings and therefore no need was felt to change the statutes.

5. **IHO/IHB Matters.** Mr David Wyatt, IHB Representative briefed the delegates that the new Directing Committee had assumed Office on the 01 Sept 12 and details of the allocation of responsibilities were promulgated in Circular letter 77/2012 dated 06<sup>th</sup> of August 2012. Adm Iptes has been tasked to oversee the IHO Programme 3 concerning Regional Cooperation and Capacity Building while Director Gilles BESSERO will oversee Programme 2, the IHO Technical Programme.

5.1. **Status of Approval.** Mr David Wyatt then went on to update the members on the status of approval of new MSs of IHO. Bulgaria, Haiti, Mauritania, Montenegro and Sierra Leone have all received the required number of votes to be accepted as the member states of the IHO. However the Govt of Monaco has yet to receive the instrument of accession from these countries which shall formalize their membership. Vietnam, Brunei Darussalam and Georgia have applied for membership of the IHO and by Jan 13 the status of approvals are as follows:-

5.1.1. **Vietnam** has 31 of the 52 required votes.

5.1.2. **Brunei Darussalam** has 29 of the 52 required.

5.1.3. **Georgia** has 20 of the 54 required.

5.1.4. The following member states of the NIOHC have not yet responded with their votes:-

5.1.4.1. **For Vietnam.** Egypt, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

5.1.4.2. **For Brunei Darussalam.** Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

5.1.4.3. **For Georgia.** Egypt, India, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

- 5.2. **Suspended/Reinstated Members.** On behalf of the Directing Committee he offered assistance through diplomatic or other channels to the MS in progressing the approvals through their respective Governments. Suriname has become a full member last year after suspension. Congo and Dominican Republic remain suspended. The IHB is working with these states to expedite their return to full membership as soon as possible. IHB urged MSs to pay their membership fees if due.
- 5.3. **Status of Ratification of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention.** The status of approval for the amendments to the IHO convention as on Jan 2013 is that 38 of the 48 required approval of the protocol of amendments to the IHO convention have been received by the Govt. of Monaco. The Govt. of Monaco is yet to receive notification of response to the protocol of amendments from Egypt, India, Myanmar and Thailand which are eligible to be counted. He hoped that these MSs can consider voting and replying on the approval.
- 5.4. **S11 Updates.** The current version of S11 for region J on the IHO website is dated Sep 2009. No update has been received at the IHB since then. India as the coordinator is invited to provide the IHB with regular updates to S11.
- 5.5. **IHO ENC Reference Collection and ENC Availability Catalogue.** Circular Letter 51 of 2012 dated 18 May 2012 reminded MS to provide their ENCs to the IHB in accordance to IHO General Regulation 19. This will enable the IHB to maintain an authoritative and up-to-date reference collection of ENC's and also to create a global information catalogue showing all ENC's which are published. The ENC data will reside in a secure standalone server and used for internal IHB reference purposes only. It will not be provided to any other parties. There are number of members in the NIOHC who have not replied to CL51/2012.
- 5.6. **C55 Updates.** The latest update information in C55 status of charting and surveys World Wide submitted by MS in NIOHC region are as follows:-
- 5.6.1. **Bangladesh.** Last update 15 Feb 2009.
  - 5.6.2. **Egypt.** None.
  - 5.6.3. **India.** 01 Feb 2011.
  - 5.6.4. **Myanmar.** 01 Apr 2008.
  - 5.6.5. **Saudi Arabia.** 30 Dec 2003.
  - 5.6.6. **Sri Lanka.** 01 Feb 2011.

5.6.7. **Thailand**. 01 Feb 2011.

5.6.8. **UK**. 25 Jan 2010.

5.6.9. All NIOHC MS were invited to provide the IHB with regular updates to C55 atleast on annual basis. Envelopes of the composite copy from the website were handed over to the MSs to make any corrections/updates and returned to IHB for uploading. The Chairman proposed that the national reports which contain C55 updates be taken into account also.

5.6.10. **World Hydrographic Day**. The theme for World Hydrographic Day 2013 is “**Hydrography Supporting the Blue Economy**”. The purpose of the theme is to provide MSs with the opportunity to raise awareness of the importance and benefits of hydrography particularly in economic terms which will appeal both to the public, politicians and administrators. The IHB would be providing some supporting material on the website in due course.

5.6.11. **The 5<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference**. This Conference will take place from 06 to 10 Oct 2014 at Monaco. In a departure from the previous conferences it is proposed to set aside time for various bodies to highlight their work programmes. It is hoped that these sessions will provide a platform for discussions and ideas for new work and engagement in areas not previously investigated.

5.6.12. **The International Hydrographic Review**. The IHR provides an ideal opportunity for MS to publicise technical and other achievements in their regions. An editorial board comprising of representatives from each region has been established and the representative for the NIOHC is Rear Admiral KR Vasan from India who is here today. Papers for consideration for publication in International Hydrographic Review should be forwarded directly to the IHB with a copy to the editor.

5.6.13. **The Capacity Building Programme**. Funding for IHO capacity building programme is over the next 5 years forecast to be considerably low. In these circumstances the IHO and the RHC’s will need to explore alternative mechanisms to fulfil their requirements. In many hydrographic regions the involvement of commercial sector has proved mutually beneficial. This has taken the form of industry representatives attending some or all part of the RHC meetings as observers and provision of equipment/instructors in the technical workshops/training.

5.6.14. MS were invited to note the following:-

- 5.6.14.1. Voting for new MSs and the protocol of amendments to the IHO convention including any difficulty being accounted or IHB assistance required.
  - 5.6.14.2. Continue to provide update to S11 through India as coordinator in region J.
  - 5.6.14.3. Respond to CL 51/2012 as appropriate
  - 5.6.14.4. Provide update to C55 in the year book as appropriate and take any other actions as considered appropriate.
- 5.6.15. Amplifying on the IHB report, Adm Iptes gave a brief on the increased contribution of USD 300,000 from ROK and extension of MOU with Japan. IHB was exploring possibilities of other donors. He mentioned about the interaction with the industry, other international organisations like IMO which have training opportunities. NIOHC was a focus area for capacity building.
- 5.6.16. IHB further drew the attention to the topics of discussion in the next Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference since NIOHC views will be required. These are:-
- 5.6.16.1. Strategy for Capacity Building.
  - 5.6.16.2. Implementation of C-55.
  - 5.6.16.3. Progress of Electronic charting.
- 5.6.17. **TALOS C-51.** IHB informed the MSs that Edition 5 of the publication will soon be available. This version contains presentations with animation for teaching purposes.

## 6. **National Reports.**

- 6.1. The members were called to present their National Reports and highlight points which could be discussed in the meeting.
- 6.1.1. **Bangladesh.** Bangladesh presented the National Report and highlighted its requirements for CAT A and B hydrographic and cartographic courses, training for effective utilisation of the multibeam system including processing, ENC production and maintenance. Updated C55 had been submitted in Feb 2013. Instrument of Ratification had been submitted by Bangladesh in Dec 2012. In the follow-on discussions, USA, UK and India agreed to work on providing assistance sought by Bangladesh. IHB requested Bangladesh to update the Yearbook.
  - 6.1.2. **Egypt.** There was no delegate from Egypt. The National Report was also not submitted to NIOHC.

- 6.1.3. **Myanmar.** Myanmar presented the National Report and highlighted requirements in training hydrographers, technical support for installation of multibeam which would be acquired soon, and finally training in GIS and physical oceanography. India and UK offered assistance to Myanmar for port development, deep sea surveys and product generation. Pakistan mentioned about the regional team concept which was supported by the CBSC.
- 6.1.4. **Saudi Arabia.** Saudi Arabia gave an overview of its charting plan and the progress made so far. He stated that one third of the Red Sea will be covered with detailed surveys by the end of this year. Saudi Arabia will be able to provide courses for capacity building from 2014.
- 6.1.5. **Sri Lanka.** Sri Lanka highlighted the need for a deep sea echo sounder, CAT A and B courses, multibeam data processing and ENC production.
- 6.1.6. **Thailand.** Thailand informed that as per their national law, any agreement with a foreign organisation needs to be cleared by the parliament. Ratification process is under processing. Thailand has multibeam systems for river surveys. 44 ENCs are produced by Thailand. C55 had been updated in Jan 2013.
- 6.1.7. **United Kingdom.** UK provided a brief on charts and ENCs produced since the last meeting. The presentation covered various contributions by UKHO towards capacity building and cooperation in the region.
- 6.1.8. **France.** France provided a brief on surveys conducted along the East African coast which fall in the NIOHC region and highlighted its contribution towards IHO activities including capacity building in the region.
- 6.1.9. **Oman.** Oman was not represented however IHB informed on the third day of the meeting that the National Report was available on the website.
- 6.1.10. **Mauritius.** Mauritius brought out the benefits of bilateral cooperation with India and highlighted the surveys completed under the agreement.
- 6.1.11. **Pakistan.** Fresh surveys extending upto 200nm are being undertaken along the coast of Pakistan. Pakistan has produced INT Charts and ENCs in the region and is contributing towards capacity building by way of imparting basic hydrographic training to MSs.
- 6.1.12. **Seychelles.** Not present.



6.1.13. **USA.** USA gave a brief on their contribution towards capacity building initiatives in the region.

6.1.14. **Malaysia.** Not present.

6.1.15. **India.** India presented the new charts and ENC's produced in the National waters and highlighted the surveys undertaken in various countries which had resulted in production of latest paper charts and ENC's. The training facilities at National Institute of Hydrography, Goa offering Cat A and B courses were highlighted as contribution towards capacity building.

## 7. **NIOHC Committees, Working Groups and Commission Representative Reports.**

7.1. **NICCWG Meeting.** On the sidelines of the meeting, the NICCWG met and had detailed discussions on charting issues in the region. INT coordinator summarised the discussions in the NICCWG and presented it to the MSs as follows:-

7.1.1. Bangladesh planned to introduce a few more INT charts along the east coast of Bangladesh. It was recommended to Bangladesh that before the proposal could be accepted, Bangladesh may consider evolving a common scheme in the range band 50,000 to 75,000 in consultation with Myanmar. This recommendation was accepted and Bangladesh would finalise details in the next three months. Since UKHO was already producing INT Charts in the area, they would be part of the discussions. It was also accepted by Bangladesh and India in the NICCWG to withhold the production of INT 7425 with its revised coordinates and scale till the arbitration is completed at the PCA, Hague.

7.1.2. Oman had provided information on its INT Chart Scheme. The current status was not known although some of these charts fall in RSAHC. It was decided to obtain the latest status from Oman for INT Charts that partially fall in NIOHC region to update records.

7.1.3. Thailand has proposed production of INT 7033. India has offered to share data for this chart and conduct surveys jointly with Thailand for covering up the area.

7.1.4. A few issues regarding ENC's were presented to all members and would be resolved bilaterally with UKHO.

7.1.5. **INT Coordinator's Report and Update on S-11.** Cmde V Badhwar, INT Chart coordinator gave a presentation on the status of S-11 and the proposals discussed in the NICCWG. A draft updated S-11 would be circulated to all members before finalising and sending to IHB.

<u>No.</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda Item</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC ACTION</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
	7.1.5	Update S-11	INT Coordinator	30 Apr 13	

7.1.6. **Proposal for New Scheme of INT Charts by Saudi Arabia.** Saudi Arabia was planning to produce national Charts and equivalent ENC's along the Red Sea Coast. After discussions in the NICCWG it was agreed by Saudi Arabia that the INT scheme on 500,000 scale may be produced. A request for INT chart allocation will be forwarded by Saudi Arabia to the coordinator in due course. The 150,000 scheme which was not discussed in NICCWG will be taken up in the next meeting.

7.1.7. **India to take up Producer Nation for Maldives.** India stated that they had produced three charts covering Male and northwards. These are based on the latest surveys carried out by INHO. There have also been some satellite derived bathymetric surveys by France. No decision could be arrived at in the NICCWG since no communication could be progressed with Maldives.

7.2. **Capacity Building.** Mr Jeff Bryant, CB co-coordinator presented an update to the meeting on the CB activities. The activities covered technical visits to Bangladesh, Mauritius and Seychelles. MSDI course in Srilanka had been completed. Myanmar attended an ENC course in Vietnam. He highlighted the CB 5 year programme. He brought out that 3 of the 4 submissions were approved by the CBSC (Technical visit to Eritrea, Sudan; Basic ENC production course; Advanced Chart Production Course for Sri Lanka; MBES Processing course was not accepted). He proposed that the 5 year plan be reviewed at this meeting so that necessary revisions can be taken up with CBSC. The 2014 plan include a technical visit to Jordan, an MSI course, a basic hydrographic survey course, a law of the sea workshop, another MSDI management, seabed classification, water level work shop. This was followed by details of how the CBSC procedures are followed for approval due to limited funds. Priority was generally given to the phase 1 development projects and collective proposals. He proposed technical visit to Jordan, MSI Course and Basic Hydrographic Course all being Phase 1 activities for the region. Sudan mentioned that they had a technical visit in 2006 since then they have not received any assistance. IHB clarified that only about 13% of the proposals are getting funded by CBSC due to limited resources. He recommended that NIOHC should consider requirements in each level. The discussions went on to possibly invite IOC for the next NIOHC to give feedback on trainees in the region. It was decided to give members some time to prioritise the projects and come to a consensus which can

be discussed subsequently. Subsequently, Jeff Bryant briefed the members on the revised proposals received from the MSs and detailed discussions followed where Bangladesh did not agree with the outcome of the findings. It was decided to delink requirements of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Myanmar from Maldives, Sudan and Seychelles. Sudan clarified that they **have** not taken any follow-up action on the technical visit conducted in 2006 and requested for one to be put on priority. Chairman further clarified that technical visits to Sudan and Eritrea are already included in the WP. At the end of the discussions, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka reached a consensus for multibeam data collection/processing, ENC production, Paper Chart Production, as priority 1 proposal by Chairman to CBSC for funding. After further deliberations it was also decided that CB-coordinator will additionally propose a technical visit to Sudan for inclusion in the priority list.

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1.	7.1.5	Update S-11	INT Coordinator	30 Apr 13	

## 8. **International Organisations' Report.**

8.1. **IALA and IALA World-Wide Academy.** Radm Jean-Charles Leclair (Retd) gave a detailed presentation on the subject.

8.2. **GEBCO.** A presentation by Dr Rochelle Wigley brought out that GEBCO is one of the most authentic bathymetric data set which is used to produce various products including ocean charts. GEBCO has been providing training for ocean bathymetry. After the Tsunami, GEBCO has taken the initiative in collecting shallow water bathymetry. The GEBCO data is for use by the scientific community rather than for navigation. There is an initiative to produce a grid of the Indian Ocean region by GEBCO because of its geological importance. GEBCO requested for data from all HOs for this initiative on a 500m grid.

8.2.1. **GEBCO Cookbook.** The IHB informed the members that Version 3 of the cookbook has been provided on the IHO website as a link and is a useful training aid to preparation of gridded data.

9. **Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI).** A presentation on MSDI and its Working Group by Andy Hoggarth, CARIS brought out how it can help in good governance. Bathymetry is also valuable to MSDI. 'INSPIRE' was introduced, which was a European initiative.

10. **Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide C-55.** Mr Jeff Bryant, UK, gave a brief presentation on development of C55. The BHC model was accepted by IRCC and

work has begun to enhance the C55 using CATZOCs, source diagrams. Using this model he showed the graphics of the Gulf area which has GB coverage. This showed how the old surveys were with data gaps. IHB requested all MSs to update the C55. IHB had circulated envelopes to members and requested for updates if any. The Chairman requested all to complete the updating of C-55.

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	10	MS to update C-55 regularly	All concerned	15 Jun 13	Only changes if any

11. **Strategy to involve non-member States in RHC Activities.** The Chairman opened the discussions emphasising the importance of engaging non-members in the region to participate in NIOHC meetings. UK stated that as Chairman last year, they had invited all non-members to the meeting and had also offered to pay for their travel and sustenance. No response was received from Maldives, Jordan and Egypt. The Chairman stated that Maldives is sensitive to sea level changes and if this can be used to engage Maldivian authorities. He requested the IHB to take up the matter with the Govt of Maldives. Saudi Arabia suggested that a high level, probably the President IHB to visit these countries and the case be discussed at CBSC/IRCC this year. The proposal was accepted.

<u>No.</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda Item</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC ACTION</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
	11	IHB visit to Maldives and Seychelles	IHB	-	

12. **IMO member State Audits (VIMSAS) (IRCC4/27).** Since there was no representation from IMO, the Chairman informed that there will be mandatory IMO member state Audits from 2015 onwards and recommended this to be part of the Agenda for 14<sup>th</sup> NIOHC.

<u>No.</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda Item</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup> NIOHC ACTION</u>	<u>ACTION BY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
	12	Include VIMSAS as agenda item at 14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	

13. **Any Other Business.**

13.1. **Stakeholders Participation in NIOHC.**

13.2. **RENC Presentation.** Capt Jamie McMichael-Phillips gave a presentation on RENC. RENC was conceptualised within the WEND Principles for IHO members to cooperate in addressing gaps

and overlaps in ENC coverage, compliance with technical standards and to provide consistent high quality data to end users. There are two RENCs, IC-ENC based in UK with a regional office in Australia and PRIMAR based in Norway. These are non-profit organisations operated in accordance with WEND. Currently there are about 39 of the 81 IHO members states that are members of RENC. ENCs are provided to end users through a whole range of service providers. There are differences in operating procedures between both the RENCs. To address this, there was an action placed on them to place ‘Transparency Documents’ on their websites. These were also sent through circular letter 5/2012. Both the RENCs are working towards harmonising their operations to achieve quality assurance. Process has been established to exchange errors in validation and harmonising licensing policy like ‘Pay as You Sail’. RENCs have no part to play in ENC pricing which is decided by the producing HO. The Chairman thanked Capt Jamie McMichael-Phillips for the detailed presentation on the RENCs and recommended this presentation to be included in the 14<sup>th</sup> NIOHC.

- 13.3. **WEND-WG Report.** Capt Jamie McMichael-Phillips, Chair WEND-WG gave a presentation. The primary duty of the group is to advice the IRCC on adequacy of ENC coverage. There are three components, firstly, the WEND principles which were adopted by the Conference in 1997, secondly, amplifications were provided in the form of guidelines in 2008, and finally, further details have been worked on regarding gaps and overlaps and are yet to be ratified. As compared to gaps, overlaps are a more serious issue because the behaviour of ECDIS is not predictable. It was felt that this problem should be addressed by MS/RHCs and not the ECDIS manufacturers. A working group has been tasked to merge all the above three documents into one. The Chairman thanked Capt Jamie McMichael-Phillips for the detailed presentation on the WEND and recommended this presentation to be included in the 14<sup>th</sup> NIOHC.

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	13.2	Include RENC presentation in 14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	
	13.3	Include WEND-WG presentation in 14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	01 Apr 13	

- 13.4. **MSL Report by NAVAREA VIII Coordinator.** Cmde V Badhwar gave a presentation on behalf of the NAVAREA VIII coordinator, India. He gave a brief on the warnings issued in the

region, the status of Navtex and encouraged members to provide navigation safety information through this facility.

13.5. **Industry Presentations.** The agenda was introduced with the theme “**Coastal Charting and mapping with the Latest Hydrographic Technologies**”.

13.5.1. **Jeppesen.** Mr. Michael Bergmann gave a presentation on ‘Data Service Provider as Resource for Hydrographic Offices to support transition to new data standards’.

13.5.2. **IIC Technologies.** Mr. Derrick Peyton gave a presentation ‘Education and Training in Nautical Cartography’ along with what IIC Technologies does and how it contributes towards capacity building.

13.5.3. **Fugro.** A presentation was given by Mr. Paul Seaton on the profile of Fugro and the work being done in bathymetry and LIDAR and capacity building.

13.5.4. **Kongsberg.** Mr. Richard Williams gave an overview of the Kongsberg multibeam products and showed examples of data collected using their systems which reduce post processing time.

13.5.5. **CARIS.** Mr. Andy Hoggarth presented the topic ‘Supporting NIOHC Countries in Coastal Charting and Mapping with the Latest Hydrographic Technologies’. He explained what more can be derived from multibeam data and LIDAR and other technologies with CARIS including water column processing and data management. UKHO gave a brief on how industry, Govt. of Antigua and UKHO combined with CBSC funding. Eleven students from the Caribbean countries had participated for a two week Basic Hydrography. As an outcome, Antigua got a chart at a cost of Euros 25,000.

13.6. **Pakistan.** Pakistan wished to be upgraded from Associate member to full member since there were common concerns like CB matters and INT charts etc. The proposal was accepted by all and the Chairman welcomed Pakistan as a full member of NIOHC.

13.7. **Presentation by Inland Waterways Authority of India.** Cdr PK Srivastava gave a presentation on the hydrographic surveys undertaken by the organisation in the navigable waters in India. He mentioned about the trade with Bangladesh using the Protocol route. Apart from hydrographic surveys, the organisation is providing navigation aids (bouys, DGPS services etc.), cargo handling facilities and dredging projects. The organisation has produced inland ENC's and paper charts and Pilots. IWAI is working on a Project with Myanmar for development of river navigation.

14. **Election of Vice Chairman.** Bangladesh proposed UK to be the Vice Chairman and Myanmar agreed. There being no other candidates, UK was elected as the Vice Chairman of NIOHC.

15. **Date and Venue of next Meeting.** Oman had desired that the 14<sup>th</sup> NIOHC be held in Oman. Thailand proposed holding the meeting in Bangkok as they were the Chairman of NIOHC. Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh supported Thailand and was accepted by the plenary. The Chairman requested Thailand to finalise the dates for the meeting and inform all members. UK proposed to hold the 2015 meeting in Oman with UK in Chair. The Chairman advised that the action can be taken in consultation with Oman.

16. **Approval of the Action List.**

No.	13 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC Agenda Item	13 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC ACTION	ACTION BY	DATE	STATUS
1.	4.1	Encourage non-MS for membership	All concerned	On going	
2.	7.1.5	Update S-11	INT Coordinator	30 Apr 13	
3.	7.2	Submit revised CBSC Proposals	CB Coordinators	01 Apr 13	
4.	10	MS to update C-55 regularly	All concerned	15 Jun 13	Only changes if any
5.	11	IHB visit to Maldives and Seychelles	IHB	-	
6.	12	Include VIMSAS as agenda item at 14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	
7.	13.2	Include RENC presentation in 14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	
8.	13.3	Include WEND-WG presentation in 14 <sup>th</sup> NIOHC	Chair	01 Apr 13	

17. **Closing Remarks by the Chairman.** Vice Adm SK Jha congratulated Thailand on assuming the duties of Chairman and UK being elected as Vice Chairman. He also welcomed Pakistan into NIOHC as a full member. Through the detailed discussions in the meeting, many issues had brought up with the ultimate aim of improving the hydrographic capability and the infrastructure in the region and to provide better coverage in products. He understood that a large number of charts are based on the old data and need to be updated by MSs individually or through data exchange agreements so that the maritime community as a whole benefits. He was delighted to see the way Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Saudi and Thailand had taken steps towards improving their hydrographic capability which, in the years to come will be a huge contributions towards the maritime community. Capacity Building is a challenge for all of us because of the shortage of money

on one hand and meeting all requirements on the other. During the meeting, many questions had come up because every MS wants to derive maximum benefit of the available resources. He requested the co-coordinators of CBSC to take a relook at the demands of the region and meet all requirements to the extent possible. NICCWG had discussions about the region and he was very happy to report that the working group was able to amicably resolve very complex issues and looked forward to such coordination and cooperation amongst MSs in the future. IHB has been kind enough to make efforts in engaging Maldives and Seychelles in NIOHC activities by a possible high level visit to these countries. He thanked the industry representatives for their participation in the meeting and continued support for the development of the hydrographic offices and their infrastructure. He thanked the IHB's new members for their presence and very active contribution in the proceedings of the meeting. Finally, he complemented Myanmar for going all out to take care of the participants and conduct of the meeting and thanked Cmde Tint and his team for being a wonderful host.





**Annex A**  
**13<sup>th</sup> NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC**  
**COMMISSION CONFERENCE**

**Yangon, Myanmar**  
**19 – 21 Feb 2013**

**List of Delegates**

<b>Members</b>			
<b>Country</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Email</b>
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Navy	Captain Sheikh Mahmudul Hassan	dhydro@bangladeshnavy.org
		Lt Cdr Mohammad Minhaz Uddin	minhaz1324@gmail.com
India	NHO	V Adm Saroj K Jha, NM Chairman	inho-navy@nic.in
		Cmde Vinay Badhwar, NM	
Myanmar	MNHC	Cmde Min Thein Tint	Ltyehtuntoo.mnhc@gmail.com
		Cdr Ye Lwin	
		Lt Ye Htun Oo	
		Lt WaiZun Aung	
		Lt Cdr Naing Oo	
		Lt Cdr Lwin Ko Ko Maung	
		Lt Min Htike Soe	
		Lt Thu Rein Min	
		Lt Wai Yan Tin Oo	
		Lt Yan Naing Oo	
		Lt Min Khant Aung	
		Lt Zwe Htet	
Sri Lanka	National Hydrographic Office NARA	Mr. MA Ariyawansa	nho@slt.net.lk
		Mr. SG Samarasundara	Sayuru@hotmail.com

Thailand	Hydrographic Department, Royal Thai Navy	RAdm Charin <u>Boonmoh</u>	sirichumsaeng@gmail.com hydrotech@navy.mi.th
		Capt Chai Chai Luangthongkum	
		Cdr Rittidate Katetong	
		Cdr Matukorn Limsakul	
United Kingdom	UKHO	Mr. Jeffrey Bryant	jeff.bryant@ukho.gov.uk
		Rear Admiral Thomas Karsten	Thomas.karsten@ukho.gov.uk
		Capt Jamie McMichael-Phillips	Jamie.mcmichael-phillips@ukho.gov.uk
		Mr. Tim Sewell	Tim.Sewell@UKHO.gov.uk
<b>Associate Members</b>			
Australia	Royal Australian Navy	Cmde Brett Kenneth Arthus Brace	brett.brace@defence.gov.au
France	SHOM	VAdm Bruno Frachon	bruno.frachon@shom.fr
Mauritius	Ministry of Housing and Lands,	Mr. Abdool Nooranee Oozeer	anoozeer@mail.gov.mu
Oman	National Hydrographic Office	Mr. Hamdan Al Yahmadi	nhooman@omantel.net.om
		Mr. Thani al mahrouti	los@omantel.net.om
		Mr. Ahlam al Kharusi	
Pakistan	Pakistan Navy Hydrographic Department	Capt Muhammad Arshid Javed	hydropk@paknavy.gov.pk
		Lt Cdr Fayyazul Hassan	
USA	Naval Oceanographic (USA)	Mr. Calvin Martin	calvin.martin2@fe.navy.mil
<b>Observer Countries</b>			
Sudan	Sea Ports Corporation	Capt Hashim A Ali Omer	iabudarag@gmail.com
		Mr. Islam Babkir Hassan Abudarag	Harbourmaster19@hotmail.com
		Mr. Ali Mohamed Elamin Hamad	
		Mr. Mahiedin Awad Mohamed Omer	
<b><u>IHO Representatives</u></b>			
<b><u>Organisation/ Company</u></b>	<b><u>Representative</u></b>		<b><u>Email</u></b>
IHO	RAdm Mustafa IPTES (Director)		Mustafa.iptes@iho.int
IHO	Mr. David Jame Wyatt		David.wyatt@iho.int

<b><u>Observers</u></b>		
<b><u>Organisation/ Company</u></b>	<b><u>Representative</u></b>	<b><u>Email</u></b>
GEBSCO Nippon Foundation	Dr. Rochelle Wigley	Rochelle@ccom.unh.edu
GCS, Saudi Arabia	RAdm (Retd) KR Srinivasan	admiralvasan.sa@gmail.com
<b><u>Industry</u></b>		
Kongsberg	Mr. Richard Williams	Richard.williams@kongsberg.com
Jeppesen	Mr. Michael Bergmann (Director)	Michael.Bergmann@jeppesen.com
IIC Technologies	Mr. Derrick R. Peyton CEO	Derrick.peyton@iictechnologies.com
	Mr. Somnath Marthi Vice President – Defence & Ports	somnath.marthi@iictechnologies.com
	Mr. Rajesh Alla CMD	Raj.alla@iictechnologies.com
CARIS	Mr. Andy Hoggarth Marketing and Sales Manager	Andrew.hoggarth@caris.com
IALA	Rear Admiral Jean Charles Leclair	jean-charles.leclair@iala-aism.org
IWA (India)	Cdr. PK Srivastava Hydrographic Chief	
Fugro	Mr. Paul J Seaton	p.seaton@fugro-UAAE.com
State Hydrographic Research Institute, Russia	Captain Dmitry Travin (Head International Cooperation Unit)	di.travin@gmail.com
	Dr. Travin Sergey (Executive Director)	