

NSHC 29<sup>th</sup> Conference  
Brest  
September 2010

Explanatory Note  
Item **A6.1**  
United Kingdom

## **A OPENING FORMALITIES**

### **A6 Review of Statutes**

#### **B6.1 Amendment of NSHC statutes to include Conclusion 11**

##### **Proposal to outline system of Conclusions within NSHC Statutes**

The 2008 review of NSHC Active Conclusions (see EN A4.1) identified a requirement to update the NSHC Statutes. In order to amend the status of Conclusion 11 from “active” to “effected” it is necessary to agree and incorporate a paragraph which outlines the NSHC system of Conclusions.

##### **Relevant extract of 2008 Review - Conclusion 11**

Adopted in 1968, Conclusion 11 (see below) concerns NSHC’s practice of recording its decisions as consecutively numbered Conclusions, to make them more easily accessible than if simply recorded as actions within meeting reports (the more common practice in Hydrographic Commissions).

The system is well established and review of NSHC Conclusions is included in the standing agenda for NSHC meetings as A4. Conclusion 11 could, on that basis, be categorized as “Effected”.

However, in reviewing the status of this Conclusion, it would be timely to consider a number of related elements. The original premise was that consecutively numbered Conclusions would be more easily accessible. Proposal 2, in the report “*NSHC Conclusions – Report of August 2008 Review*” puts forward proposals to improve the online accessibility of NSHC Conclusions. Proposal 2.c, coupled with the reduction in the number of Active Conclusions which will be delivered by the review, should expedite preparation for, and completion of, the standing agenda item for NSHC meetings.

Given that NSHC has operated its system of Conclusions for major policy actions for forty years, it may be inferred that NSHC is content to continue with the system. If that is the case, then it seems appropriate to include a paragraph in the Statutes to outline the system (along the lines of Conclusion 11 wording) and to amend the status of this Conclusion to “Effected”. UK would be content to draft the paragraph and submit as an Explanatory Note to 29<sup>th</sup> NSHC.

##### **Proposed UK wording for NSHC Statutes - new paragraph 3 of Article 19**

3. The Commission shall lay down its decisions in the form of conclusions, to be annexed to the summary; reports to be numbered consecutively and to consist of a preamble containing the main considerations, followed by one or more operative paragraphs containing the actions decided upon and taking into account the provision in paragraph 2 of article 19, of the Statutes of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission.

## Conclusions of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission

Conclusion No.	Place and year of adoption:	Status:
11	Copenhagen 1968	Active 2000

### *Conclusions reflecting the decisions of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission*

The Fifth Conference of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission,

*Considering* that a number of its decisions may influence the work of participating Hydrographic Offices and, therefore, should be easily available and not buried in summary reports, but annexed to these for easy reference,

*Concludes* henceforth to lay down its decisions in the form of conclusions, to be annexed to the summary; reports to be numbered consecutively and to consist of a preamble containing the main considerations, followed by one or more operative paragraphs containing the actions decided upon and taking into account the provision in paragraph 2 of article 19, of the Statutes of the North Sea Hydrographic Commission.