



# **UNITED KINGDOM NATIONAL REPORT**

To the

**1st EXTRAORDINARY ROPME SEA AREA  
HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (RSAHC) MEETING**

**Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
9-11 February 2014**

This report supplements the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website  
(see [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk) → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report)  
and describes UK's activities of direct relevance to the RSAHC region.

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## 1. UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE (UKHO)

### UK Delivery of Hydrographic Services

1.1 The UK delivery of hydrographic services is described in the UK Generic National Report. However, it is worth highlighting the benefits which derive from the close liaison, which exists between UK's Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and UK's maritime administration, the Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA), in providing a co-ordinated approach to hydrographic and maritime safety representation both nationally and internationally.

### UKHO Governance and Targets

1.2 This is described in the UK Generic National Report to the IHO, see [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk) → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report

### UKHO Organisation



1.3 Details of the UKHO's organization are provided in the UK Generic National Report (section 1) together with general contact details. Specific contact details relevant to the RSAHC region are included at the end of this report.

### Production Systems

1.4 This is described in the UK Generic National Report to IHO.

### Cooperation and Partnerships



1.5 The UK is committed to the bilateral arrangements which it has developed in cooperation with other international government hydrographic authorities, covering a range of topics, including the use of copyright data, and also promotes other forms of co-operation between the participants, helping to enhance international maritime safety and protection of the environment.

## 2. SURVEYS

2.1 Details of the management of civil hydrographic surveys in UK Home Waters are provided in the UK Generic National Report, and on the UKHO website. UK's National Hydrographic Committee (known as the UK Civil Hydrography Annual Seminar (CHAS)) meets on an annual basis and provides the necessary breadth of interests to ensure that all surveying requirements are taken into account when prioritizing the work of the Civil Hydrography Programme (CHP). CHAS was expanded in 2007 to include a much wider range of organisations which conduct hydrographic survey, and has been considerable successful in promoting co-operation between these organisations.

2.2 Any requests for survey assistance from other nations within this RHC region will be assessed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), with advice from UKHO. UKHO can also contribute to project management of hydrographic surveys, and has a post dedicated to the phased development of new international survey activity and capability. It acts as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in direct overseas surveying schemes, including UK Overseas Territories and involvement in Regional Hydrographic Commission initiatives. Further information can be obtained by contacting the UKHO International Partnering team ([InternationalPartnering@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:InternationalPartnering@ukho.gov.uk))

### 3. CHARTS

3.1 UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the RSAHC region.

#### Paper Charts



3.2 The following charts have been published since the last RSAHC meeting:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart	Title	Published
2441	7233	Jazireh-ye Tonb-e Bozorg to Jazireh-ye Forur	23/05/2013
2851	-	Masirah to the Strait of Hormuz	17/10/2013
2858	750	Gulf of Oman to Shatt al `Arab	25/07/2013
2888	7199	Jask to Dubai (Dubayy) and Jazireh-ye Qeshm	17/10/2013
3171	-	Southern Approaches to the Strait of Hormuz	17/10/2013
3172	-	Strait of Hormuz	17/10/2013
3404	7213	Ports in Ras al Khaimah (Ra's al Khaymah)	26/09/2013
3405	7215	Ports in 'Ajman, Sharjah and Umm al Qaywayn	26/09/2013
3413	7227	Oil and Gas Terminals in Qatar and the United Arab Emirates	25/04/2013
3736	7258	Mina' Salman and Approaches	28/11/2013
3762	-	Ad Duqm	23/05/2013
3763	-	Approaches to Ad Duqm	23/05/2013
3783	-	Mesaieed (Musay'id or Umm Said)	18/07/2013
3787	7245	Approaches to Mesaieed (Musay'id or Umm Said) and Doha (ad Dawhah)	18/07/2013

3.3 Charts scheduled for publication in the next six months.

- NE 3523 Outer Approaches to Wudam
- NE 3780 Apprs Jabal A- Zannah and Ar Ru'ays

3.4 Charts scheduled for publication in the next six to twelve months.

- NE 3409 Plans in Iran Oman and United Arab Emirates
- NE 3522 Approaches to Muscat and Mina Al Fahl
- NE 3713 Approaches to Abu Dhabi
- NE 3715 Abu Dhabi, Sas An Nakhl and Masaffah
- NE 3950 Mesaieed to Ra's Laffan

## Digital Charts



3.5 As noted in section 3.1, UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the RSAHC region.

### ENCs

3.6 Within the RSAHC region, the UKHO has released a total of 121 ENC cells:

The breakdown of current GB coverage is shown in Table 1 below, limits of the ENC's are shown within figures 1-3.

RSAHC Region Released Cells	
ENC Usage Band	Number of GB ENCs
General (2)	6
Coastal (3)	33
Approach (4)	52
Harbour (5)	36
Berthing (6)	0
Total number of released ENCs	127

Table 1

### ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic commission - GB General Usage Band Coverage

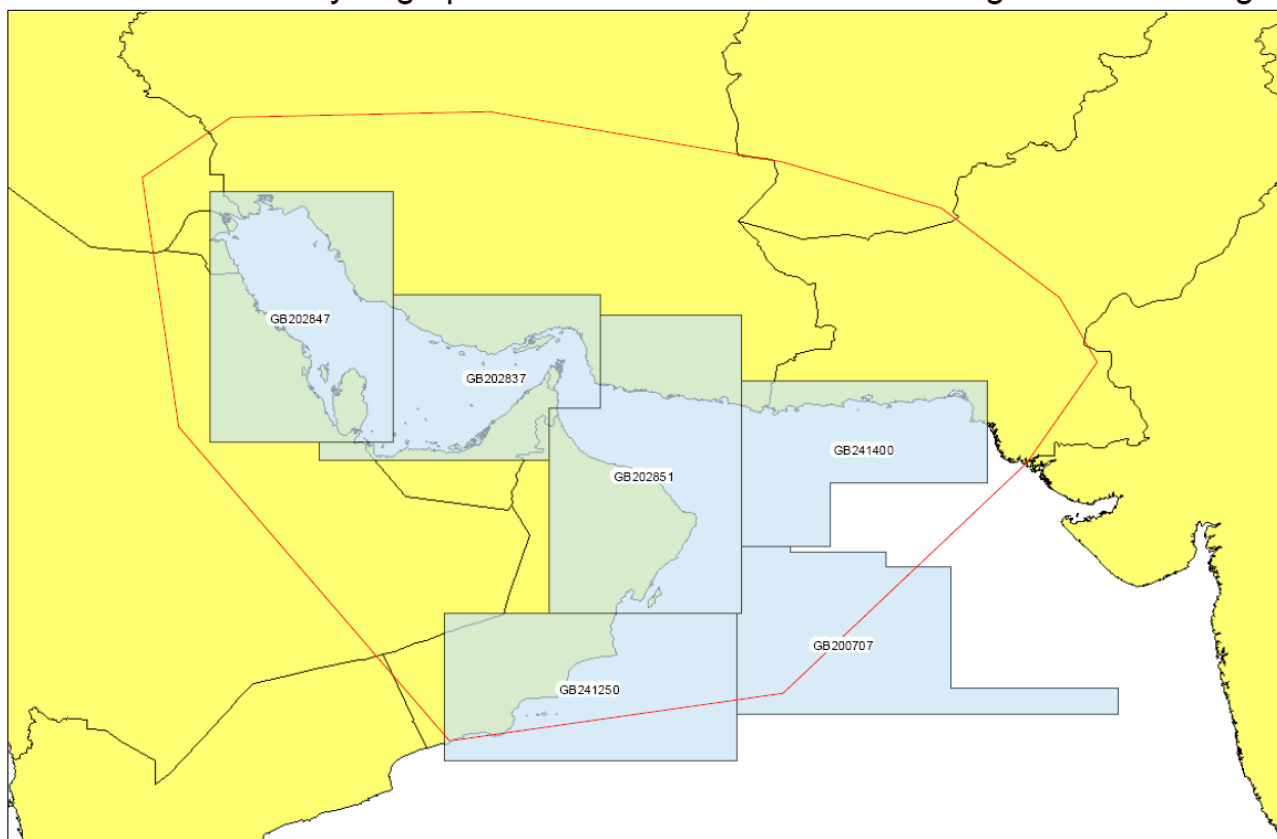


Figure 1

ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission - GB Coastal Usage Band Coverage

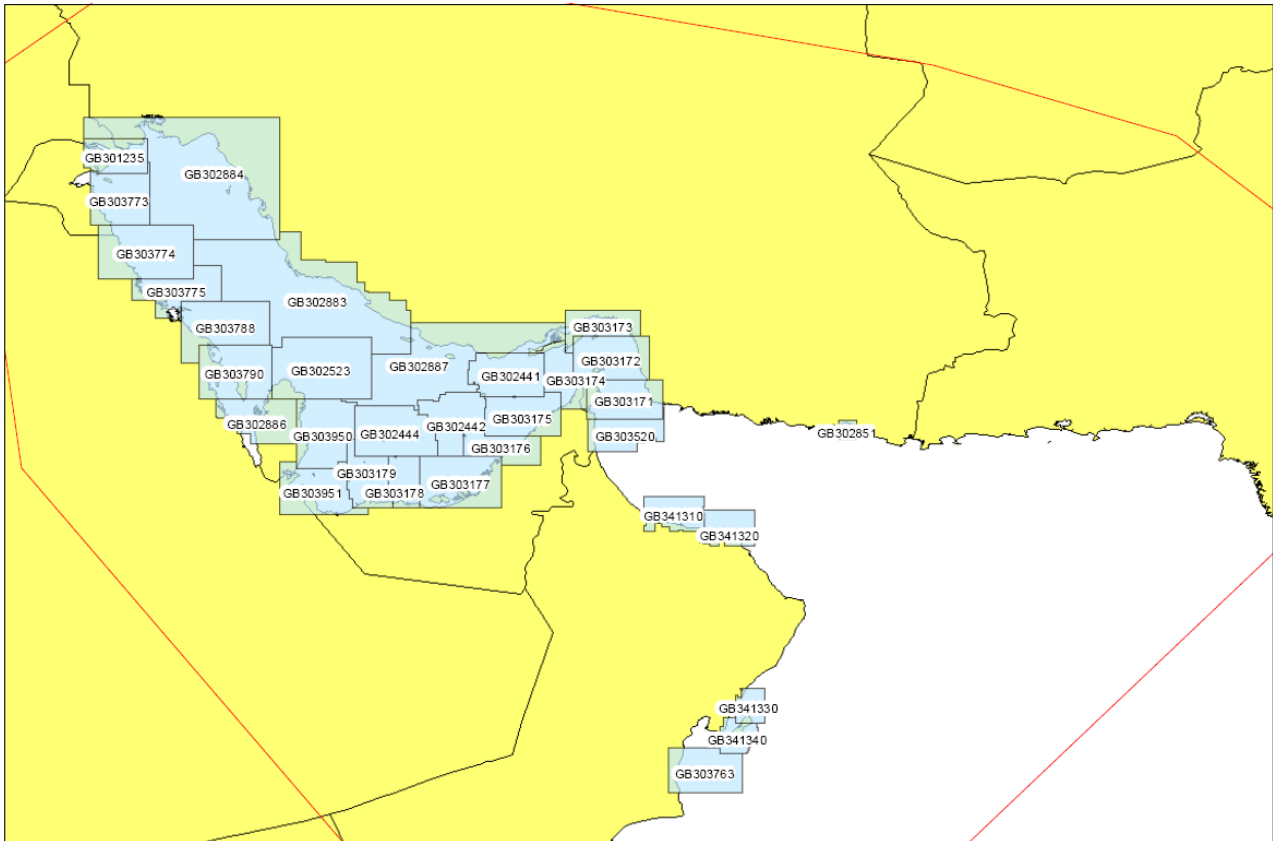


Figure 2

ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission - GB Approach and Harbour Usage Band Coverage

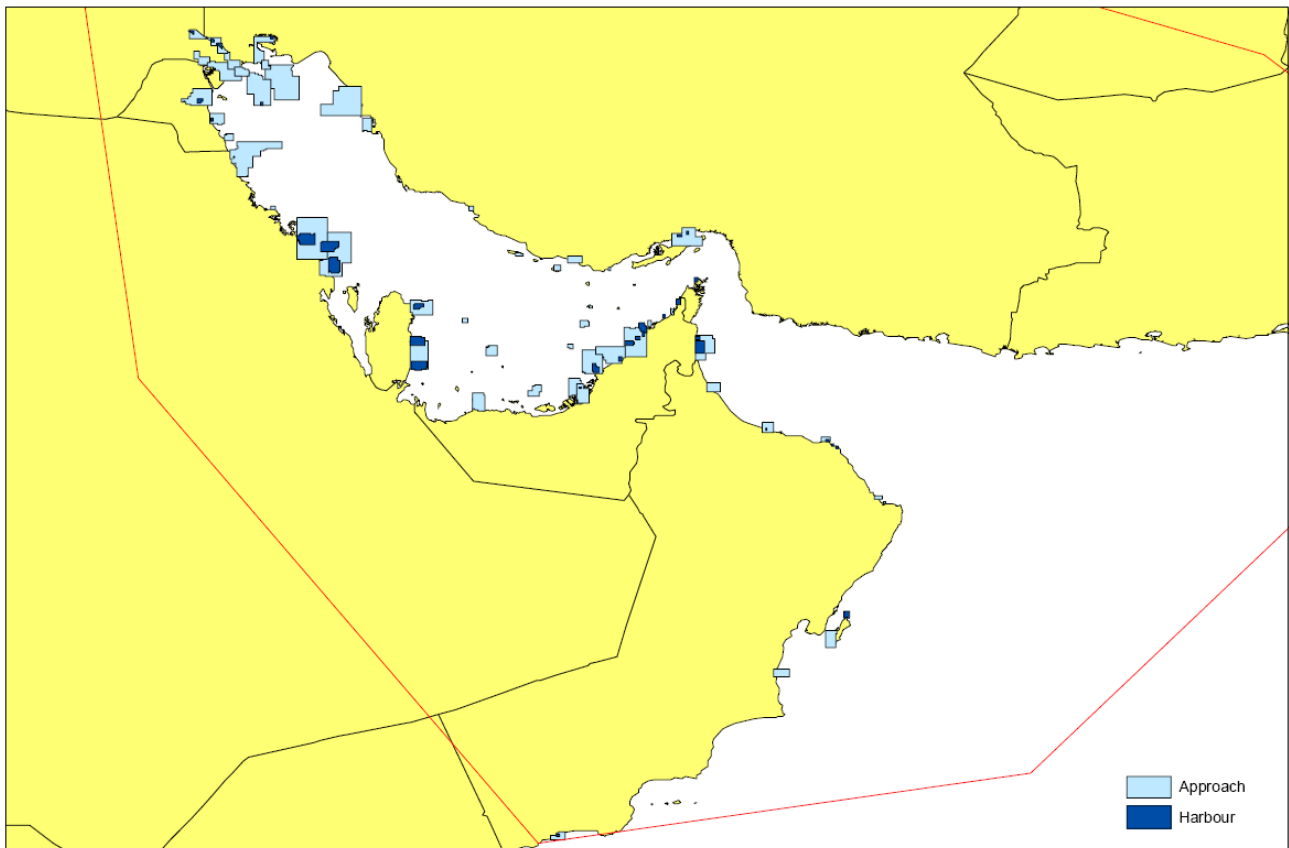


Figure 3

## ENC Distribution

3.7 The UKHO, along with other European hydrographic offices, was a founder member of the IC-ENC RENC. IC-ENC (International Centre for ENC) concentrates its efforts on the validation and consistency of ENC data and leaves the marketing of ENCs to the shipping industry to its value-added resellers and chart agents. Additional details can be found on the IC-ENC website ([www.ic-enc.org](http://www.ic-enc.org)).

## 4. PUBLICATIONS

### Paper Publications



4.1 The current status of Admiralty Sailing Directions in the RSAHC region is as follows:

NP38	West Coast of India Pilot	July 13
NP63	Persian Gulf Pilot	Apr 13
NP64	Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Pilot	Oct 12

### Digital Publications



4.2 The UKHO continues to develop digital equivalents to its existing paper publications; these have advantages to the mariner of providing additional functionality and minimising the task of updating.

4.3 The Admiralty digital catalogue may be downloaded free from the UKHO website ([www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk)); it includes details of all paper and digital charts and publications and is updated weekly. It is a useful tool to check on the ENC coverage within the region and to show the latest edition dates of both charts and publications.

## 5. MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION



5.1 The ROPME Sea Area covers the northern portion of NAVAREA IX, the coordinator of which is Pakistan (who also provides access to SafetyNET). Karachi NAVTEX station is currently not operational, along with Saudi Arabian Station at Dammam. Coastal warnings normally transmitted from these stations are currently being broadcast via SafetyNET until further notice. NAVAREA IX has requested assistance from IHO WNWWS-SC to enhance communication links with the 16 countries within its area of responsibility. Pakistan has provided effective piracy support information via SafetyNET.

5.2 As NAVAREA I Coordinator, UK maintains close liaison with the NAVAREA IX Coordinator. Any information received at UKHO which requires urgent promulgation is passed to the NAVAREA IX Co-ordinator on a H24 basis.

5.3 GMDSS MSI coverage in the ROPME Sea Area is approximately 80%. Administrations should be encouraged to develop their capabilities and infrastructure further and to provide at least Phase One hydrographic capability to promulgate MSI in a timely and efficient manner through their National Co-ordinators in coastal regions, or to utilise the communication facilities of the NAVAREA IX Co-ordinator for navigational warnings.

5.4 Assistance in promulgating Notices to Mariners and other paper and electronic chart correcting material should also be encouraged through co-operation with other hydrographic offices in the region if required.

5.4 The current Admiralty weekly Notices to Mariners are supplemented by daily updates and are available on UKHO website.

## **6. C-55 (previously known as S-55) LATEST UPDATE**

6.1 As described in the UK Generic National Report, UK is committed to providing regular updates to the C-55 entries for UK Home Waters and its Overseas Territories. For the latest update see C-55; we have incorporated the additional breakdown of chart coverage (percentage of metric and WGS84 charts) as requested in IHO Circular Letter 102/2008.

6.2 UK has also provided assistance to update C-55 entries to other countries, where the UKHO retains the primary charting responsibility, recognising that local input remains critical to the maintenance of C-55 as an up-to-date and authoritative reference document. If any country where we have helped in providing the data previously for C-55 requires assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.

## **7. CAPACITY BUILDING**

### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

7.1 UK fully supports the IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee (CB SC) strategy and particularly its emphasis on getting Phase 1 and appropriate Phase 2 capacity in place to enable coastal states to meet their obligations under SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 4 and 9. UK will continue to contribute resources to both CB SC initiatives and to providing bilateral assistance.

7.2 Since the last RSAHC meeting, the CB Coordinator has attempted to organise a 'Port and Shallow Water Survey Course' but with no success. At the last (5th) RSAHC meeting three members indicated an interest in hosting this course; the funding for this activity is still in place but unless we get a solid committed host the funding will be lost, which will be disappointing. On a more positive note High Level (Director Iptes) and Technical Assessment & Advice (Assistant Director Wyatt and R Wilson) visits were paid on the UAE.

7.3 As reported in the UK Generic National Report, UKHO has a post dedicated to capacity building. Its key aims are to ensure that capacity building is properly considered in UKHO activity and that UKHO's capacity building activities are fully co-ordinated. It will act as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in capacity building activities, including UK involvement in regional hydrographic commission initiatives and IHO Capacity Building Committee activities. It will have a particular responsibility for UK Overseas Territories and liaison with UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with overseas High Commissions to generate phased development of capability and new survey activity. Further information can be obtained from Mr Jeff Bryant ([Jeff.Bryant@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:Jeff.Bryant@ukho.gov.uk)).

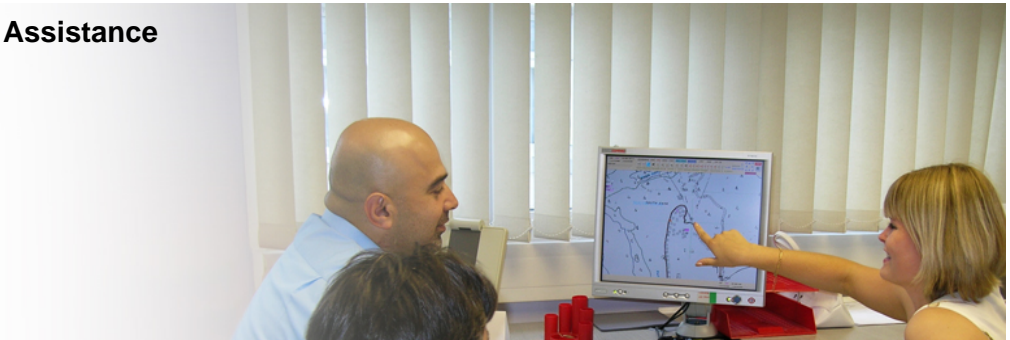


## Cartographic Training provided by UKHO



7.4 A general description of training provided by UKHO is included in the UK Generic National Report. Further details of the training opportunities offered by UKHO can be found on the UKHO website.

## ENC Training and Assistance



7.5 UKHO strongly supports the successful uptake of ECDIS using ENC, and is happy to assist other nations to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs. Details of courses, sponsorship, venues and options for bespoke training provided by UKHO are included in the UK Generic National Report.

## Survey Training at Flag Officer Sea Training - Hydrography, Meteorology and Oceanography (FOST-HM)

7.6 Nationally and internationally certified courses delivered by FOST-HM in Plymouth, are described in the UK Generic National Report.

## 8. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

This is described in the UK Generic National Report.

## 9. OTHER ACTIVITIES

### UK Celebrations for World Hydrography Day

The IHO theme for the 2013 World Hydrography Day (WHD):

*“Hydrography - underpinning the blue economy”*

9.1 The UK WHD event was held at the National Oceanography Centre (NOC) in Southampton in conjunction with NOC, Associated British Ports (ABP) Southampton and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), reflecting the theme for this year “Hydrography – Underpinning the Blue Economy”.



9.2 A networking event, which involved subject matter experts and exhibition material, followed presentations by senior representatives from all four institutions which led onto an open forum session. Guests were invited from across the maritime sector to highlight the value of hydrography to the UK Economy.

9.3 During the evening, the Alexander Dalrymple Award for outstanding contribution to hydrography was presented to William Heaps (Assistant marine Adviser & Hydrographic

Manager, ABP). William received the award stating he felt it represented all the good work done in the commercial hydrographic sector. The award is a symbol of recognition for outstanding dedication and contribution to hydrography and as such is an extremely prestigious award in this sector. It takes its name from Alexander Dalrymple who established the UK Hydrographic Office in 1795 and is regarded as a leading figure in the history of the development of hydrography.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

10.1 The UKHO continues its commitment to carrying forward hydrographic activities through the work of the IHO's Regional Hydrographic Commissions, and notes that each commission has its own particular opportunities and challenges.

10.2 UK has a strong commitment to the ROPME area, through its primary charting and through its continuing interest in developing regional hydrographic self-sufficiency through capacity building measures.

10.3 There is a continuing challenge to link the scarce local data gathering resources into a broad programme of prioritised chart compilations and new editions.

10.4 The provision of adequate ENC coverage, in support of the IMO carriage requirement for ECDIS that comes progressively into force from 2012, presents a significant challenge globally; the RSAHC is progressing ENC coverage.

10.5 With a diverse range of shipping interests in the Region, improving the effective distribution of hydrographic publications and updates remains paramount.

Taunton, February 2014

## UKHO POINTS OF CONTACT

**UKHO Website:** [www.ukho.gov.uk](http://www.ukho.gov.uk)

The general UKHO address is:

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**For bilateral arrangements and other international partnering matters within the RSAHC region, please contact:**

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