

Lateral meeting to discuss the INT Chart catalogue/coverage for region “I”
(Meeting Coordinated by Oman)

During the 1st extraordinary RSAHC meeting and while reviewing the action list, especially those affecting Int. charts and since the int. chart coordinator for RSAHC (Iran) did not attend the meeting, the chairman, on behalf of all member states, selected Oman to coordinate a lateral meeting with candidates from the member of states present. This was held successfully on the 10th of February 2014 to discuss all related issues raised/taken over from the 5th RSAHC in Riyadh.

Oman began the meeting by giving an overview to all attendees on the latest update of the Int. charts catalogue S11, with emphasis on the purpose of International charts, which is to facilitate the provision of minimum sets of charts suitable for the navigational requirements of international (foreign-going) shipping. **Oman** enquires as to who originated the Int. chart scheme and under which terms and conditions? Further, was it made in consultation with affected coastal states and agreed in Int. chart scheme before officially enouncing them in S11?

Admiral Vasan (KSA) highlighted the principle and the function of the International charts and their role as a source of information in slightly small scale charts covering international waters and provided to all foreign-going international shipping. He added that the costal state has the right to decided on the Int. Charts, which covers their home waters, following the concept and the purpose of Int. charts. This is in coordination with neighboring coastal states.

Oman then presented its proposal which is summarized as follows:

Oman's Proposal reviewed the Int. charts originally included in IHO Int. chart Catalogue S11 Part B (Region I) covering the Sultanate of Oman coastline in different scales to minimize the total No. of Oman's Int. charts by withdrawing/deletion some of those charts from the Int. chart catalogue. Especially those of Large and Medium scales which total 20 charts included in the current version of S11.

Oman added that its proposal and all the changes/updates are consistence with IHO standards and follows the principle/concept of Int. charts. It is compatible with both S11 Part A and other Int. charts regulations and specifications i.e. S4. However all views

from IHO/UKHO forwarded by the regional coordinator on the previous proposal submitted was considered and taken into account. These views were carefully translated in the updated version of Oman's proposal. Note that no objections were made by any of the members of state attended this meeting.

Dr. Sulaiman (UAE) had concerns on the UAE Int. charts coverage. He asked for hydrographic data covering their home water, held by other HO's, to assist the UAE to properly review and decide their Int. chart scheme. Also they seek IHO help in urging the concerned HO's to facilitate the exchanging of these data; although this issue is not exactly relevant and not entirely related to Int. chart coverage. However, this issue could be resolved through bilateral arrangements between UAE and other HO's.

UKHO appreciated the **UAE** concerns and further explained the rights of the coastal states in the hydrographic data gathered/collected in their home waters. **SHOM** added that there is a mechanism of data exchanging which is subject to a lot of issues but could be resolved through proper channels. **Oman** finally concluded the meeting by thanking all attendees and urged all member states to review their Int. charts coverage in order to finalize the S11 of this region (RSAHC).



The Meeting Co-ordinator
Commander/ Hamdan al Yahmedi