

Urban Planning & Development Authority



المدينة العصرية
التخطيط والطور العمراني

HYDROGRAPHIC SECTION
STATE OF QATAR

**NATIONAL REPORT OF THE STATE OF QATAR
FOR THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION**

TEHERAN
2-3 MAY 2006

Executive Summary

The Hydrographic Section (HS) of the General Survey Department (GSD) of the Urban Planning and Development Authority (UPDA) provides hydrographic service for the State of Qatar.

Origin of the HS is in the late seventies as Hydrographic Unit in the Ministry of Public Works later shifted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Agriculture and finally today belongs to the UPDA, which is a new government authority established in March 2005 separating from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture.

The HS is currently focused on two main goals:

- Capacity building and
- National Hydrographic Programme

The capacity building could be divided into two phases, where the first phase consists of purchasing a new survey vessel, hydrographic equipment and recruiting and training of staff. Second phase consists of establishing a Cartographic Unit for producing nautical charts and this phase should be concluded in the period of five years.

The HS will try to establish a National Hydrographic Committee (NHC). The NHC should bring together a number of various government agencies, authorities and corporations which have to identify a National Hydrographic Programme.

The HS will extend participation of the State of Qatar in global and regional co-operation and co-ordination. Since 1993, the State of Qatar is approved for the full membership of the International Hydrographic Organization therefore the major step will be to deposit the Instrument of Accession to become a full member of the IHO.

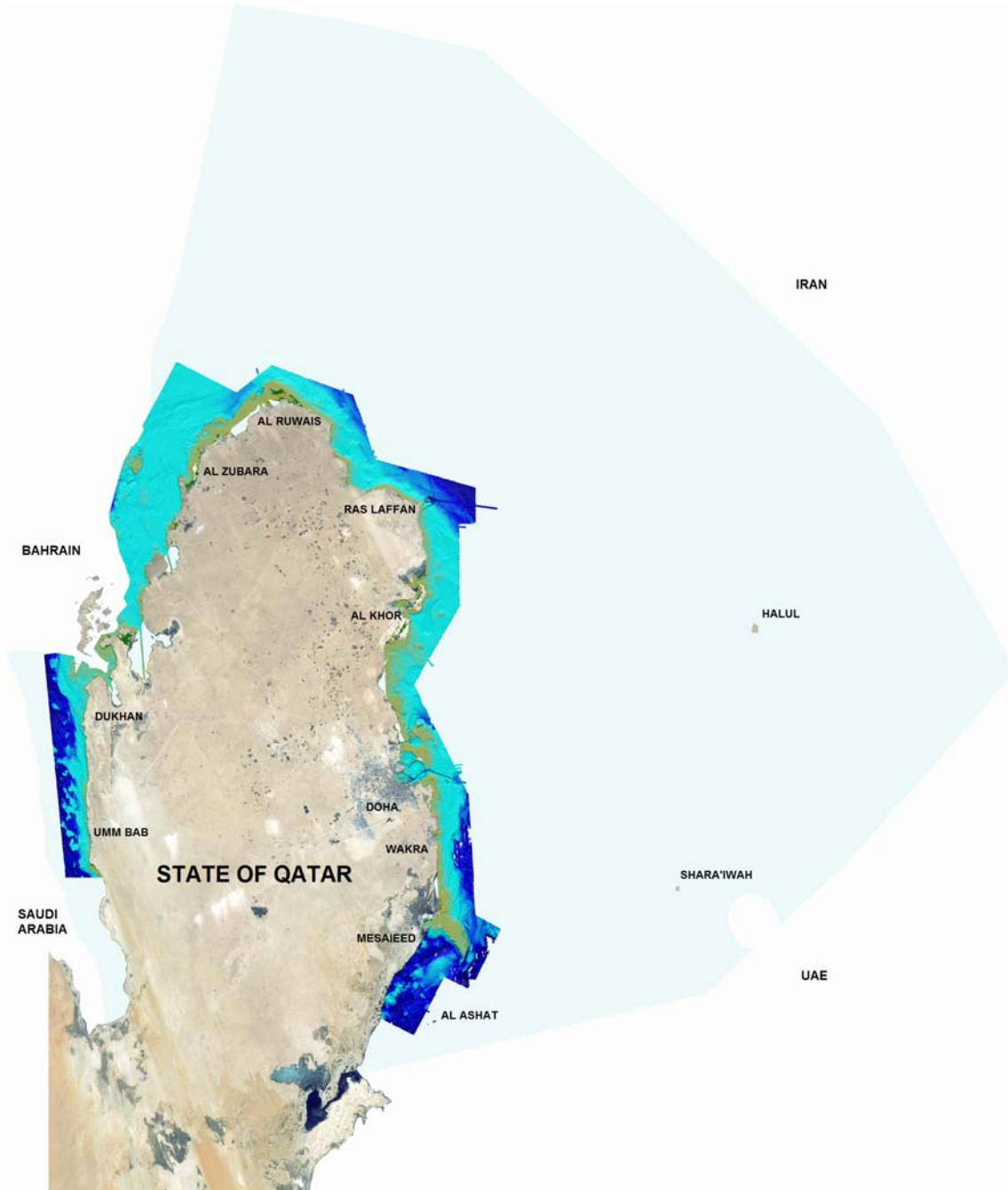
1. Hydrographic Office / Service

Update for the IHO Yearbook is following:

HYDROGRAPHIC SECTION P.O. BOX 23999 DOHA, QATAR	
Department of which the Hydrographic Office is part	Urban Planning & Development Authority General Survey Department
Principal functions of the H.O.	Hydrographic survey, Tide tables, Bathymetric mapping, Maritime boundary delimitation
National day	3 September
Telephone:	+974 4350831
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Date of establishment	1975
Name and rank of the Director or Head	Mr. Ali Abdulla Ali al-ABDULLA General Manager of Urban Planning & Development Authority Mr. Ahmad Musaed al-MOHANNADI Director of General Survey Department Point of contact: Mr. Vladan JANKOVIC Head of Hydrographic Section
Staff employed	Mr. Yahya Said al-JAFFALI Senior Hydrographic Surveyor
Type of publication produced	Tide tables
Other information of the interest	Authority responsible for the MSI: Customs & Ports General Authority P.O. Box 313, Doha, QATAR Tel: +974 4414626 Fax: +974 4413563

2. Surveys

Since the last RSAHC meeting, the HS has completed two LIDAR survey projects. First project concluded in 2002 that covered 2,000 square kilometres of the east coast of Qatari waters and second project in year 2004 covered additional 1,300 square kilometres of the west coast. More than 80% of Qatari coastal waters, which is approximately 10% of sea area under Qatar national responsibility, are covered with survey that complies with the IHO Order 1 Standards for Hydrographic Surveys.



The Hydrographic Section is now focused on purchasing a new survey vessel and multibeam system in the year 2006.

3. New charts & updates

The Hydrographic Section does not produce any form of navigational charts in this moment. The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office is producing charts for the Qatari sea area.

4. New publications & updates

There are no publications from the Hydrographic Section, but the Customs and Ports General Authority co-operating with the Middle East Navigation Aids Services (MENAS) and the UKHO where publications for Qatari sea area are updating.

5. MSI

The Hydrographic Section has no direct MSI or GMDSS responsibility. The Customs and Ports General Authority is responsible for the MSI in Qatari sea area and information is available in the latest update of the IHO special publication S-55.

6. S-55

There are no changes from the latest update of the S-55 submitted to the IHO in April 2005 that is available for review at the IHO webpage.

7. Capacity Building

The Hydrographic Section would appreciate capacity building support in following areas:

- Purchase a survey vessel and hydrographic equipment
- Hydrographic survey training
- Production of paper and electronic navigational charts

The HS is very close to sign a Bilateral Arrangement with the UKHO.

8. Oceanographic activities

The HS is running a tide gauge network which consists of 5 tidal stations around Qatari coast: Mesaieed port, Doha port, Ras Laffan port, Ras Ushayriq and Dukhan. Tidal stations are operational from two years up to more than 15 years. Last tidal study for Qatar was done in 1977, therefore a new tidal study is necessary.

9. Other activities

The HS is actively involved in various national and regional projects around Qatari coast and sea as follows:

- New Doha Airport
- New Doha Port
- Qatar – Bahrain Causeway
- Dolphin Pipeline
- Ras Laffan Port Extension

10. Conclusions

Due to new organisational structure inside the Urban Planning & Development Authority, the Hydrographic Section has good position to develop a proper hydrographic service in the State of Qatar.

Further information on this report can be obtained from:

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