

2nd ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (RSAHC)
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 2-3 May 2006

IHB Report on Capacity Building Work Program.

1.- THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE

The IHB Capacity Building Committee was created on 10 April 2003 with the following tasks:

- Continuously assess the status of hydrographic surveying, nautical charting and nautical information, developing IHO publication S-55.
- To cooperate with the IHB in the establishment and maintenance of close relationships with agencies and organizations which may provide financial support.
- To cooperate with the Hydrographic Regional Commissions in the creation of a Groups of Experts to carry out assessment studies.
- To support the IHB in monitoring the assessment carried out and the identification of potential projects.
- To cooperate with the IHB in the provision of advice to countries needing to implement SOLAS V, Rule 9.
- To support the IHB in the preparation and keeping update of the Capacity Building Work Programme.

2.- THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING STRATEGY.

The issue of capacity Building requires a systematic approach as well as a strategy approved by IHO Member States. But the very first thing to agree is on what does IHO understands by Capacity Building. Therefore a definition to be used as a guide was established.

“ With respect to the IHO, “Capacity Building” is defined as the process by which the organization assesses and assists in sustainable development and improvement of the States, to meet the objectives of the IHO and the hydrography, cartography and maritime safety obligations and recommendations described in UNCLOS, SOLAS V and other international instruments. “

Based on this definition, a strategy considering the following principles has been established:

- Individual national needs for infrastructure, together with a nation's capacity for infrastructure development, should be assessed firmly against the 3 phases of development as defined in publication M-2 “ National Maritime Policies and Hydrographic Services”.
- Skill and technology transfers must leave solutions in place, which are appropriate and **sustainable**.
- Wherever possible, capacity building projects should be coordinated regionally and be supported through regional co-operation.
- The national administration of a State with developing hydrographic services must embrace and support the concept of capacity building as being in its national interest.

- The focus should be on achieving enduring **output** which will benefit safe navigation, safety of life at sea, protection of the marine environment and economic development, rather than on creating enabling infrastructure *per se*.

3.- MEETINGS HELD BY THE CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE.

The Committee has met on three occasions:

- CBC1 (Monaco, 11 and 12 September 2003)
- CBC2 (Fiji, 11 and 12 November, 2004).
- CBC3 (Colombia, 1 and 2 June, 2005).

The progress made since its establishment includes among others, the following achievements:

- Updating of Publication M-2 “Maritime National Policies and the Hydrographic Services”.
- Agreed on an IHO definition for “Capacity Building”.
- Develop of an IHO Capacity Building Strategy.
- Establishment of a management Plan integrating all requirements, projects and initiatives organized by the RHCs.
- Approval of the IHO CB Work Program (2005, 2006 and 2007)
- Establishment of the IHO Capacity Building Fund.

Taking advantage of the two last meetings held so far, Technical Workshops were organized to address representatives of the countries of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (2004) and Meso American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (2005) on the establishment of the first phase of the development of hydro-cartographic and marine safety information capabilities. An early Technical Workshop with the same objective was organized in conjunction with the East Atlantic Hydrographic Commission on the occasion of its meeting in Brest, France, in 2003, benefiting States of this region.

The next meeting of the Capacity Building Committee is to be held in Maputo, Mozambique, June 2006, providing an opportunity to again organise a Technical Workshop similar to that delivered in the early years, in this occasion benefiting the South African and Islands Hydrographic Commission.

4.- THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING WORK PROGRAMME

Initially, the CB Work Programme 2005/2007 was established on the basis of the information provided by the IHB and discussed at the CBC meetings. It has to be recalled that States, which responded to the questionnaire attached to CL 41/2003, had the opportunity to provide a full description of their requirements for training and other assistance. These early information was used to develop the first approach.

This procedure was adopted in the absence of requests submitted by RHCs. Nevertheless its content has shown it to be delineated in line with the real needs. IHB Letter S3/1001 dated 17 Aug 05 provided guidance to RHC Chairmen on the process for submission of bids to the

IHO/CBC. The RHCs have started to contribute to improve the CB WP programme. Whilst submissions for the 4th CBC Meeting should have been submitted by 1 April 2006, advice and update from the RSAHC is welcome and will be considered in Maputo meeting.

4.1 RHC's ROLE.

RHC's should consider as permanent item in the agenda of their meetings, the identification of the regional capacity building needs, in terms of the necessary human resources and finances needs, duly prioritised, to be submitted for consideration by the CBC. Also it should be considered updating S-55, as a permanent activity, and its status be considered and reviewed at each RHC meeting.

4.2 CBC's ROLE

The CBC should integrate all submission in a document called the CB Management Plan.

The Management Plan shall be a "live document", permanently updated in function of the contributions received from the RHC's. It is a tool through which the Committee shall evaluate and assign priority to the projects, deciding on their possible inclusion in the CB Annual Program. It would be the formal register of all initiatives received by the CBC.

The CBC after studying and analysing globally all the requirements, shall identify the resources coming from the CBFund that could be allocated to go in support of the initiatives selected. The final program will constitute a subset of the general IHO work programme that will be considered by the Member States. Once approved the program will enter in force on the 01 January of the following year.

Details of the Management Plan will be provided by the CBC Vice Chairman at the meeting. The briefing will demonstrate how the Management Plan is used to display the bids from RHCs and to facilitate assessment and prioritisation in a systematic way.

5.- THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING FUND

The Capacity Building Fund was established on 4 February 2005, immediately after Member States unanimously approved the administrative resolution that refers to it.

The resources for the time being come from the IHO ordinary budget (approximately 50,000 euros a year) and it is hoped that this amount will be increased in the near future, with savings made at the IHB and mainly by direct contributions of some volunteering Member States, and other International or private Organizations. That is to say, the Fund is open for contribution without any special reservations or priorities to a particular project in the Work Programme.

As a matter of principle, the IHO is not to be considered a "funding institution". Specialized funding organizations already exist with global or regional structures, making it pointless to establish something in parallel. The Fund's aim is to provide a "partial" support along the following lines:

5.1 Technical Assistance

Concept: The fund will support technical visits to Member States to assess hydrographic surveying, nautical charting and nautical information status; provide guidelines for the

development of local hydrographic capabilities and/or to discuss and advise on technical matters pertaining to hydrographic projects. The technical visits to Non Member States are also considered under this concept. In brief, the resources under this topic are to be used to implement visits and related capacity building activities **consistent with the IHO Work Programme**.

5.2 Training and Education

Concept: The fund will support the implementation of hydrographic, nautical cartography and other related training and education initiatives **consistent with the IHO Work Programme**.

5.3 Financial Assistance

Concept: The fund will support Member States' representatives wishing to attend courses and/or technical meetings as necessary in the interest of the Organization, **consistent with the IHO Work Programme**.

5.4 Start-up Projects

Concept: The fund will support the first steps of the implementation of high priority hydro-cartographic projects **consistent with the IHO objectives**.

The resources not used in a calendar year are kept in the Fund to be used in support of other initiatives identified by the CBC in the Work Programme.

6. IHO CB WORK PROGRAM SO FAR EXECUTED AND IN PROGRESS.

6.1 Technical Visits: The general aim of the visits is to assess national hydrographic capacity with a view to offering advice to the relevant national authorities on how to improve the collection and dissemination of nautical information in the region and engender progress through regional co-operation.

2005

MACHC Central American countries (Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, Panama). DONE

MACHC Gulf of Honduras Pilot Project (Honduras, Guatemala, Belice). DONE

2006

BSHC Baltic Sea countries (Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania)led by IHB.

COORDINATED

SWPHC (Small Island Development States) led by N Zealand. UNDER COORDINATION

RSAHC (Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Kuwait) led by IHB. UNDER COORDINATION

SAIHC South Africa and Islands countries led by South Africa. IN EXECUTION

MACHC to brief CARICOM Meeting of Transport Ministres. COORDINATED

MACHC to follow up visits to Caribbean countries visited in 1998. IN EXECUTION

2007

RSAHC & NIOHC Egypt, Sudan and Djibouti and others led by IHB. TO BE RE-CONSIDERED

6.2 Technical Workshops: The general aim of these events is to highlight the importance of Hydrography and Safety of Navigation. Emphasis is made on the need to be able to achieve

phase 1 of the Development of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Capability, that is, to be able to collect and circulate nautical information necessary to maintain existing charts and publications up to date.

2005

MACHC Phase I for MACHC, especially for East Caribbean State Islands. DONE

2006

SAIHC Phase I for countries of SAIHC. COORDINATED

2007

RSAHC & NIOHC Phase I for in conjunction with 5th CBC Meeting in May/June in TO BE RE-CONSIDERED

6.3 Technical Seminars: The Seminar's objective is to raise awareness at governmental level of the importance of hydrography to safety of navigation and national economic development, and to explore initiatives of common regional interest. The invitation is for "the key national person", ideally the Chairman of the National Hydrographic Committee, National Maritime Safety Committee or equivalent, and if any, the person that will assume the national responsibility to monitor the establishment of the country's hydrographic capabilities.

2005

EAtHC One week Seminar for Chairmen of National Hydrographic Committees (or equivalent) of EatHC. DONE

2006

MACHC three days Seminar for Chairmen of National Hydrographic Committees (or equivalent) of MACHC. COORDINATED

2007

SWPHC three days Seminar for Chairmen of National Hydrographic Committees (or equivalent) of SWPHC. TO BE RE-CONSIDERED

6.4 Support for Courses: The main objective of this support has been to facilitate the incorporation of MB technologies.

2005

MACHC & SEPHC & SWAtHC Support attendance of some participants from MACHC, SEPHC and SWAtHC to assist Multibeam Course in Plymouth. DONE

2006

EAHC & RSAHC Support attendance of some participants from EAHC and **RSAHC** to assist Multibeam Course in Singapore. UNDER COORDINATION

Nicaragua 3 weeks Training Course in basic practical surveying. UNDER COORDINATION

2007

MBSHC & BSHC Support attendance of some participants from MBSHC and **BSHC** to assist Multibeam Course in TO BE RECONSIDERED

NOTE:

More details could be found in the IHO website (www.iho.shom.fr),. Under the Capacity Building Committee section complete information on Strategy, Management Plan and Work Programs could be examined. Under Committees, in the section CBC, you can follow-up the activities of the CBC.