

**2<sup>nd</sup> ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (RSAHC)**

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 2-3 May 2006

**ANNOTATED AGENDA****1. Opening remarks by the Chairman (& host member state).**

The RSAHC Chairman will open the meeting at 09:00 on the 2nd of May 2006, at the PSO Training Center in Farmanieh Building, welcoming RSAHC Members and Observers. A representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran Government will welcome participants. The Director representing the IHB will refer in general terms to the importance of the meeting as seen by the IHB and will invite the Commission to take advantage of the opportunity to identify and agree on a realistic work program of regional benefit.

**2. Administrative arrangements.**

The Chairman in his capacity of local organizer will provide information on the arrangements for the meeting.

**3. Approval of the Agenda.**

The Chairman will introduce the Draft Agenda (RSAHC2-1), as circulated in advance and posted on the IHO web site. The Commission may wish to consider any necessary amendments. The Commission will be requested to approve the final text of the Agenda and to agree with the Time Table proposed in document RSAHC2-3. The Chairman will also refer to the List of Documents (RSAHC2-4). Participants may wish to add further documents, either working or for information.

**4. Review of action items from the previous meeting.**

The Chairman will introduce his report (RSAHC2-9) that will include an update on the status of the Actions arising from the 1st meeting. The Commission should decide on the future course of action, for those planned actions that have not yet been completed, if any. The Minutes of the firsts RSAHC Meeting are in document RSAHC2-5.

**5. Review of the Statutes of the Commission.**

The Chairman will report on the current situation regarding the signing of the Commission's Statutes (RSAHC2-6). Following Article 2, only representatives of those IHO Member States in the region that have signed the Statutes are formally recognized as RSAHC Members. Representatives willing to formalize their situation will be invited to sign the Statutes at this time and the number of RSAHC Members present at the meeting will be established. Under this agenda item it is expected to consider any proposals for updating and/or improving the text of the Statutes. The existing text is provided as RSAHC2- 7.

**6. Report by the IHB.**

The Director representing the IHB, will present a report (RSAHC2-8), based on the IHO Work Program and Budget, providing an overview of achievements made and tasks in progress. Special consideration will be given to those activities of particular significance

to the region and to the input required from the RSAHC with regard to the preparation of the 2008-2012 WP & Budget.

**7. National Reports.**

RSAHC members, Associated Members and Observers should have provided the Chairman and the IHB with a consolidated report of their national/institutional activities in the format proposed in CL 123/2005 dated 12, December. As soon as the IHB receives the reports they will be posted in the IHO web site, for easy consultation. Under this agenda item Representatives of the RSAHC might decide to provide additional and updated information to participants. It is expected that matters for which there is a special agenda item will be discussed under that item and therefore there is no need to expand on those subjects under this agenda item. (RSAHC2-10)

**8. Training and Education (Task 2.1.4 IHO WP) activities and studies / exchange of training facilities.**

Under this item the Commission may review the training and education facilities that exist in the region and identify ways and agree procedures to take advantage of their existence. The need for, convenience of and the technical and economical viability of having a specialized regional training facility could also be considered and discussed.

**9. Review of Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting in the ROPME Sea Area Region (IHO Special Publication S-55 and questionnaires / updates from RSAHC Countries).**

Background information on why the IHB decided to update S-55 and to keep it in a digital format will be provided. Under this agenda item the IHB will report (RSAHC2-12) on the importance of S-55 and the key role it plays in identifying both the regions and the subjects to which the IHO needs to pay special attention, and as a decision making tool of strategic value to the United Nations. The vice chairman of the IHOCBC will provide a brief on the current status of S-55 and its high profile in IMO. He will also explain its significance to the planning of the RSAHC and the IHOCBC. The Commission will be invited to comment on the report and to provide guidance to the IHB on actions that should be fostered. Participants will also be invited to examine and update the information in S-55.

**10. Capacity building: Input to IHOCBC.**

The IHB representative and Chairman of the CBC will provide a detailed report on the CBC activities, particularly on the procedure to include RHCs' initiatives into the CB Management Plan. He will also refer to the initiatives so far identified of direct benefit to the region and will invite participants to play an active role on CB matters.

**11. Promulgation of Radio Navigational Warnings within NAVAREA IX area, MSI in NAVAREA IX and the implementation of GMDSS.**

The NAVAREA Coordinator (Pakistan) will report on the situation in NAVAREA IX (RSAHC2-13). The Commission will be invited to comment on the report and to provide guidance to its Chairman on the way to achieve improvements. In the light of the experience gained with the emergency of Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, communication seems to be a key element and therefore it is proposed to discuss, agree and set some procedures for conducting communication trials, to assure from time to time that the regional network is fully in operation.

**12. Report by the INT Chart Coordinator (Islamic Republic of Iran) – Progress on the implementation of the INT Chart Scheme.**

The INT Chart Coordinator will report on the production status of the INT Chart Scheme (RSAHC2-14). The Commission will be invited to comment the report and to provide guidance to the Chairman on actions considered necessary to foster the implementation of the scheme.

**13. ENC Issues.**

- a. **ENC coverage of key shipping routes and ports within the region. (MS to identify key shipping routes in their waters.)**
- b. **Progress with ENC production, training, testing and distribution.**
- c. **ENC consistency and quality issues across national borders.**
- d. **Small scale ENC scheme for area within National waters.**
- e. **Availability and need for mutual assistance and cooperation towards ENC production and methods of matching resources to requirements.**

This agenda item could be considered together with the previous one. The idea is to discuss in full the ENC production situation and to identify the requirements to foster further production. Participants will be invited to share their experience on the different phases related to ENCs, such as data gathering and processing, compilation and production, distribution and maintenance. The Commission might identify as well, the support needed to improve the capability to manage this technology.

**14. New techniques and equipment in Hydrography and Oceanography**

This agenda item is intended to facilitate discussion on the introduction of new technologies and the experience gathered in its use. Participants may wish to give short presentations on particular applications and/or equipments. The Commission will be invited to discuss the presentations and identify actions of regional benefit.

**15. Coordination between Member States.**

This agenda item has been established to provide time for discussing the details of actions identified during the meeting. It would be important to be able to agree on a set of actions, responsibility for actions or monitoring such initiatives as well as to agree a timeframe for their accomplishment. This is very important, as it constitutes the Commission's work program.

**16. Any other business.**

**a. SPWG activities.**

The IHB representative will report on the SPWG activities and on the latest status of the amendments to the Convention.

**17. Election of the next Chairman and Vice Chairman.**

According to the Statutes of the Commission, the Commission shall elect a Chairman. Since the Statutes were established, the IHO has decided that all subsidiary bodies should also have a Vice Chairman to facilitate the continuation of the work of the Commission should the Chairman no longer be available to participate. The figure of the Vice Chairman should be inserted in the updated version of the Statutes of the Commission.

**18. Next Meeting (Venue and date).**

The Chairman will invite the Commission to identify the venue and dates for the 3<sup>rd</sup> RSAHC Meeting.

**19. Closing remarks by the Chairman.**

The Chairman will request RSAHC Members to approve the List of Actions identified during the meeting. Following this process he will declare the Meeting closed.