

3rd ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC) Meeting

IHB, Monaco (8-9 June 2009)

Status of ENC Coverage in the ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC)

Introduction

The IHO reconfirmed to the IMO, at its 54th meeting of NAV in 2008, that there would be “sufficient ENC availability” by 2010. At the same meeting, NAV accepted a proposal from the International Chamber of Shipping, and supported by the IHO, for the following definition of “sufficient ENC coverage” in relation to considering mandatory carriage requirements for ECDIS:

‘Sufficient ENC availability is defined as being equivalent to the best available paper chart coverage of either a Hydrographic Office providing global coverage or the Hydrographic Office of the Coastal State’.

This implies that, by 2010 where there is a paper chart published to support international voyages, there should be a corresponding ENC.

The following graphics (from the IHO catalogue) provide a comparison between large scale ENC cells and the equivalent ARCS RNC coverage for the RSAHC area. (For practical purposes RNC coverage is considered to be the same as(UKHO) paper chart coverage.

Comparison of Large Scale Coverage

The graphic below shows ENCs and RNCs (= *paper*) up to a scale of 1/89 999.

ENCs are shown in blue and RNCs are shown in brown.

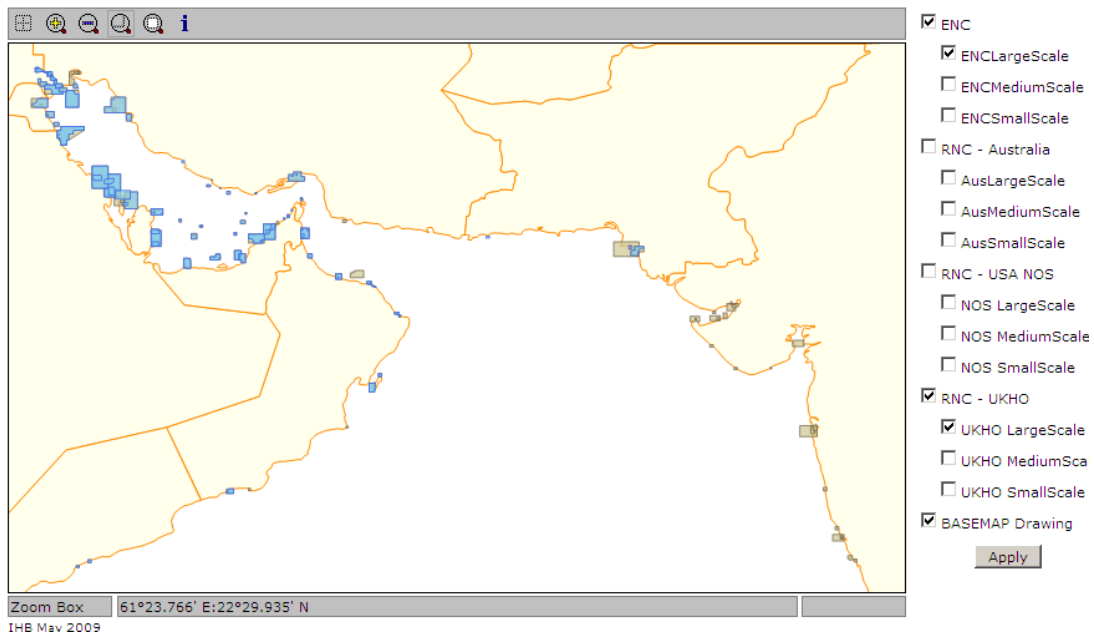


Figure 1 - Large scales

Comparison of Medium Scale Coverage

The diagram below, illustrates ENC and RNCs (= *paper*) between the scales of 1/90 000 and 1/349 999.

ENCs are shown in blue and RNCs are shown in brown.

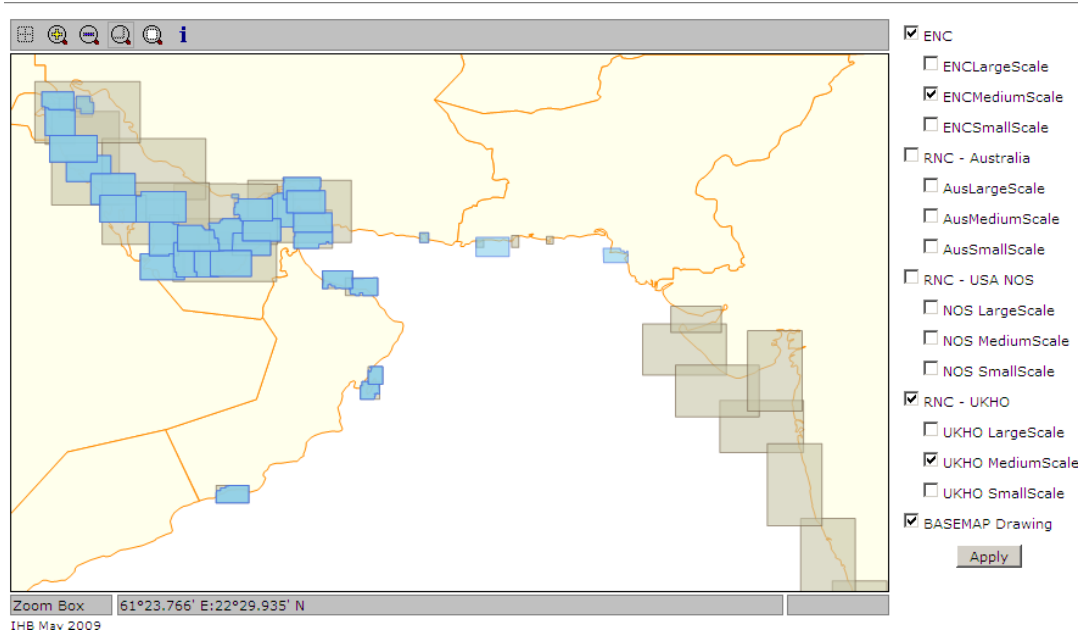


Figure 2 - Medium scales

Comparison of Small Scale Coverage

All ENC and RNCs (= *paper*) between 1/350 000 and larger scale are illustrated below.

ENCs are shown in blue and RNCs are shown in brown.

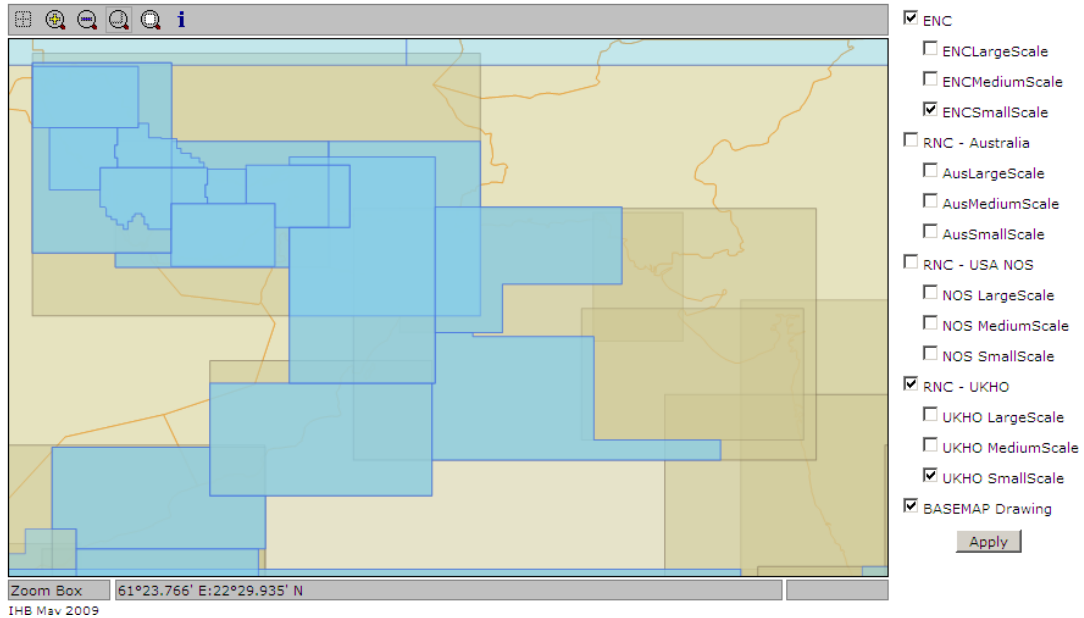


Figure 3 - Small scales

Conclusions

ENC coverage has increased steadily over the past few years however there still appears to be significant gaps, especially for larger scale coastal requirements and port coverage. Where it appears that RSAHC members will not achieve adequate ENC coverage by 2010, it is strongly recommended that members seek assistance from other producer nations, under the terms of a bi-lateral agreement.