

3rd ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (RSAHC)
IHB, MONACO 8-9 June 2009

FINAL REPORT

*Paragraph numbering relates to Agenda numbering.
Note All RSAHC3 Documents are available from the IHO website:
http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/rhc/RSAHC/RSAHC3/RSAHC3.htm*

1. Opening remarks by the RSAHC Chairman; ROPME and IHB.

Commodore Z M Tipu, the Chairman, welcomed participants to the meeting. He noted that representatives of the IR of Iran, Sultanate of Oman, Pakistan and Qatar were present and that this constituted a quorum in accordance with Article 4c of the Statutes of the RSAHC. (See document RSAHC3-1A). He also noted the attendance of Associate members from the UK and USA and Observers from the IHB. The full list of participants is in document RSAHC3-Participants (Annex A).

Captain Gorziglia, IHB Director welcomed participants to the meeting. (See document RSAHC3-1B).

2. Administrative arrangements.

Cdr Steve Shipman, IHB Professional Assistant, outlined the administrative arrangements for the meeting.

3. Approval of the Agenda and Timetable.

The draft agenda and timetable were approved.

4. Review of action items from the previous meeting.

The meeting reviewed the list of Action Items from the 2nd RSAHC meeting (See document RSAHC3-04A) and concluded that items 1, 2, 9 and 11 were ongoing and items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12 and 13 were complete. Item 10 would be considered under the appropriate agenda item.

5. Review of the Statutes of the Commission.

No amendments to the Statutes were considered.

6. Report by the IHB.

Captain Gorziglia presented the IHB Report (See document RSAHC3-06A). He outlined the changes in IHO organization and structure that had come into being since the previous meeting of the Commission. He reviewed the IHO Work Programme with particular reference to the RSAHC Region.

When considering training matters it was agreed that all Member States should provide the IHB with the necessary information to update publication S-47 Training Courses in Hydrography and Nautical Cartography. (*Post meeting note now IHO Publication C-47*)

Communications between the IHB and Member States, and between the Member States within the Region, was of great importance and needed to be improved. The IHB reported that it was moving increasingly in the direction of digital communications and that the IHO web site **www.iho.int** and e-mail were the principal sources of communication. The Sultanate Oman expressed some concern that this could disenfranchise some States who had little or no access to these media. The IHB reported that any State could request communication by fax etc if this was more appropriate but the web and email could provide faster more effective communication and reduce the administration costs within the IHB.

7. National Reports (highlights).

The IR of Iran (RSAHC3-07 IR of Iran), Sultanate of Oman (RSAHC3-07 Oman), Pakistan (RSAHC3-07 Pakistan), Qatar (RSAHC3-07 Qatar) and the UK (RSAHC3-07 UK National and RSAHC3-07 UK Generic) presented their National Reports.

8. 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.

The IHB requested all members of the Region to provide updates to S-55 (*Post meeting note now IHO Publication C-55*) on a regular basis and at least annually. Even if there were no changes to the current information this should be reported as it would enable the date of validity of the information to be updated. There were no further comments.

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

The IR of Iran made a brief verbal report on the status of INT charts in the Region. Michel Huet (IHB Profession Assistant) who is responsible for M-11 (Guidance for the Preparation and Maintenance of International Chart Schemes and Catalogue of International (INT) Charts) (*Post meeting note now IHO Publication S-11*), joined the meeting and reported of some amendments to the INT Chart Scheme which had been passed to the IHB but required to be approved by the members of the RSAHC. Several actions were agreed in order to update M-11 (now S-11) and these are set out in the Action List (RSAHC3-17A). Member States were urged to keep the co-ordinator informed of progress and any new charts published for adoption.

10. ENC Issues.

It was agreed that there was a requirement to develop an ENC Scheme for medium and small scale charts for the Region and that the IR of Iran, as the INT Chart Co-ordinator, with assistance from the UK and the IHB would prepare a proposal to go to the RSAHC Member States.

11. New techniques and equipment in Hydrography and Oceanography.

Qatar reported on two LIDAR surveys which had been conducted in their waters between 2002 and 2004. The Sultanate of Oman reported that they were considering a LIDAR survey of some Omani Waters and also the procurement for replacement of survey vessels. Pakistan in capacity of team leader reported on the recent multi-national surveys at Seychelles, conducted under the auspices of the North Indian Ocean Regional Hydrographic Commission (NIOHC) and considered that this was an example of an innovative and collaborative hydrographic survey project. The said Survey Project could be a model for other regions as well.

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

Cdr Steve Shipman (IHB) reported on the review of all MSI documentation being undertaken by the WNWNS Sub Committee (formerly CPRNW) in conjunction with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The main aim of the review in addition to updating the information was to ensure consistency of information and guidance.

13. Capacity Building matters.

Captain Gorziglia, IHB Director, reported that there was currently no RSAHC representation on the IHO's Capacity Building Sub Committee (CBSC). It was agreed that the Region needed to appoint a representative to the CBSC and to ensure that timely input was made to the CB Programmes for 2011 and 2012.

The meeting agreed that the proposed Technical Workshops on "INT Chart Scheming" and "ENC/ECDIS" (RSAHC2) should be combined into a single workshop. The IR of Iran agreed to take a lead on this with support from the UK.

Discussion took place regarding a workshop on Port and Shallow water surveys and S-44. It was agreed that Pakistan would develop some proposals and that its inclusion in the IHO Capacity Building Programme would be requested.

It was also agreed that a Seminar for National Hydrographic Committee Chairmen should be a priority for the RSAHC.

IHB also briefed on workings of IHOCBC, the programme and management plan were highlighted as being key to the allocation of funds and CB effort. Member States were urged to review their requests to ensure validity and update/amend them as necessary to meet their requirements. The present work programme for RSAHC was detailed and any new requirements were requested.

14. Any other business.

Cdr Steve Shipman (IHB) raised the matter of the requirement for shallow water bathymetry, ideally extracted from the larger scale ENCs using the software tool developed by the IHB, to be made available to GEBCO. GEBCO data has an important role to play in the mitigation of Tsunamis and the preparation of inundation maps. The inclusion of shallow water bathymetry is a key element in improving this matter.

The UK proposed that Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) should be included on the agenda for future RSAHC meetings in accordance with the decision taken at the recent 4th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference. The Chairman then invited the UK to give a brief summary on the concept of MSDI.

IR of Iran suggested that all Member States may render invitations to observers. However IHB suggested it would be more appropriate if the Chairman authorised any invitations keeping Member States informed.

15. Election of the next Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The Chairman invited nominations for the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Commission, noting that the current Vice Chairman, Saudi Arabia, was not present and had not indicated willingness to assume the position of Chairman.

Qatar proposed that the Sultanate of Oman should be next Chairman whereas, the IR of Iran nominated Qatar as the Vice Chairman. Respective proposed nominations were approved unanimously by all the members present in the meeting.

16. Next Meeting (Venue and date).

The Sultanate of Oman proposed that the next meeting should be held as soon as possible in order to capitalise on the progress made at this third meeting. It was agreed that the Sultanate of Oman should call an Extraordinary meeting of the RSAHC in 2010 with the 4th Regular meeting being held in 2011.

17. Approval of List of Actions

The list of Actions (RSAHC3-17A) and attached at Annex B was approved.

18. Closing remarks by the Chairman.

The chairman thanked all present for attending and contributing to the meeting. He apprised the meeting that he would shortly be leaving as Hydrographer of Pakistan and wished the Sultanate of Oman well in new role as Chairman of the RSAHC.

Final Report Annex A

3rd ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (RSAHC3)

IHB, Monaco, 8-9 June 2009

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

STATE	NAMES	ADDRESS	E-MAIL	TEL /FAX
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IR of Iran	f) Mohammad Hassan Khoddam Mohammadi g) Mohammad Hossein Moshiri	Hydrographic Department NCC Meraj Ave Azadi Sq Tehran IR of Iran	f) khoddam_m@yahoo.com g) moshiri@ncc.org.ir	f) 9821 66071144 / 9821 66071144 g) 9821 66071143 / 9821 66071144
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Final Report Annex A

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Final Report Annex B

3rd ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION Meeting (RSAHC3)

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ACTION LIST

No	Action	Responsible	Deadline
1	To provide the IHB information on any existing courses offered in the region to be inserted in IHO Pub S-47	All	30 Jul 2009
2	To improve communications between RSAHC Members and with the IHB. Make extensive use of the IHO website to be kept informed.	All	Permanent
3	To keep IHB informed on updates of S-55 at least once a year, providing information if there is new data or confirming that no changes have occurred.	All	30 Sep 2009 and annually
4	To contribute with the International Hydrographic Review by providing Articles and Notes to the Editor and /or IHB, following the guidelines in the IHO website.	All	Permanent
5	INT Chart coordinator to circulate information on INT Charts 7290 and 7285 to RSAHC Members and after approval, provide final new limits to IHB.	INT Chart Coordinator (I.R. of Iran)	30 Aug 2009
6	To confirm and update changes proposed in 2005 to the INT Charts Scheme to the IHB and INT Chart Coordinator.	Oman	30 Jun 2009
7	To confirm and update changes proposed in 2006 to the INT Charts Scheme to the IHB and INT Chart Coordinator.	Pakistan	30 Jun 2009
8	Coordinate with all RSAHC Members the approval of the INT Chart Scheme and make Final Scheme available to the IHB.	INT Chart Coordinator (I.R. of Iran)	30 Sep 2009
9	To develop and propose RSAHC Members an ENC Scheme for Small and Medium Scale Charts aiming at its consideration and approval within one year of the submission of the proposal.	INT Chart Coordinator (I.R. of Iran), with support of UK and IHB	31 Dec 2009
10	Develop proposal for Workshop on INT Chart and ENC schemes; submit it to Chair by Oct 2009 to be passed to CBSC. Organize and host the event in second half 2010.	I.R. of Iran	As indicated
11	Develop proposal for Workshop on Port and Shallow Water Hydrographic Survey (S-44); submit it to Chair by Aug 2009 to be passed to CBSC. Organize and host the event in first half 2010.	Pakistan	As indicated
12	Identify and select a member of RSAHC to represent the RHC at the CBSC.	Chair	31 Dec 2009
13	Given timely attention to activities in the 2011 and 2012 CB WP to ensure they are documented and submitted to CBSC.	Chair/Regional Rep. to CBSC	Apr 2010 and Apr 2011
14	Consider provision of shallow water bathymetric data from ENCs to GEBCO Program through the IHO DCDB	All	Permanent
15	Organize the 4 th RSAHC Meeting	Oman	
16	Provide report to IRCC2 based on input from RSAHC Member States.	Chair	Apr 2010