

Ministry of Municipality & Urban Planning
Urban Planning & Development Sector



وزارة البلدية والتخطيط العمراني
قطاع التخطيط والتطوير العمراني

HYDROGRAPHIC SECTION

QATAR NATIONAL REPORT TO THE 4TH ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION MEETING

MUSCAT, OMAN
21–23 MARCH 2011

1. Hydrographic Office / Service

This report summarizes the activities of Hydrographic Section of Qatar carried out since the 3rd RSAHC meeting in 2009.

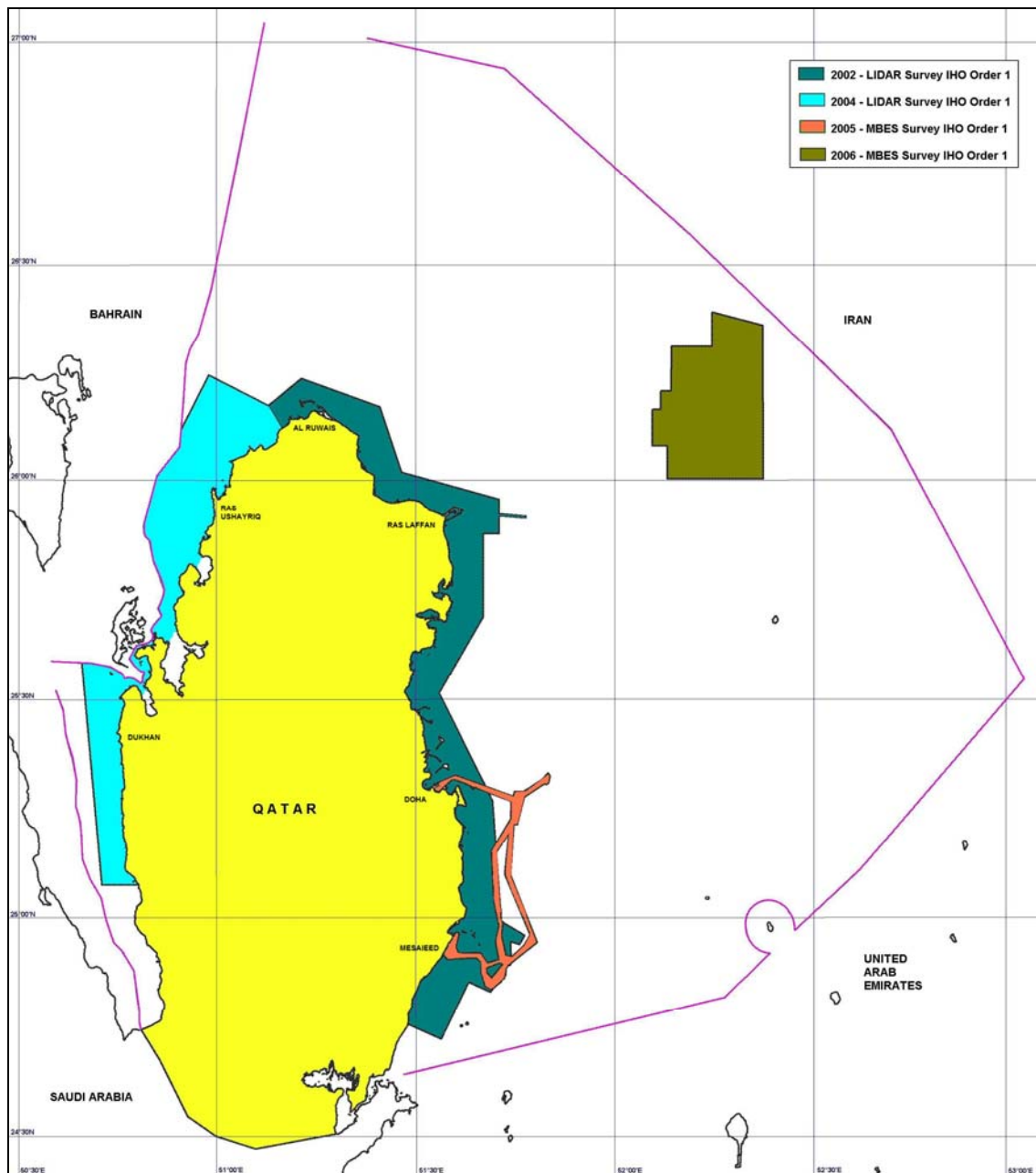
Highlights of the report:

- Hydrographic section has become a part of new established Ministry of Municipality & Urban Planning
- Adequately surveyed area not increased
- Very good coverage with ENC's and paper charts of the waters of Qatar
- New survey vessel and the equipment have been acquired
- Needs for hydrographic personnel

Update for the IHO Yearbook

HYDROGRAPHIC SECTION P.O. BOX 23999 DOHA, QATAR	
Department of which the Hydrographic Office is part	Ministry of Municipality & Urban Planning Land & Survey Department
Principal functions of the HO	Bathymetric survey, Tide tables, Bathymetric mapping, Maritime boundary delimitation
National day	18 December
Telephone: Fax: E-mail:	+974 4495 4042 +974 4495 5947 vladan@up.org.qa
Date of establishment	1975
Name and rank of the Director or Head	Mr. Ali Abdulla AL-ABDULLA Assistant Undersecretary for Planning Affairs Ministry of Municipality & Urban Planning Mr. Ahmad MUSAED AL-MOHANNADI Director of Land & Survey Department <u>Point of contact:</u> Mr. Vladan JANKOVIC Head of Hydrographic Section
Tonnage	652,280
Staff employed	Total five, but only one hydrographer
Type of publication produced	Tide tables
Other information of the interest	Authority responsible for the MSI: Qatar Ports Management Company P.O. Box 313, Doha, QATAR Tel: +974 4445 7294 Fax: +974 4445 7295

2. Surveys



There was no significant increase in adequately surveyed area.

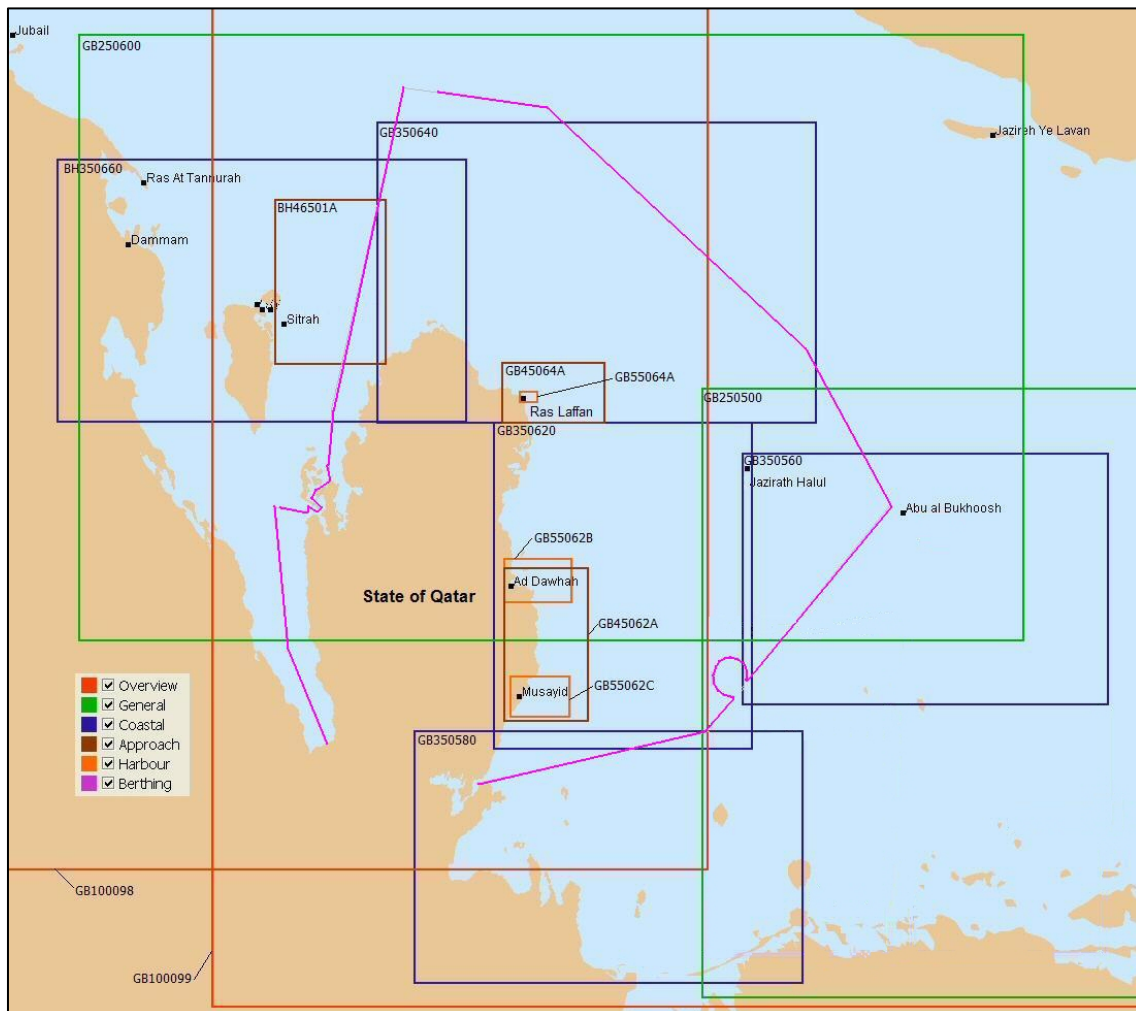
3. New charts & updates

Hydrographic Section does not produce any form of navigational charts. The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office is producing charts for the waters of Qatar. Information is available through the UKHO and RENCs. There is very high percentage of coverage of major shipping routes, approaches and harbours in Qatar.

Extract from the IHO Status Report on ENC Coverage:

Coastal State	Have ENCs been released that cover <u>International voyages</u> ? None or very limited coverage Gaps exist in ENC coverage Good/Relatively few if any gaps	ENC Producer Nation(s)	Remarks	Member of a RENC?
Philippines	Gaps exist in ENC coverage	GB	includes some AVCS ENCs	YES
Poland	Good/Relatively few if any gaps	PL		YES
Portugal	Good/Relatively few if any gaps	PT		YES
Qatar	Good/Relatively few if any gaps	GB		

Extract from an International Centre for ENCs:



4. New publications & updates

Except the Tide Tables and tidal information for 6 stations spread across the coast of Qatar, there are no other publications for mariners published by Hydrographic Section. The Qatar Ports Management Company is co-operating with the Middle East Navigation Aids Services (MENAS) and the UKHO for updating publications of Qatar sea area.

5. MSI

The Hydrographic Section has no direct MSI or GMDSS responsibility. The Qatar Ports Management Company is responsible for the MSI in Qatar sea area and information is available in the latest MSI update for the IHO special publication S-55.

6. S-55

Percentage of adequately surveyed area was not increased since the last RSAHC meeting.

	A	B	C
Depths < 200m	14	66	20

7. Capacity Building

- New survey vessel AL MASSAH and multibeam survey equipment have been acquired in December 2010
- Negotiating a bilateral arrangement for cooperation in hydrography
- Definition of hydrographic responsibilities in legislation
- Hydrographic personnel

8. Oceanographic activities

The HS is running a tide gauge network which consists of 6 tidal stations around the coast: Mesaieed port, Doha port, Ras Laffan port, Al Ruwais, Ras Ushayriq and Dukhan. Tidal stations are operational from four years up to more than fifteen years. The latest 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 area as the following:

- New Doha Airport
- New Doha Port
- Qatar – Bahrain Causeway
- Ras Laffan Port Extension
- Maritime boundary projects

10. Conclusions

New build survey vessel AL MASSAH was acquired in December 2010. The vessel particulars are as follows:

Length overall	16.40 m
Beam	5.26 m
Draft	1.20 m
Speed	20 knots



The vessel is fitted with dual head multibeam survey system for data collection. A software package for bathymetric data post processing has been acquired too.

The next stage will be recruiting and training of hydrographic personnel. Assistance and cooperation with the IHO and the RSAHC will be needed for successful conclusion of this phase of hydrographic capacity building in Qatar.

Further information on this report can be obtained from:

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