



Terms of Reference for the Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) Working Group (SAIHC-MSDIWG)

(Raised during SAIHC15 28-30 August 2018, Seychelles)

(Status - reviewed by and including contributions from SAIHC Members during SAIHC15)

With referencing to

- IHO Resolution 5 - 2009 on MSDI policy, adopted by the 4th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference in June 2009
- 1st HSSC Meeting (Singapore, October 2009)
- Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (MSDIWG)
- Guidance for Hydrographic Offices IHO Publication C-17 - Edition 1.0

The SAIHC at its 15th Conference, recognised the need to initiate a study of MSDI in the region to identify areas where maritime SDI implementation is underway and where problems can be foreseen and how the SAIHC member states see the future development of MSDI in the region and whether co-operation between MS can facilitate this development.

The Working Group should:

- Identify and analyse the current status of individual MS MSDI implementation.
- Consider MSDI policies within the related international projects e.g. e-navigation, MSP.
- Analyse how maritime authorities can contribute their spatial information and the necessary updates, so information can easily be collated with other information to a current overall picture for the region.
- Focus on how SAIHC in the future can benefit from a regional approach.
- Monitor the specification and development of SDI that could be relevant for the SAIHC region.
- To present a yearly report to the SAIHC at its conference. This report should include a description on the current status, recommendations on how to proceed with the MSDI implementation and if deemed necessary an action plan with specified time schedule for future SAIHC and SAIHC-MSDIWG actions.
- Identify any SAIHC capacity building requirements on MSDI.

Rules of procedures:

- All SAIHC Members and Associate Members are encouraged to participate to the SAIHC-MSDIWG and to contribute to the work of the SAIHC-MSDIWG.
- The SAIHC-MSDIWG should be chaired by one of the Member States elected by the SAIHC MS.
- The SAIHC-MSDIWG should work as far as possible in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations issued by the IHO and IMO.
- The SAIHC-MSDIWG should consult Task Groups, Committees and Working Groups or other relevant bodies, as deemed necessary.
- The SAIHC-MSDIWG should inform relevant (notably adjacent) RHC's with the aim to coordinate within the other regions as far as possible.
- The work of the SAIHC-MSDIWG will be carried out primarily by correspondence (via e-mails). The members are encouraged to reply without unnecessary delay.
- The SAIHC-MSDIWG Chair, can on request coordinate SAIHC MS views on MSDI topics and present them at the IHO MSDIWG. The SAIHC-MSDIWG Chair can select a representative to present on its behalf as appropriate.