

SOUTHERN AFRICA & ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SAIHC) & IHO SEMINAR FOR NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE (NHC)
CHAIRMEN : SEMINAR HELD IN WALVIS BAY, NAMIBIA

DATE: 6/7 September 2011

COUNTRY REVIEW: NAMIBIA

INTRODUCTION

1. **RHC Involvement.** Namibia is not an IHO member, but is an associate member of the SAIHC.
2. **Country Liaison.** Mr Elzevir Gelderbloem of the Namibian Ports Authority (NAMPORT) affiliated to the National Joint Committee with Mr Matthew Nangolo, the Director Maritime Affairs in the Ministry of Works and Transport (MWT).
3. **Points of Contact.** The IHO Year Book reflects the responsibility of the Directorate of Maritime Affairs (DMA) for national hydrographic policy and provision for SOLAS V obligations, and the delegation to NAMPORT of the roles of collection and promulgation of hydrographic information through liaison with the South African Navy HO (SANHO).

DESCRIPTION OF MARITIME ACTIVITIES

4. **National Maritime Affairs.** Namibia's retains its strategic location in the maritime routes round the Cape of Good Hope, and of current and projected operations to exploit the significant offshore resources in the water column and seabed.
5. **Trade and Maritime Traffic.**
Current overview is as follows:
 - a. **Through Routes.** Walvis Bay is growing in the Africa Ports stature plus Regional link and it is currently the first port of call for certain carriers to the Africa region from South America, Europe and the Far East.
 - b. **Trans-shipment.** Walvis Bay is a hub port for west coast trade carried by MAERSK, OACL, CMA & MOL where the volume of containers handled in the port has peaked at 265,000 TEU's in 2011.
 - c. **Bulk Trades.** A Tanker berth at Walvis Bay caters for wet bulk-loading requirements, which is under a replacement development programme and a dry Bulk Terminal for Namibian exports & imports.
 - d. **Feeder, Coastal and Local Trade.** Container/Passenger/cargo services link Walvis Bay to south & North-bound ports.
 - e. **Offshore Oil Supply and Support.** The offshore supply, Rig & shipping Industry has been catered for with two floating docks for Ship & Rig repair facilities at Walvis Bay. Application for extension of the port of Walvis Bay port limits is with the Namibian Cabinet for approval.
 - f. **Tourism - Cruise Liners.** The number of calls at Walvis Bay and Luderitz average is 10 vessels per annum.
 - g. **Tourism - Small Craft.** The coastal focal points for leisure cruising are Luderitz, Walvis Bay and Swakopmund. There are some 18 craft of between 15 – 20 metres. The informal development phase of the marina at Walvis Bay includes restaurants and departure points for boat

tours.

The Waterfront at Luderitz is in the second study phase.

h. Fisheries. Most Namibian fishing vessels are based in Walvis Bay, with a smaller number & the Crayfish Industry based at Luderitz. The number of foreign fishing vessels in Namibian waters has stabilised and the majority are chartered for specialist mid-water trawling for quotas allocated to national fishing companies.

The emerging marine aquaculture industry is developing both in the Walvis Bay and in the Luderitz bay.

6. Responsibility for Safety of Navigation. The DMA is responsible for policy and regulation in matters of safety of navigation. NAMPORT is responsible for the maintenance of port channels, the provision and maintenance of aids to navigation, for navigational warnings broadcast from Walvis Bay radio.

NAMPORT has completed erection of four coastal Racons, at the chosen positions being - Kunene, Angra Fria, Saddle Hill and at Oranjemund.

7. Defence Force Responsibilities. The Namibian Navy is being equipped with vessels to meet its needs. In the meantime SAR remains with DMA, fishery protection with the Sea Fisheries Patrol of the Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources (MFMR), and operations to counter illicit traffic or illegal immigrants been developed under a joint committee.

8. Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Protection. Namibia has completed a full length Coastal Zone Management and Environmental Study under the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and legislated the coastal Dorop National Park.

OUTLINE S-55 ANALYSIS

9. Status of surveys within the National Maritime Zone. Namibia's entry is an opportunity. Collection and Circulation of Nautical Information. NAMPORT collates and updates to SANHO.

11. Survey Capability. NAMPORT has one staff member training in hydrographic surveying, who has completed the courses run by SAN.

Namport has equipment consists of a Navisound 200 dual frequency echo sounder and a Leica 1200 RTK positioning system.

12. Independent Chart Production Capability. SANHO completes the INT chart scheme for Namibian waters.

PROPOSALS FOR CO-ORDINATION AND CAPABILITY BUILDING

13. National Hydrographic Committee. The development of national policy for Coastal waters is outstanding and currently a close role with SANHO is maintained. Namport has given focus to Ports Hydrography.

14. MSI Organisation and GMDSS. Improvement of arrangements and liaison for effective passage of information between national and regional agencies.

a. MSI (Navigational Warnings). Navigational warnings are broadcast by Walvis Bay Radio. NAMPORT take responsibility for liaison for the Namibian NAVAREA VII Co-ordinator in South Africa. DMA carries the role in timely collection and dissemination of urgent navigational safety information .

b. Information on Ports and Harbours. Information underwritten by the Minister of Works, Transport resort under Namport.

- c. GMDSS Status. The IMO Regional Co-ordinator has summarised the timetable for the establishment of the Namibian GMDSS sub-station, which, with repeater stations along the Namibian coast, is managed from Cape Town by the SAN HO.
15. Hydrographic Capability. National capacity and resources for the appointment and training of additional personnel required action:
- a. Provision of Survey and other Data to the Charting HO. NAMPORT are using their in-house capability under training and the Namibian Navy for the developments.
 - b. Survey Capability. Namport retains the role to provide port related surveys with planning to extend its equipment capability. Namport has coordinated a national committee to rationalise surveys and develop skills which can enhance national activities.
 - c. Chart Production. SANHO do the production of charts and publications for Namibian waters. A formal bilateral agreement for this service has merit.
 - d. Potential for Regional Activity. Namibia has reliance on the IHO for such integration.

POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE AREAS

16. Training. Technical Workshops and study forums are beneficial, while SAN continue to manage MSI/GMDSS arrangements for Namibian waters.
17. Equipment. Purchase of the portable survey suite comprising DGPS and a single-beam echo sounder with a boat and trailer has been achieved by Namport as its ports hydrographic objective.
18. Advice. A Joint Committee application to IHOCBC for prioritising a national survey plan and specification, with appraisal of contract surveys, is a solution to enhancing Namibian strengths and support.

ACTIONS

19. IHO Membership
- a. Namibia is as yet not a member.
20. Collection and Promulgation of Hydrographic Information.
- a. Information obtained by the SAIHC Technical Committee visit 27-29 June 2011, is due for SANHO chart updating.
 - b. Notification of licensed areas for mining conflicting in the areas of fisheries and seabed resources as and when issued.
21. Development of Hydrographic Capability.
- a. Harmonization through Local and Regional integration and capacity building would add to the Namibian capability.

**COMPILED ON BEHALF OF THE NAMIBIAN
NATIONAL JOINT HYDROGRAPHIC COMMITTEE**