

UNION OF COMOROS NATIONAL REPORT

TO

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> SAIHC CONFERENCE



**1. Summary**

Due to its maritime nature, Union of Comoros is taking its hydrographic responsibilities with an increased concern.

As a consequence, the creation of a Comoran Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre has been envisaged by the Government. This could be followed in due time by the establishment of a National Hydrographic Committee.

The Port of Moroni welcomed in July 2011 a delegation composed of a World Bank expert and a SHOM hydrographer, acting on behalf of the SAIHC.

On this occasion, we jointly examined the possibility of setting up an AIS station in the port of Moroni, and collected the requirements expressed by the Comoran users to improve the existing prioritised charting scheme.

**2. The Comoran Centre d'hydrographie et d'océanographie**

The project aimed at establishing a **Comoran Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre** has been communicated to the experts.

The Centre should be tasked with the following responsibilities:

- Chart update
- ENCs
- Security of navigation
- MSI
- AtoN
- Marine delineations
- Surveillance and assistance to the exploitation of the Comoran EEZ natural resources

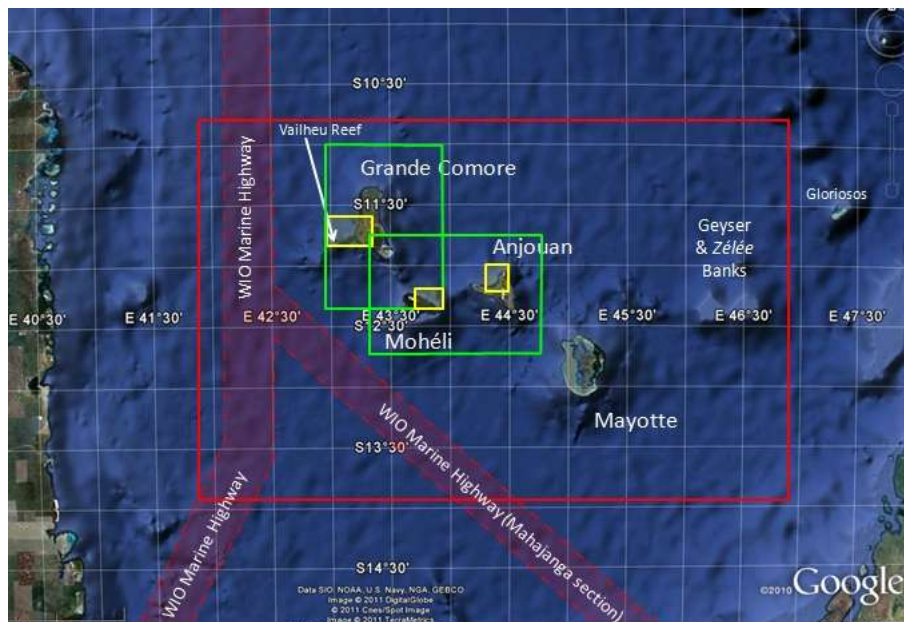
It should comprise a hydrographic section, an oceanographic section and a study section.

The staffing and budget have not been defined yet, but are examined with the various stakeholders.

### 3. The Comoran charting requirements

SHOM, as the IHO Comoran Charting Authority, is tasked with establishing a charting scheme for the Comoran archipelago.

To this effect, the Comoran requirements have been expressed to the SAIHC and World Bank experts who drafted the following proposal, based on the SHOM original scheme:



It was further recognised that, in addition to the Mayotte charts, the islands of Grande Comore, Anjouan and Mohéli should be covered by the following 6 charts:

	Usage band	Chart	Scale 1:	Observations
1	General	Comoros archipelago	500,000	Should include the insets of the approaches to the 3 main ports (represented in yellow).  Scale chosen in the band's upper tier so as to include the whole archipelago and a portion of the Marine Highway.  The Moroni approach must include the dangerous Vailheu reef.
		Approaches to the 3 main ports	30,000	
2	Coastal	Grande Comore	150,000	
3	Coastal	Anjouan & Mohéli	150,000	
4	Harbour	Grande Comore moorings	Various (5 to 20,000)	Scale adjusted to the type and importance of moorings
5	Harbour	Anjouan moorings		
6	Harbour	Mohéli moorings		

It is hoped that these requirements will be incorporated in due time to the SHOM final Comoran charting scheme.

Two Comoran representatives attended the WIOMH 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee in Johannesburg and listened with attention to the presentation made on satellite space charts. It is hoped that the 2 coastal charts at 1:150,000 mentioned above will include similar satellite information.

#### 4. Relation with the IHO and IHO member states

Comoros expresses its thanks to Norway, who funded the attendance of a Comoran representative to the 8<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Committee.

It was noted that there is no entry for Comoros in the IHO Yearbook. The proposal attached herewith has been drafted with the SAIHC experts.

Comoros further envisages entering an arrangement with SHOM, as recommended by the IHO, to clarify a number of technical issues such as contribution to the joint charting effort, training, cooperation, assistance to surveys, etc.

#### 5. The Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway and AIS station.

Comoros is looking forward to the WIOMH project being continued after 2012, as the World Bank initiative has very much contributed to raising national interest in the protection of environment and maritime affairs.

Comoros also hopes that the WIOMH project will finally install an AIS station in the port of Moroni. The World Bank expert seems to have approved the arrangements offered, while expressing reserves on the quality of the mains power supply, and interest in the idea of tasking a Comoran with performing the routine maintenance of the station. The person we have in sight has spent time onboard the *Beautemps-Beaupré* in 2010 and achieved successfully the French diploma of *Aide-Hydrographe* (assistant hydrographer). If agreed, she could reinforce the future Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre.



Moroni future AIS station (pending World Bank final agreement)

## **6. Training**

Comoros would appreciate having cat. B hydrographers trained in the Madagascan ENEM if funding could be identified, maybe within the WIOMHP.

As a start, each Comoran island should have a cat.B hydrographer who could collect MSI, reinforce the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre and contribute to port controls and limited surveys.

## **7. Equipment**

When created and staffed with its first Cat. B hydrographers, the Comoran Centre of Hydrography and Oceanography will need a basic supply of instruments to perform its tasks.

Procurement either of equipment no longer in use in large HOs (single beam echosounders, etc.) or donations from international programmes (Coastmap-IO, WIOMHP....) would be very much appreciated.

Attachment

CORRECTION PROPOSAL TO THE IHO YEAR BOOK

**COMOROS (UNION OF THE) – COMORES (UNION DES)**

<b>HYDROGRAPHIC &amp; OCEANOGRAPHIC CENTRE</b> <b>Comoran Ports Authority</b> <b>Harbour Master's Office</b> <b>MORONI – UNION OF COMOROS</b>	
<b>Department of which the Hydrographic &amp; Oceanographic Centre is part - <i>Ministère dont dépend le Centre d'hydrographie et d'océanographie</i></b>	<b>Ministry of Communications, in charge of Transport and Tourism - <i>Ministère des Postes &amp; Télécommunications, de la Promotion des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication, chargé des Transports et du Tourisme</i></b>
<b>Principal functions of the Hydrographic &amp; Oceanographic Centre - <i>Attributions principales du Centre d'hydrographie et d'océanographie -</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chart &amp; ENC update</b> – <i>Tenue à jour des cartes et ENC</i></li> <li>• <b>Safety of navigation</b> – <i>Sécurité de la navigation</i></li> <li>• <b>MSI</b> – <i>Information Nautique</i></li> <li>• <b>AtoN</b> – <i>Aides à la navigation</i></li> <li>• <b>Marine delineations</b> – <i>Délimitations</i></li> <li>• <b>Support to State action at sea (Coast guards and control of natural resources)</b> – <i>Soutien à l'Action de l'État en mer (surveillance et contrôle des ressources naturelles)</i></li> </ul>
<b>National day - <i>Fête nationale</i></b>	
<b>Telephone:</b>	<b>+ 269 333 42 14</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b><a href="mailto:anfaneseid@yahoo.fr">anfaneseid@yahoo.fr</a></b>
<b>Date of establishment and Relevant National Legislation - <i>Date de fondation et législation nationale concernée</i></b>	<b>The Centre is in the process of being created (August 2011) – <i>Le Centre est en cours de création (août 2011)</i></b>
<b>Name and rank of the Director or Head - <i>Nom et grade du directeur</i></b>	<b>Mr SAID Anfane, presently interim Director General of the Comoran Ports Authority – <i>M. SAID Anfane, DG par interim de la Direction des Ports des Comores</i></b>
<b>Tonnage</b>	<b>177 Merchant vessels (source : CIA World Factbook 2010) – <i>177 navires de commerce (source: CIA World Factbook 2010)</i></b>
<b>Total Budget- <i>Budget total</i></b>	<b>Not decided yet (August 2011) – <i>Pas encore défini (août 2011)</i></b>
<b>Staff employed - <i>Effectifs</i></b>	
<b>Capacity Building Strategy - <i>Stratégie en matière de renforcement des capacités</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. MSI : centralised and reported by the Hydrographic &amp; Oceanographic Centre – <i>Information nautique gérée par le Centre d'hydrographie et d'océanographie -</i></b></li> <li><b>2. Surveys : survey capacity in support of SHOM limited to satellite ground truth and selected port controls – <i>Capacité limitée au soutien du SHOM (vérité terrain satellitale et contrôles portuaires)</i></b></li> <li><b>3. Chart production : entrusted to SHOM, as per bilateral agreement (in progress August 2011) – <i>Confiée au SHOM dans le cadre d'un arrangement technique (en cours en août 2011)</i></b></li> </ol>