

# **1<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST ATLANTIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SWATHC)**

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 10 – 12 April 2007.

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Welcome**

Rear Admiral Andrés Roque DI VINCENZO, Head of the Naval Hydrographic Office of the Argentinean Navy and SWAtHC Chairman, warmly welcomed the IHB Members, the Member States' Delegations from the area and the Observers.

Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, IHB Director, then addressed the participants expressing his thanks for the invitation extended by the SWAtHC Chairman to participate in the first meeting of this Commission, and outlining the importance of such a Commission in the region.

### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Cdr. Jorge César LAPENTA (Secretary of the Commission) read the proposed Agenda to be covered during the meeting, and it was approved by all the delegations, without further remarks and/or corrections.

### **3. Review of the SWAtHC Statutes**

The Statutes were entirely reviewed and the corrections, as agreed by the full members, were incorporated; a corrected version of the Statutes was produced on 10 April 2007 and signed by the Heads of the full Member States' delegations.

The SWAtHC Chairman passed the Statutes to the IHB Director, as he had proposed that the IHB Secretariat would translate the Statutes into English.

**Action: IHB.**

### **4. Discussion of the Proposals submitted to the Commission**

**PRO 1: To ask the IHO Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems (CHRIS) to review the INT Chart Scheme. (SWAtHC I – 03)**

Submitted by: Brazil.

After consideration of this proposal, it was agreed that this subject should be included on the Agenda of the next MACHC meeting. This decision was taken with Brazil's agreement as this country is a member of both Hydrographic Commissions. The aim is to reach agreement on the regional limits, before submitting the proposal to CHRIS.

**Action: Brazil.**

**PRO 2: Establishment of a Hydrographic Commission of Navigable Rivers of South America (SWAtHC I – 04)**

Submitted by: Brazil.

After consideration of this proposal, it was agreed to change the title as follows:

*“To investigate the possible interest in establishing a Hydrographic Commission of Navigable Rivers of South America.”*

This investigation will be undertaken after the XVII<sup>th</sup> IHC by Circular Letter to all the Hydrographic Services in South America.

**Action: Argentina.**

**PRO 3: To apply for sponsorship from the IHO Capacity Building Committee (CBC).**

Submitted by: Brazil.

This proposal was approved and the SWAtHC Chairman passed a request to the Chairman of the IHO Capacity Building Committee requesting the necessary funds to cover the attendance of a representative from each of the Full Members of the Commission. The above-mentioned proposal will be submitted at the next Meeting of the Capacity Building Committee (June 2007) by Brazil, taking advantage of its membership of the CBC. Argentina and Uruguay will send to the Brazilian CBC representative participation letters for their delegates at the Iquitos Workshop.

**Action : Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.**

**PRO 4: Creation of a Planning Working Group.**

Submitted by: Brazil.

The Cartographic Planning Working Group was created with the following members:

- *Capt. Carlos A. MEDEIROS DE ALBUQUERQUE (Coordinator) – Brazil;*
- *Head of the Cartographic Department of the NHD (to be nominated);*
- *Cdr. Luis TURBAN – Uruguay;*
- *Lt. Cdr. Viviana BELTRÁN – Argentina.*

The objective of this WG is to establish cartographic plan for the region.

**Action: Argentina - Brazil - Uruguay.**

**PRO 5: SWAtHC Representation in the future IHO Council.**

Submitted by: Brazil.

This proposal will remain pending until the next meeting of the SWAtHC following the IHC.

**Action: SWAtHC.**

**PRO 6: Establishment of an INTERNET Website for the SWAtHC.**

Submitted by: Brazil.

The SWAtHC accepted the IHO offer, through Capt. GORZIGLIA, to include the SWAtHC documentation in the IHO web page related to the Hydrographic Commissions; every effort must be made by the ISWAtHC to keep the web page updated. Initially, Argentina will send the relevant information.

**Action: SWAtHC – IHB.**

**PRO 7: Establishment of a logo for the SWAtHC.**

Submitted by: Brazil.

The proposal was accepted. Brazil presented various models and invited the other members to suggest alternative models, in order to be able to select a final logo.

**Action: Argentina – Uruguay.**

**PRO 8: Amendment to Article 6 of the SWAtHC Statutes.**

Submitted by: Brazil.

This Proposal was accepted and included in the SWATHC Statutes.

**PRO 9 : Presentation of a proposal on inland waters to the XVII<sup>th</sup> IHC.**

Submitted by: Argentina.

This proposal was accepted and it will be presented at the next XVII<sup>th</sup> International Hydrographic Conference. Additionally the SWAtHC is addressing a Note to the President of the IHB Directing Committee to have this proposal presented to the President of the XVII<sup>th</sup> IHC.

**Action: Argentina (done).**

**PRO 10 : To request support from the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Capacity Building Committee (CBC).**

Submitted by: Argentina.

This proposal was accepted. The participation of six delegates representing the SWAtHC is planned at the Workshop on: “Collection – Processing of Multibeam Data and Quality Control of such data”, to be held in September in Gulfport (USA). In order to make this attendance possible, a note will be sent to CBC, requesting funding. This application will be submitted by Brazil in its capacity as CBC member.

**Action: Argentina - Brazil - Uruguay.**

**PRO 11 : Establishment of a Working Group to study the opportuneness and feasibility of establishing a RENC in South America.**

Submitted by: Uruguay.

This proposal will be dealt with by the newly created Cartographic Planning Working Group, as mentioned in Proposal 4.

**Action: Argentina - Brazil - Uruguay.**

**5. Work Programme for the CBC and its importance for the SWAtHC.**

Captain GORZIGLIA reported on courses and workshops concerning the Commission and which are included in the CBC Work Programme for 2008-2012, that will be presented for approval at the next International Hydrographic Conference.

The Hydrographic Office members of the Commission commit themselves to examining the possibility of changing the order fixed for planned workshops, if considered necessary.

**Action: Argentina - Brazil - Uruguay.**

**6. Updating of S-55.**

In order to maintain the S-55 publication up to date, the Naval Hydrographic Service of the Argentinean Navy will send relevant information to complete the missing period 2003-2007; to this same purpose, the Oceanographic, Hydrographic and Meteorologic Service of Uruguay promised to send the information obtained to date.

**Action: Argentina - Uruguay.**

**7. Preparation of the SWAtHC Report to be submitted to the IHC.**

The SWAtHC Secretary will prepare the Report to be presented by its Chairman at the International Hydrographic Conference. This Report will be previously sent to the various Commission members.

**Action: Argentina.**

~~All the Notes are included in the enclosed diskette.~~ (Delete ?)

Rear Admiral Andrés Roque DI VINCENZO  
Head of the Naval Hydrography Service.

Vice-Admiral Edison Lawrence MARIATH DANTAS  
Director of the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation.

Captain Orestes PEREYRA  
Head of the Oceanographic, Hydrographic and Meteorologic Service of the Navy.