

South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission
Constitutional Meeting
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 16 November 2006

The South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (SWAtHC) held its constitutional meeting at the Hydrographic and Navigation Directorate of the Brazilian Navy, in Niteroi, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on the 16th November 2006.

The Meeting was attended by a delegation from Argentina lead by Captain Raul Eduardo BENMUYAL, Hydrographer of Argentina and Commander Jorge LAPENTA and a delegation from Brazil lead by Vice Admiral Edison LAWRENCE Mariath Dantas, Hydrographer of Brazil, and all his senior staff.

Unfortunately due to last minute logistic problem the Uruguayan delegation could not make it to the meeting and the Constitutional Act was signed by Argentina and Brazil, postponing the signature of Uruguay for a later stage. The signatory parties agreed that the official date of constitution of the SWAtHC will be the date of signature of Uruguay.

The ceremony of constitution of the SWAtHC was attended by Captain Hugo GORZIGLIA, (Chile), IHB Director following a special invitation from the Hydrographer of Brazil.

As informed by the Hydrographer of Argentina, first Chairman of the SWAtHC the Statutes were signed by Uruguay on the 15th of December in Montevideo, Uruguay, and as agreed by its members, a copy of the Statutes has been sent to the IHB.

It is anticipated that the first meeting of the SWAtHC will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from the 10th to the 12th of April 2007, subject to confirmation in due course.

The IHB congratulates the Hydrographers of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay for this achievement, and welcomes the SWAtHC to work of the IHO.