

**16TH MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (SWPHC16)
Alofi, Niue, 11 - 14 February 2019**

NATIONAL REPORTS FROM SOLOMON ISLANDS TO THE SWPHC16

Reference: IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended

Executive summary

1. Hydrographic Office / Service:

- a) Name of the institution: Solomon Islands Hydrographic Unit – (SIMSA)
- b) Description: The Solomon Islands Hydrographic Unit (SIHU) is a Section within the Solomon Islands Maritime Safety Administration (SIMSA) which was established under an Act of Parliament of April 2009 and a Division of the Ministry of Infrastructure development. Under the Act, SIMSA is responsible for Regulating Shipping, Aids to Navigation, Marine Rescue Coordination and Hydrographic Services. However, this will be changed shortly to the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority (SIMA), in the coming months following the passage of a new Act by Parliament, the Maritime Act No.9 Of 2018 which will come into effect later this year.
- c) The SIHU is tasked with the responsibility to provide Hydrographic Services to the Solomon Islands Government (SIG), its Stakeholders and both the Local and International Maritime Shipping Community.
- d) Submitted by: Clifford Olisukuu (COLisukulu@mid.gov.sb).

Detailed information to update IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*) is submitted in Annex A. Please indicate "no change" in Annex A if this is the case.

2. Surveys:

[Describe any significant developments since the last RHC meeting in surveys related to the items below]

- a) Coverage of new surveys: The SIHU has a Hydroscheme in place and is usually updated annually. However, during the year 2018 financial year, No large scale hydrographic surveys were carried out. This is due mainly to the manpower shortage we are currently experiencing with the Unit. Our only Surveyor properly trained with the systems we have is undergoing studies overseas for the duration of two (2) years and is expected back at the end of this year.
- b) New technologies and /or equipment: Currently no new developments has been made recently with regards to any new equipments
- c) New ships: With the in-country limited capability, the SIHU's only surveying platform consists of an 18ft Aluminium survey motor boat powered by a 30 HP OBM engine
- d) Problems encountered: Currently our properly trained surveyor in the systems we have is on approved study leave overseas. Similarly, the difficulties experienced in-country

in obtaining the specific Capacity Building trainings currently required is another problem we are faced with.

Detailed information about surveys to update IHO Publications P-5 (*Yearbook*) and C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is submitted in Annexes A and B, respectively. Please indicate "no change" in Annexes A and B if this is the case.

3. New charts & updates:

[Describe any significant developments since the last RHC meeting in charting related to the items below]

- a) ENC: [Arrangements with the AHS](#)
- b) ENC Distribution method: [Arrangement through AHS Networks](#)
- c) RNCs
- d) INT charts
- e) National paper charts
- f) Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft
- g) Problems encountered

Detailed information about charting to update IHO Publications P-5 (*Yearbook*) and C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is submitted in Annexes A and B, respectively. Please indicate "no change" in Annexes A and B if this is the case.

4. New publications & updates:

[Describe any significant developments since the last SWPHC meeting in nautical publications related to the items below]

- a) New Publications:- [Solomon Islands Tide Tables 2019](#) consisting of some 40 plus tidal ports throughout the country has now been produced by our Primary Charting Authority (PCA), Australia. This includes three (3) Standard Ports namely, Honiara, Tarekukure (Choiseul Province) and Lata (Temotu Province).
- b) Updated publications
- c) Means of delivery, e.g. paper, digital
- d) Problems encountered

Detailed information to update IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*) is submitted in Annex A. Please indicate "no change" in Annex A if this is the case.

5. MSI

[Describe the status of Maritime Safety Information (MSI) related to the items below]

- a) Existing infrastructure for transmission: [The SIHU continues to progress in this area and has been active in providing this service in-country and to other stakeholders with support from our Aids to Navigation Team and MRCC through the various networks available to us.](#)
- b) New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan:- [SIMSA's Maritime Coordination Centre \(MRCC\) is playing a significant role in the dissemination process of the various MSI data for broadcasting locally and abroad to the relevant Authorities/Stakeholders, the shipping industry and the general public at large. There's a GMDSS Master Plan in place for execution but not yet possible due to funding availability.](#)
- c) Problems encountered: N/A

Detailed information about MSI to update IHO Publication C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is submitted in Annex B. The national self-assessment of MSI is submitted in Annex C. Please indicate "no change" in Annexes B and C if this is the case.

6. C-55

The table with the latest information to update IHO Publication C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is provided in Annex B. Please indicate "no change" in Annex B if this is the case.

7. Capacity Building Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

[Describe the need for or ability to offer Capacity Building in relation to the items below]

- a) Training received: During 2018, one Officer from our MRCC office was a recipient of the SWPHC Capacity Building initiative in Maritime Safety Information (MSI) Training Workshop held in Wellington, New Zealand.

Needed: The SIHU needs support for our Nautical Cartographer to undertake OJT in the different stages involved in Chart Production.

Technical support is also required in the development of a new SIHU Hydrographic Survey Instructions (HI's) and Capacity Building Training in-country in the using of the Hydrographic Surveying software – HYPACK Max in the initial planning, data acquisition, and processing stages of an entire field survey project. Also under this initiative such expert may be able to provide some Advisory Role into the ongoing developments of the SIHU.

- b) Status of national: As a small Island State with limited resources, the SIHU will continue to depend on support from the SIG. However, this may be limited only to operational costs with limited or no resources at all to cater for Capacity Building requirements and other new important developments that may be required from time to time in this area. Currently we are looking forward to our transition phase of becoming an Authority in the coming months.
- c) Description of requests to be considered by the IHO/CBSC: With the current situation we are faced with now, the only way forward is to consider securing a Technical expert well versed in using CEEHydroSystems Equipments and the Hydrographic Surveying software HYPACK MAX. Providing such capacity Building Training activity in-country could be a better option for consideration in the long run.

8. Oceanographic activities

[Describe any significant developments in oceanographic activity since the last SWPHC meeting related to the items below]

- a) General
- b) GEBCO/IBC's activities
- c) Tide gauge network: Currently three Tidal Stations are established in the Solomon Islands (Honiara, Tarakukure and Lata) by other Overseas Authorities working through the Meteorology Department of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology.
- d) New equipment: N/A
- e) Problems encountered

9. Other activities

[Describe any other significant developments of interest to the SWPHC since the last meeting related to the items below]

- a) Participation in IHO Working Groups
- b) Meteorological data collection: *The collection of these data on a routine basis is done by the Meteorology Department of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management & Meteorology.*
- c) Geospatial studies: N/A
- d) Disaster prevention: *These functions remains with the above Ministry.*
- e) Environmental protection: *The main functions regarding this area is with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management, & Meteorology. With the establishment of SIMA shortly, a Section will be established to perform some similar functions.*
- f) Astronomical observations: N/A
- g) Magnetic/Gravity surveys
- h) MSDI Progress:
 - i. Policy and Governance
 - ii. Technical Standards
 - iii. Information systems
 - iv. Data
- i) International
- j) Use of risk to support survey and chart updating priorities

10. Conclusions

[Provide a short summary statement that highlights any of the following:

- a) *Areas of significant achievement: Since its establishment in early 2012 until today, the SIHU has developed to a stage that it is equipped with the appropriate resources to provide some of the basic hydrographic services to its Stakeholders and other relevant authorities.*
 - b) *Australia has assumed the role of Primary Charting Authority (PCA) for Solomon Islands as of 11th August 2017 followed by the signing of an MOU between both countries on 28th September 2017.*
 - c) *Similarly, under arrangements made through our PCA, Solomon Islands ENC's can now be made available worldwide through Australia's Charting Agencies network overseas.*
 - d) *It is also worth highlighting here that Australia through the AHS has spent a lot of resources and time also in working towards the Publication of the new Solomon Islands Tide Tables (SITT), 2019 for Solomon Islands. The Publication includes a total of 40 plus Tidal Ports throughout the country including three (3) Standard Ports.*
- e) *Areas of particular concern*
- i) *As from the beginning 2018 until now, like any other Organization, the SIHU, has been faced up with few internal problems. These includes being faced up with the lack of proper trained manpower following the departure of one of our staff on approved study leave and also few equipment breakdowns. We will continue to look at how best in addressing these challenges and hoping that our higher authorities in the new establishment do seriously consider providing us with the required resources.*
 - ii) *Establishing a collaborative effort with other local authorities especially in the transmission of Maritime Safety information (MSI) still continues to be a challenge.*

a) *Any other matters of interest to the SWPHC*

i) Our application to join the IHO as a Full Membership State is still with our Ministry of Foreign Affairs although all necessary information required from us has all been submitted with the application.

Input to the IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*)

Country: Solomon Islands

Organization: Solomon Islands Hydrographic Unit

(Please provide the information in English)

Contact information/ Informations de contact / Información de contacto	
<p>-National Hydrographer or equivalent -Directeur du service hydrographique ou équivalent -Director del Servicio Hidrográfico o equivalente</p>	<p>Post:Chief Hydrographic Officer Name:Clifford Olisukulu Postal address:Solomon Islands Maritime Safety Administration, P.O. Box G32, Commonwealth Street, Honiara, Solomon Islands Tel:(677) 21535 Ext 223 Fax:(677) 23798 Email:COLisukulu@mid.gov.sb</p>
<p>-Head of the Hydrographic Office (if different from the person indicated above) -Directeur du Service Hydrographique (si différent de la personne indiquée ci-dessus) -Director del Servicio Hidrográfico (si diferente de la persona indicada anteriormente)</p>	<p>Post:(As indicated above) Name: Postal address: Tel: Fax: Email:</p>
<p>-Other point(s) of contact -Autre(s) point(s) de contact -Otros punto(s) de contacto</p>	<p>Principal Hydrographic Surveyor, Mr Tony HANUAGI Email: THanuagi@mid.gov.sb</p> <p>Nautical Cartographer:</p> <p>Principal Nautical Cartographer, Mr John Dalomae Email: JDalomae@mid.gov.sb</p> <p>Administrators:</p> <p>Director of Marine (Ag), Mr Jonah Mitau Tel:: (677) 28157 Email: JMitau@mid.gov.sb</p> <p>Permanent Secretary, Mr Stephen Maesiola Ministry of Infrastructure Development P.O. Box G8, Honiara Tel: (677) 28603 Email: SMaesiola@mid.gov.sb</p>

-Web site -site web -sitio web	ww.SIMSA.gov.sb
Country information / Informations sur le pays/ Información sobre el país	
-Declared National Tonnage -Tonnage national déclaré -Tonelaje Nacional Declarado	Tonnage:112,439 Gross Tonnage Date:31/01/2019
-National day -Fête nationale -Fiesta nacional	07 th July 1978
-Date of establishment and Relevant National Legislation -Date de mise en place et législation nationale pertinente -Fecha de constitución y legislación nacional pertinente	February 2012, SIMSA Act of April 2009.
-Date first joined IHO -Date d'adhésion à l'OHI -Fecha de adhesión a la OHI	
-Date ratification Convention -Date de ratification de la Convention -Fecha de ratificación de la Convención	
-Remarks on membership -Remarques sur l'adhésion -Comentarios sobre la adhesión	Currently our Application for full Membership of the IHO is still with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
Agency information/ Information sur l'agence/ Información sobre la agencia	
-Top level parent organisation -Organisme mère -Organización asociada de nivel superior	Ministry of Infrastructure Development, SIMSA.
-Principal functions of the organisation or the department -Attribution principales de l'organisme ou du département -Principales funciones de la Organización o departamento	Hydroscheme, Hydrographic surveys, Tidal Information, Depository of Hydrographic Records, Chart Corrections, Issue of Hydrographic Data, Records, Charts and International Publications.

-Annual operating budget -Budget annuel -presupuesto anual	USD \$ 115,000.00			
-Total number of staff employed -Effectifs totaux -Número total de personal empleado	4			
-Number of INT charts published -Nombres de cartes INT publiées -Número de cartas INT publicadas	Arrangements with the AHS			
-Total number of paper charts published -Nombre total de cartes papier publiées -Número total de cartas de papel publicadas	Arrangements with the AHS			
-Number of ENC cells published -Nombres de cellules ENC publiées -Número de células ENC publicadas	Arrangements with the AHS			
-Number of Other charts -Nombre d'Autres cartes -Número de Otras cartas				
-Type of publications produced -Type d'ouvrages produits -Tipo de publicaciones producidas	Arrangements with the AHS			
-Detail of surveying vessels/ aircraft -Détail des bâtiments hydrographiques / aéronefs -Detalle de los buques hidrográficos / aeronaves	-Name -Nom -Nombre	-Displacement -Déplacement -Desplazamiento	-Date Launched -Date de mise en service -Fecha de botado	-Number of crew -Nombre de l'équipage -Tripulación

-Other information of
interest
-Autres informations utiles
-Otra información de interés

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Input to the IHO Publication C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*)

Country: *Solomon Islands*

(Please provide the information in English)

C-55 Summary for:				Comments on Charts: Remove existing Notes Charts are SLB ENC are SB
Country:				
Country Iso Code:	SB-SLB - 090			
Country SubCode:				
INT Region:				
Country/Depend:				
Last updated:	Feb 2019			
Provided by:	SIMSA			
Chart coverage	Passage (%)	Coastal (%)	Port (%)	Comments on Surveys:
INT	100	100		
RNC	0	0	0	
ENC	100	100	100	
Status of Paper Charts				
Paper charts with depths in meters (%)				
Paper charts referenced to a satellite datum (%)				
Status of surveys	Adequate (%)	Resurvey (%)	No survey (%)	
0-200m	10	30	60	
> 200m	30	10	60	

MSI	Y/N	Comments on MSI:
Local warning	Y	Issued by SI Meteorology Services or National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) locally and is broadcasted by MRCC
Coastal warning	Y	As above
Nav warning	Y	As above
Port warning	Y	Issuing by SIPA and broadcasting by MRCC
GMDSS	Y/N	Comments on GMDSS:
Master Plan	Y	MRCC has a plan in place but currently no funding available for further expansion.
Area A1	Y	MRCC
Area A2	Y	MRCC
Area A3	Y	MRCC
NAVTEX	N	No station in place

SafetyNet		
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National MSI Self-Assessment

Country: *Solomon Islands*
 Organization: *MRCC (SIMSA)*

(Please provide the information in English)

1. Maritime area

(SRR..Solomon Islands Search and Rescue Region) NAVAREA

[Describe maritime area including details of the geographic boundaries]

2. Operational Points of Contact for the National Coordinator

INSTITUTION	TELEPHONE	FACSIMILE	EMAIL
MRCC HONIARS	(677) 21609	(677) 23798	mrcc@solomon.com.sb

3. GMDSS Master Plan

(GMDSS and DSC Consol operate 24Hr..Master Plan improve and increase 2 more stations, updated October 2015). Not eventuate due mainly to Lack of Funding.)

[Report on the status of the GMDSS Master Plan: Is it up to date? When was the last update?]

(Specific equipment..SARMAP and AIS link to AMSA...SARMAP Operates in Version 7.1, keep renewing every year. This year expires on July 2019 and next renewal for 2020)

[Specifics of equipment used and software version with date up-dated]

Equipment Type for Ports and Local Area	Software Version	Date of Up-date
AIS Link..NAVAREA Solomon Is Waters	Link through SAT	Depend on AMSA to keep updating 2019
SARMAP...Solomon Islands waters	V7.1 exp Jul 2019	Nov 2017, 18

(Weather warnings and marine warnings obtain from SI MET Services... Cyclone warnings, Tsunami and Flush Flood Warnings, rain warnings...Search and Rescue uncertainty, Alert and Distress Warnings)

[Detail the number of warnings identified as immediate priority (requiring transmission within 30 minutes) and the average elapsed time for passing to NAVAREA coordinator, as reported to the last RHC meeting]:

Year Y-2		Year Y-1		Year Y	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time

xx	xx.x Mins	xx	xx.x Mins	xx	xx.x Mins
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4. NAVTEX Coverage:

[Diagram of NAVTEX stations and service areas within maritime area; Contact details for NAVTEX Stations; Confirm operational status has been validated.]

5. Operational Issues: *No Navtex Station here.*

[New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan; Problems encountered?] Funding is the main Problem

6. Contingency Planning

[Provide information regarding contingency plans that have been established and future plans where appropriate. Also report on any testing of the plan that has been conducted] Establish Plan is the Marine Contingency Plan that is yet to be tested for effectiveness and efficiencies)

7. Capacity Building

[Demands for Capacity Building, Training requested or received, any offered, status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional development projects with MSI component] It's a very important element which should be included in Search and Rescue capability especially to obtaining such knowledge and skills). 2018 August, one Officer from MRCC undertake Workshop on MSI in New Zealand. This is the first time and thus we need more officers from MRCC to attend such trainings in future.

8. Other Activities

[Participation in other IHO or IMO Working Groups, Regional Hydrographic Commissions, regional conferences related to MSI over past year](Have never attended any IHO meetings as yet but would like to if we may be given the chance in the near future.

9. National Maritime Website

WWW: SIMSA.gov.sb

[(Address, statistics (if permitted by national legislation; how often is the information on your web site updated? Do you display the date and time of the last update on your web site?)]Not very often depending on information and those running the site if the need to put something important.

10. Recommendations

[If any]

11. Summary

[Please provide a short summary of this paper which will be included in the final report of the meeting.]