

**International Hydrographic  
Organization**



**United States - Canada Hydrographic  
Commission**



Minutes

36<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the

**UNITED STATES - CANADA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION**

Silver Spring, MD  
Ottawa, Canada  
April 29, 2013

Co-Chairs:

RDML Gerd F. Glang NOAA  
Director, Office of Coast Survey (OCS)  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration (NOAA)

Dr. Savithri (Savi) Narayanan  
Director General, Dominion Hydrographer  
Canadian Hydrographic Service  
(CHS) Fisheries & Oceans Canada

**1. Introductions and Welcoming Remarks**

RDML Glang opened the commission meeting welcoming all participants and observers Tim Lewis (United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO)) and Dr. David Dodd. Dr. Narayanan also welcomed the participants and expressed her pleasure in having the opportunity to co-chair the Commission meeting.

A round table of introductions followed. The Participants List is provided in Annex A.

RDML Glang offered the agenda for approval. The Agenda was approved as attached as Annex B.

## 2. Review Outstanding Actions for USCHC35 and approve minutes of USCHC35

The co-chairs reviewed all action items from USCHC 35 and agreed to carry the following incomplete actions:

USCHC35	Action Items	Status
Transboundary ENC Production Status  (USCHC 35-1)	To investigate and act on updates to the Canadian Chart Catalogue and associated references to reflect realities of Transboundary ENCs in the Strait of Juan de Fuca region by December 31, 2012 Lead: D. Prince	Pending
Transboundary ENC Production Status  (USCHC 35-2)	To use the lessons learned from the CHS actions taken in the Strait of Juan de Fuca to establish protocols for catalogue and web representation at each phase of the Transboundary ENC work. Leads: CAC/D. Pelletier/K. Ries	Pending
Transboundary ENC Production Status  (USCHC 35-3)	To investigate and action updates to the Pacific Region Sailing Directions to harmonize them with decisions taken on the Strait of Juan de Fuca Transboundary ENCs. Completion target is December 2012. Lead: D. Prince	Pending

The USCHC35 Minutes and Actions were approved.

## 3. Organizational Updates

Dr. Narayanan introduced organizational changes that included:

- Announcing Doug Brunt will join the Dominion Hydrographer's Office to assist on matters in general, including the IHO Technical matters.
- A new planning structure is to be implemented in CHS with an increased national focus on consistency and operational planning to ensure the highest priorities are addressed.
- Announcing the public release of Canada's national Arctic Voyage Planning Guide on April 26, 2013.
- National Policy priorities of the Canadian government were announced in the 2013 Budget that included development of a modern navigation system including both prevention and response components plus early assessment of strategies for developing an Arctic marine corridor approach.

RDML Glang provided the U.S. organizational update that included:

- Hydrographic Leadership Updates at NOAA, NGA and Navy
- An overview of the National Strategy for the Marine Transportation System

- An overview of NOAA emergency response tools and recent successes
- An overview of US (OCS) International Priorities and upcoming international events
- An overview of economic statistics on the U.S. Marine Transportation System (source: US Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration  
[http://www.marad.dot.gov/ports\\_landing\\_page/marine\\_transportation\\_system/MTS.htm](http://www.marad.dot.gov/ports_landing_page/marine_transportation_system/MTS.htm))

Both national reports are available at  
[http://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/rhc/USCHC/USCHC36/USCHC36\\_Docs.htm](http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/rhc/USCHC/USCHC36/USCHC36_Docs.htm).

The co-chairs and participants noted the following common themes of the two national reports:

- V-datum as a topic of growing interest;
- Emergence of maritime transportation systems of each country, including e-navigation;
- High interest in developing and advancing new digital standards, such as S100/S101; and
- Hydrographic Office provision disaster response services

Item Number	Action	Responsible Party
USCHC 36-1	Canada will present its Olex experiences at the upcoming Arctic meeting (Science Forum or ARHC-4- tbd) and contact Norway to coordinate.	Canada
USCHC 36-2	US to provide reference citation for US statistics offered in US National Report	US

## 5. Chart Advisors Committee (CAC) Reports

K. Ries, CAC Chair, presented the CAC report, noting:

- Conclusion of the Transboundary ENC project as of February 2013. 92 ENC overlaps were eliminated in four transboundary regions of the USCHC.
- Drafting of a “Best Practices” summary in support of action item IRCC4-10.
- Recommendation of the CAC to the National Hydrographers to task the CAC with developing options to codify procedures for any planned production of new ENCs which could create new ENC overlaps. Canada informed the OCS of its pending production of new ENCs CA376309 and CA376024 in the Grand Manan Banks area of the Atlantic Ocean and the potential overlap that would be created with US3EC10M. The US proposed reducing US3EC10M. The National Hydrographers agreed to this revision noting that with the US ENC cutback, coverage would be more than adequate. Appropriate documentation will be developed per action items below.
- Recommendation to the National Hydrographers to sign a New Level of Services Agreement that was slightly revised to include the ongoing maintenance of paper and digital cooperative charting. The National Hydrographers agreed to the recommendation.
- Recommendation to the National Hydrographers to discontinue the 1994 decision to apply dual badges on some cooperative paper charts as the distinction of dual badging was no longer a recognizable advantage for mariners or hydrographic offices. The National Hydrographers agreed to the recommendation.
- New common interest identified by the CAC representatives for V-datum cooperation, model validation, data exchange integration, and product development.

- New common interest identified by the CAC representatives for LIDAR cooperation and exchange of information and experiences.

In discussion, participants emphasized

- V-datum: Canada has placed a high priority on improving transportation support infrastructure for tanker safety in the Pacific. For the U.S., the Washington state V-datum has been completed and is ready to be compared to Canada’s regional V-datum efforts in British Columbia when appropriate. Canada’s first cut V-datum separation in the Pacific is slated to occur in mid-May with results being evaluated over the year. In Quebec, the first cut in the Atlantic will be in approximately late May; over the course of the year, they would like to look at comparisons to US waters. And, in 2014, CHS-Québec will be validating its models in comparison to U.S. models.
- LIDAR, participants would like to emphasize interest in sharing survey plans more than six months in advance of any projects in order to increase opportunities for information sharing or collaboration. Interest lies in sharing how data is used and incorporated in charts as well as experiences and lessons-learned from LIDAR contracting, processing, etc....
- David Dodd noted the value of the LIDAR discussion and informed the group of a workshop being convened in June in Victoria. Some data should be discoverable and sharable.
- LIDAR and V-datum were recommended topics to be highlighted at the ARHC-4 meeting in October. Dr. Narayanan proposed a joint US-Canada presentation on the use of LIDAR at the ARHC-4.
- Paper Chart Cooperation: Agreement to discontinue dual badge practices with next edition of charts and to pursue no further action at this time regarding single agency practices.

Observer Tim Lewis referenced the Vertical Offshore Reference System (VORS) being developed by the UK Hydrographic Office. Lewis offered to introduce VORS technical experts to OCS and CHS to contribute to the sharing of information and expertise in the V-datum field.

Item Number	Action	Responsible Party
USCHC 36-3	Codify a procedure for notifying each hydrographic office of planned new ENC production which could result in future ENC overlaps.	K. Ries/D. Pelletier.
USCHC 36-4	As part of the above action, develop flow chart for decision making that can be an on-line tool. Flow chart would outline the process of informing each side of new ENCs production schedules-discussion-review by CAC-decisions-documentation.	J. Powell
USCHC 36-5	Exchange information and cooperate as opportunity presents on V-datum, including exchange of bathymetric and tide gauge data, information on calculating uncertainty in models, comparing tidal models and other areas as warranted.	M. Kenny- B. DeLangBoon
USCHC 36-6	Exchange experiences in the use of LIDAR for collecting shoreline and bathymetric data, including data acquisition, contracting, and product development.	J. Ferguson- M. Goguen
USCHC 36-7	Canada to provide additional details on LIDAR Workshop	M. Goguen

	in Victoria to OCS.	
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## 6. IHO IRCC

Participants reviewed commission positions for WEND Working Group 3 meeting, (including commission representation (S. Hinds), support for CL 23/2013, and the draft Guidelines for the Implementation of the WEND Principles), and the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference of the WEND WG. The meeting participants agreed to address the need to seek more clarity on the voting procedures of the Working Group and, if needed, to propose an INF paper for revisions to the TOR.

The United States confirmed it has submitted its ENC gaps and overlaps assessment to UK and is also working to do so with the membership of the MesoAmerican Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC). Canada confirmed it plans to submit its national status assessment of gaps and overlaps to the WENDWG prior to its May 2013 meeting..

Dr. Narayanan briefed the USCHC on preparations for IRCC- 5 and her goals as Chair of the meeting.

RDML Glang confirmed his preparations to attend the IRCC- 5 meeting and present a brief Commission report highlighting USCHC accomplishments, status of the commissions', near term technical collaborative topics, and other current priorities of the commission.

Tim Lewis updated the group on UKHO efforts on C-55 and a UKHO case study assessment of chart coverage and survey vintage for the Persian Gulf. Mr. Lewis offered to follow-up with Dr. Narayanan outside the meeting as an informational courtesy to provide additional status on UKHO efforts regarding C-55.

Item Number	Action	Responsible Party
USCHC36-8	Review Terms of Reference and take appropriate steps prior to the WEND WG meeting (May 2013)	Hinds/Powell
USCHC36-9	Request of UKHO the updated list of priority ports (derived from the Lloyd's list) from which gaps/overlaps and risk can be assessed	Hinds/Powell

## 7. Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC) discussion

RDML Glang provided an update on preparations for the Commission meeting. The dates and venue have been confirmed by all member states for October 29-30 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Dr. Narayanan noted crowd sourcing would be a good topic to address at the Scientific Forum (October 28). RDML Glang suggested crowd sourcing requires both a technical aspect (data acquisition standards and ensuring quality data) and a policy aspect (intellectual property, acceptance standards) which might be addressed both during the Science Forum and the ARHC. Julia Powell suggested considering how scientists are modeling the prospects for Arctic Shipping over the upcoming forty years.

Item Number	Action	Responsible Party
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USCHC36-10	Develop a timeline to propose to ARHC members and propose conference call with members in early to mid-July to discuss the Forum and ARHC meeting.	U.S.
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Dr. Narayanan announced Canada’s Arctic Voyage Planning Guide (AVPG) was released to the public April 26. CHS felt the GIS served through an interactive web mapping interface offered efficiencies in communication and an innovative service to end users.

In the short term, a template modeling this digital AVPG could be proposed by Canada for discussion by ARHC members and a long term goal could include 5 AVPGs for the circumpolar region managed by each of the five ARHC member states.

The web service offers a powerful vehicle for data sharing of certified geo-spatial layers and metadata.

**8. S100 Report**

Julia Powell (NOAA) provided the USCHC with an overview of the IHO S-100 standard. In addition, an update on the progress of S-101 was provided. The presentation can be found on the USCHC website at [http://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/rhc/USCHC/USCHC36/USCHC36\\_Docs.htm](http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/rhc/USCHC/USCHC36/USCHC36_Docs.htm).

**9. Invited Report**

UK presented a summary of the "Marine Spatial Planning" work in Mesoamerican-Caribbean region, focusing on the maritime funding progress. It was reported that strong engagement has now started between the IHB and potential funding organizations, first through the IHB President dialing into Maritime funding meeting in February, and more recently with face-to-face meeting between Director Iptes and World Bank.

UK provided a summary of the counterfeiting issues as raised through IHO Circular Letter 22/2013. The IHO were commended for supporting this awareness, there were no known incidents within the USCHC region but all were asked to remain vigilant.

The IHB Report of Director Mustafa Iptes was made available prior to the meeting and is available on the USCHC website [http://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/rhc/USCHC/USCHC36/USCHC36\\_Docs.htm](http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/rhc/USCHC/USCHC36/USCHC36_Docs.htm).

**10. Signing**

RDML Glang and Dr. Narayanan signed the Memorandum of Arrangement between OCS and CHS regarding the USCHC and an associated Schedule A 2013-1 Level of Services Agreement for cooperation in Chart production and maintenance matters.

**11. Next Meeting and Closing of USCHC36**

Dr. Narayanan said Canada would host the USCHC37 in spring 2014 with the exact dates and venue to be confirmed via correspondence. Both co-chairs offered their appreciation to the hard work and preparations of all participants at USCHC36.

RDML Glang closed the meeting.

## International Hydrographic Organization



### United-States-Canada Hydrographic Commission



Teleconference  
 United States of America (host)  
 And  
 Canada  
**April 29, 2013**

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## United-States-Canada Hydrographic Commission



36th Meeting of the  
UNITED STATES - CANADA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

April 29, 2013

Co-Chairs: RDML Gerd F. Glang and Dr. Savithri Narayanan

Agenda Item	Time (EST)	Topic	Presenter
1	9:00am	Opening Remarks and Introductions	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan
2	9:10am	Approval of Minutes of 35 <sup>th</sup> Meeting and Status of Action Items	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan
3	9:20am	Review and Approval of Agenda	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan
4	9:30am	National Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United States</li> <li>• Canada</li> </ul>	RDML Glang Dr. Narayanan
5	10:00am	Chart Advisory Committee Report	K. Ries /G. Marquis
6	11:00am	IHO IRCC Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions Arising from IRCC-4</li> <li>• WENDWG-3</li> <li>• Planning for IRCC-5</li> </ul>	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan RDML Glang US-lead
	11:45am	LUNCH	
7	12:30pm	ARHC Matters Regarding US and Canada HO Attention	Dr. Narayanan/ RDML Glang/CDR Smith
8	1:30pm	S100 Report	J.Powell/L. Patterson
9	1:45pm	Invited Report: UKHO Report	Tim Lewis
10	2:00pm	Signing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOA</li> <li>• Schedule A 2013-1</li> </ul>	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan
11	2:15pm	Next Meeting	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan
12	2:30pm	Closing	RDML Glang/Dr. Narayanan

## Actions List USCHC 36

Item Number	Action	Responsible Party
USCHC 36-1	Canada will present its Olex experiences at the upcoming Arctic meeting (Science Forum or ARHC-4- tbd) and contact Norway to coordinate.	Canada
USCHC 36-2	US to provide reference citation for US statistics offered in US National Report	US
USCHC 36-3	Codify a procedure for notifying each hydrographic office of planned new ENC production which could result in future ENC overlaps.	K. Ries/G.
USCHC 36-4	As part of the above action, develop flow chart for decision making that can be an on-line tool. Flow chart would outline the process of informing each side of new ENCs production schedules-discussion-review by CAC-decisions-documentation.	J. Powell
USCHC 36-5	Exchange information and cooperate as opportunity presents on V-datum, including exchange of bathymetric and tide gauge data, information on calculating uncertainty in models, comparing tidal models and other areas as warranted.	Kenny-DeLangBoon
USCHC 36-6	Exchange experiences in the use of LIDAR for collecting shoreline and bathymetric data, including data acquisition, contracting, and product development.	J. Ferguson-L.Colombe
USCHC 36-7	Canada to provide additional details on LIDAR Workshop in Victoria to OCS.	???
USCHC36-8	Review Terms of Reference and take appropriate steps prior to the WEND WG meeting (May 2013)	Hinds/Powell
USCHC36-9	Request of UKHO the updated list of priority ports (derived from the Lloyd's list) from which gaps/overlaps and risk can be assessed	Hinds/Powell
USCHC36-10	Develop a timeline to propose to ARHC members and propose conference call with members in early to mid-July to discuss the Forum and ARHC meeting.	U.S.