

**Drafted 12 Jan 05**

## **AGENDA ITEM 7: REVISION AND UPDATE OF S-55**

### **Explanatory Note**

**CL 86/04 describes the visibility within IMO of IHO Special Publication 55: “The Status of Surveys and Charting Worldwide” in its new format as an on-line data-base ([www.iho.shom.fr](http://www.iho.shom.fr)). It also calls for RHC support in management and exploitation of the data-base.**

**Captain Barritt will present a PowerPoint brief on:**

- **Access to, and update and exploitation of, the on-line data-base.**
- **Gaps which remain in the world-wide coverage.**
- **Progress with the concept of RHC layers for the IHO electronic data-base.**
- **Major conclusions from analysis of the data.**

**The brief will lead into discussion of the work and conclusions of the second meeting of the IHO Capacity Building Committee (IHO CBC) (See separate Explanatory Note).**

### **Background**

NHC attendees can view the S-55 data-base on the IHO web-site ([www.iho.shom.fr](http://www.iho.shom.fr)). It can be found most easily under the “NEW” section of the Home Page.

At the time of drafting this Explanatory Note the only gaps in input from NHC members relate to MSI/GMDSS data for the Faeroe Islands, Greenland, Jan Mayen and Svalbard.

IHO CLs 35 and 86 of 2004 invite MS to consider their procedures for systematic update of the data-base. There is a data input questionnaire on the web-site at the bottom of the Key on the left hand side. MS can use this at any time to submit updates.

The CLs also discuss the development of RHC data-bases as a more detailed layer below S-55. Slow progress is being made with the prototype being developed by the IHB and HCA from S-59, and RHCs are encouraged to build up a more detailed picture for their region. For the NHC such detail would be particularly valuable to support IHO advice to UN and IMO on the safety of navigation in Arctic and sub-Arctic sea areas.

Responses to the S-55 questionnaire are a major tool for IHO CBC assessment of regional priorities within the IHO CB Work Programme. In this context, efforts to fill the remaining gaps in the data-base (c20%) have a high priority.