

Report on the World Hydrography Day

1. BACKGROUND

The World Hydrography Day was celebrated for the first time in June 2006. Most of the HOs have been involved in such celebrations, with significant efforts but mixed results. When positive feedbacks have been received, they were mostly on a national basis.

At the NSHC 27th, France suggested to investigate the possibility of making a joint celebration for a better efficiency and awareness impact. France was tasked to coordinate a joint celebration of the World Hydrography Day in 2007. For various reasons, it was not possible to make the necessary arrangements in 2007.

2. DISCUSSION

Since, significant progress has been made thanks to the support provided by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute (IHPT).

Finally, with the kind support of EMSA and IHPT, a draft programme for a joint celebration of the WHD in 2008 has been prepared. The event will take place at EMSA on 23-24 June 2008 to avoid any conflict with other national plans. A draft agenda is given in enclosure 1.

If necessary, SHOM agrees to co-ordinate with other volunteers the presentation to be given by one HO on the theme “*Capacity building, a vital tool to assist the IHO in achieving its mission and objectives*”.

3. PROPOSAL

NSHC's members are invited to consider their participation in the event.

Draft Agenda

World Hydrographic Day (and adjacent events)

Lisbon

23 June 2008

Visit to the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute (IHPT)

(Location: Lapa)

17.00	Departure of EMSA bus from Hotel
17.30	Visit to the Portuguese hydrographic Institute (IHPT)
19.00	Cocktail offered by the Portuguese Authority
21.00	Return to Hotel by EMSA bus

24 June 2008

World Hydrographic Day

(Location: EMSA Cais do Sodre)

9.30 – 10.30	Registration and Coffee	9.30 – 10.00 Introductory meeting between : - Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos, IHO - Admiral Augusto de Brito, IHPT - Mr Willem de Ruiter, EMSA - European Commission Representative (tbc) - NSHC Chair
10.30-10.45	Welcome Address by Mr de Ruiter, EMSA Executive Director	
10.45-11.00	IHO presentation, by Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos, President IHO	
11.00-11.30	World Hydrographic Day presentation: “Capacity building, a vital tool to assist the IHO in achieving its mission and objectives”, <i>by the NSHC Chairman or a designated Director of one HO (tbd)</i>	
11.30-11.40	Signature of a Letter of Intent between EMSA and the IHO (tbc)	
11.40-11.50	Closing remarks, by Admiral de Brito, Director of IHPT	
12.00-12.30	Visit to EMSA facilities	12.00-12.30 Press conference and drink with: - Vice-Admiral Alexandros Maratos, IHO - Admiral Augusto de Brito, IHPT - Mr Willem de Ruiter, EMSA - NSHC Chairman and/or HO director
<i>(Location: tbd)</i>		
13.05-14.30	Lunch	