



13TH MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE Mexico City, Mexico, 27 to 29 May

The 13th meeting of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC13) was held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 27 to 29 May, hosted by the Mexican *Secretaría de Marina* at the premises of the *Centro de Estudios Superiores Navales*. The meeting was chaired by Mr Thomas Dehling (Germany) and attended by 18 members and 14 observers from 13 Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs), 19 Member States and two observing organizations. The IHB was represented by Director Mustafa Iptes and Assistant Director Alberto Costa Neves (CBSC Secretary).

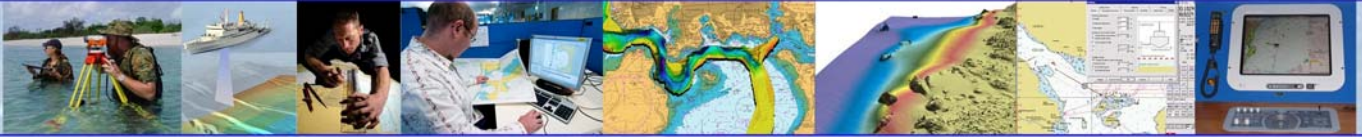
The Sub-Committee reviewed the impact of the revised IHO Capacity Building (CB) Strategy approved by the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC-5) on the work of the CBSC, especially in building the Management Plan, the access of non-Member States only to Phase 1 activities, the need to identify larger and comprehensive projects to attract funding from donor agencies and the development of a Public Relations paper to raise awareness of the importance of the IHO CB Programme and to improve its visibility.

The Sub-Committee considered the increasing number of CB activities, the associated administrative workload, intersessional correspondence and meeting workload. The Sub-Committee acknowledged the challenges on the existing limitations of the IHO secretariat to support the administration of the CB programme.

The increasing interaction with the World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS-SC), the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (MSDIWG) and the Tides, Water Level and Current Working Group (TWCWG) was considered with respect to the feedback to the CB activities, the assessment of the need for further support and the development of course material.

The CBSC considered the development of the current IHO publication C-55 - *Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide* and its transition to a GIS database environment, the development of supporting databases (the Country Information System and the regional database), the progress made in the IHO GIS infrastructure and the possibilities for creating an improved C-55 function by using **Category of Zones of Confidence** (CATZOC) values extracted from ENC's. This work will enable country profiles to be created to support the decision-making process when dealing with CB resources.

The Sub-Committee reviewed the draft CB Procedure 9 - *Technical Visits* and agreed to use this draft procedure for one year and obtain feedback before considering formal approval at the next CBSC meeting. The CBSC acknowledged the continuing significant contributions made by the Republic of Korea and Japan, through the Nippon Foundation (NF), to the IHO CB Programme. The Sub-Committee also acknowledged the significant contributions from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) in supporting the development of hydrographic services in developing states through the delivery of joint capacity building programmes.



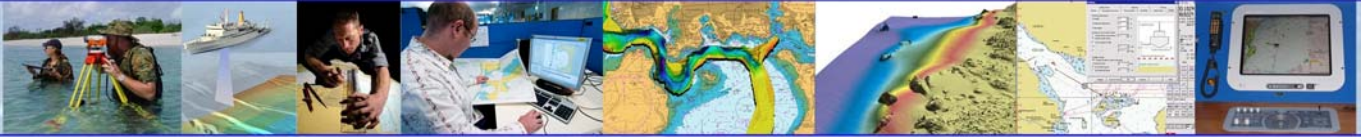
The meeting commended the work by New Zealand in developing an evidence-based risk assessment methodology and its implementation in the SWPHC to establish priorities for surveys and charting. Other developments were presented by the UK (the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States – OECS Project), the Republic of Korea (the EAHC Training, Research and Development Center), France (the EAHC Definition Study for a Long Term CB Project) and Mexico (Strengthening the Hydrographic Capabilities in Meso-America and Caribbean Sea).

The CB Management Plan (CBMP) was reviewed and approved by the meeting as the basis for the 2016 CB Work Programme (CBWP). The meeting also approved the 2014 CBWP and updated the 2015 CBWP. The CBSC expressed some concern that there were currently only limited financial resources available to execute the full 2016 CBWP.

The next meeting of the CBSC will be held in Abu Dhabi (UAE) from 24 to 26 May 2016. A full report of the 13th meeting of CBSC will be published on the IHO website.



Participants at the 13th meeting of the IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee



3RD MEETING OF THE IHO SURFACE CURRENT WORKING GROUP HYDROGRAPHIC AND OCEANOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT, JAPAN COAST GUARD

Tokyo, Japan, 13-15 May



*Mr Shigeru Kasuga, Chief Hydrographer of Japan,
welcoming participants to SCWG3*

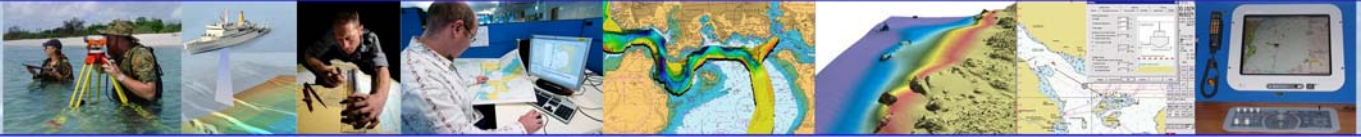
The Surface Current Working Group (SCWG), which is tasked by the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) to develop standards for the delivery and presentation of navigationally significant surface current information, held its 3rd meeting (SCWG3) at the Office of the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard (JHOD) in Tokyo, Japan, from 13 to 15 May 2015. Mr Shigeru Kasuga, Chief Hydrographer of Japan, welcomed

the delegates and noted the participation of Japan and the Republic of Korea in the SCWG for the first time. Mr Kurt Hess (USA), Chair of the SCWG, ran the meeting. Representatives from Canada, France, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Spain, USA, and the IHB attended the meeting along with expert contributors from the Centre for Coastal and Ocean Mapping at the University of New Hampshire (UNH), SAPWAR Atlantic, Jeppesen and SevenCs/ Chartworld. Assistant Director David Wyatt represented the IHB.

The SCWG received presentations covering the JHOD current information service, the current prediction software and the S-111 - *Surface Current Data Product Specification* - test-bed software developed by the Korean Hydrographic and Oceanographic Administration (KHOA), the oceanographic forecast service of the *Service hydrographique et océanographique de la marine* (SHOM), surface current rendering and development work on S-111 and visualization by SPAWAR Atlantic, and bridge systems and external data provision to support EDCDIS and ENCs by Jeppesen.

The majority of the meeting was devoted to the revision and further development of the draft S-111 Product Specification document. Areas identified as requiring more work were considered. The SCWG devoted significant time to the revision of the metadata and harmonization with ISO and S-100 standards. It was agreed that trial S-111 compatible datasets should be produced later this year for further testing and evaluation.

Participants were briefed on the activities and the work progressed at the 7th meeting of the Tides and Water Level Working Group (TWLWG), much of which was of relevance to the work being progressed by the SCWG.



As a result of the reorganization of the subordinate bodies of the HSSC, the 3rd meeting was the last meeting of the SCWG before its work is taken forward as part of the expanded Tides, Water Level and Currents Working Group (TWCWG). The impacts of the integration with TWLWG and the resultant broadening of work items beyond the single issue development of S-111 were highlighted. The participants of the now disbanded SCWG were encouraged to take part in these additional tasks.

The SCWG enthusiastically endorsed the expansion of the inventory of tide gauges to include current meters. A number of amendments to the TWCWG Terms of Reference were proposed by the SCWG members; these will be submitted to HSSC7 for its consideration. The TWCWG Work Plan for the period 2016-2017 was also presented and a number of changes were proposed; these will also be submitted to HSSC7 for endorsement.



Participants of SCWG3 visiting the JHOD museum

The new structure for subordinate bodies of HSSC, including the TWCWG, provides the flexibility for Working Groups (WG) to form Project Teams (PT) at any stage. Against this background, the delegates considered that the TWCWG should meet firstly as a single WG for its first meeting, where it can address all its work items before considering whether to establish Project Teams for some of the work. TWCWG1 is planned for the period late April/early May 2016 at a venue yet to be confirmed.

The meeting report and all papers will be available from the SCWG section of the IHO TWCWG web site.