

High Level Visits to the United Arab Emirates and Republic of Maldives, 27 October - 01 November

IHB Director Mustafa Iptes paid high level official visits to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Republic of Maldives from 27 October to 01 November 2013 to advise on and encourage the further development of hydrographic activities in both countries.

The purpose of the visit to UAE was to assist the countries in establishing a federal Hydrographic Service. Although the UAE has been a member of the IHO since 1992 and has good hydrographic capacity (survey vessels, modern equipment, staff, finance, etc.), there is, as yet, no formal Hydrographic Office structure and organization.

Director Iptes called on H.E. Dr. Abdulla Belhaif Al Nuaimi, the Minister of Transport as well as Brigadier Ali Mohammed Musleh Al Ahbabi, Director of the Maritime Security Executive Committee and Mohamed Al Yousef, Executive Director of the Department of Transport of Abu Dhabi, and Hamad Al Magrabi, General Manager of Abu Dhabi Port. He also visited Col Dr. Adel Khalifa Alshamsi, Head of Mapping and Surveying Services who is the principal coordinator of hydrographic activities in the UAE.



Director Iptes and H.E. Dr. Abdulla Belhaif Al Nuaimi, Minister of Transport of the UAE, accompanied by officials of the maritime sector.

During his visit to the Republic of Maldives, Director Iptes called on Mr Mohamed Nazim, Minister of Defence and National Security, Major General Ahmed Shiyam, Chief of National Defence Force, and Brigadier General Ahmed Shahid, Coast Guard Commandant. He provided an overview briefing to the

Senior Staffs of the Joint Headquarters covering the role and activities of the IHO and the importance of hydrography in the context of the “Blue Economy.

In all his meetings Director Iptes encouraged the application of the Maldives to become a Member State of the IHO.



Director Iptes exchanges gifts with Mr Mohamed Nazim, Minister of Defence and National Security of the Republic of Maldives.



Director Iptes at the meeting with Senior Staff of the Maldivian National Defence Force Joint Headquarters.