

REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS

Rockville, Maryland, 11-13 April 1989

LOCATION AND ATTENDANCE

The XIIth meeting of the Advisory Board was held at the National Ocean Service (NOAA), Office of Charting and Geodetic Services, U.S. Navy, in Rockville, Maryland (USA) from 11 to 13 April 1989.

The following were present:

- Mr. Adam J. KERR, IHO (Chairman)
- Mr. Suk Woo LEE, FIG
- Mr. Roger LOTT, FIG
- Professor Dr. Ing. Sjamsir MIRA, FIG
- Mr. Peter ODLING-SMEE, FIG
- Dr. Shoichi OSHIMA, IHO
- Mr. Federico BERMEJO, IHB (Secretary)

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mr. Adam J. KERR took the chair and opened the meeting, making a short general summary of the items included in the Agenda and a brief report of the courses submitted. He also explained the absence of Capt. ABBASI, Secretary of the Board, due to ill health, being replaced by Lt. Cdr. Federico BERMEJO, also from the IHB.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

A meeting room and other administrative facilities were provided by NOAA. Capt. C. ANDREASEN, Chief of the Nautical Charting Division, welcomed the Board on behalf the National Ocean Service. On Thursday 13 April, the members of the Board visited the Office of Charting and Geodetic Services, following a briefing given by Capt. ANDREASEN on the present and future activities of the National Ocean Services.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OBSERVERS

The Chairman introduced Cdr. G. MILLS, acting as an observer of the Hydrographic Society, and Capt. J. AYRES, U.S NFP, who attended the following items :

- Amendments to the Statutes- US comments
- Consideration of draft Guidelines for individual accreditation
- Review course submission (USNOO)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The proposed Agenda was adopted with some minor amendments.

REVIEW REPORT OF XIth MEETING AND ACTION TAKEN

The chairman reported on action taken as a consequence of the decisions taken at the XIth meeting. The comparative table of hours of the accredited courses was presented to the Board and it was decided that the

Secretary will provide a better presentation of it at a later date. It was also decided that a reduced model of the certificate intended to be included in a future edition of the Standards will be circulated to the members of the Board for approval.

It was noted that apparently, no confirmation of the new Standards has been received from FIG.

The chairman explained that no action has been taken on the production of a brochure on the activities of the Board. Other aspects of this subject were considered as an item of the Agenda.

REVIEW OF ADVANCED COURSE OF MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY (JAPAN)

Following the provision of additional information, the course of the Maritime Safety Agency (Japan) was approved for full accreditation at Category "A" level. A letter will be dispatched informing the National Focal Point of Japan.

REVIEW OF NAVOCEANO HYDROGRAPHIC TRAINING PROGRAMME

The Board was assisted in its reviewing by the presence of Mr. M. Van NORDEN and Mr. W. PAULUS, as well as by the well documented presentation.

It was decided to award the course academic accreditation at Category "B" level on the written confirmation that NAVOCEANO will include some topics of the Standards not specifically covered. A letter will be sent to the National Focal S to communicate that decision including a list of the topics to be added

REVIEW OF THE COURSE IN HYDROGRAPHY FOR NAVAL OFFICERS (CHILE)

The Board was unable to proceed conclusively, due to deficiencies in documentation. After reviewing the course, it was found to have the potential for reaching a Category "A" level. Consequently, the Hydrographic Institute of Chile will be invited to re-submit the course, providing a better documentation and a letter will be sent to inform the National Focal Point.

REVIEW OF THE PORT HYDROGRAPHY COURSE OF BORDEAUX UNIVERSITY (FRANCE)

The Board reviewed this well documented course for academic accreditation at Category "B" level. After careful examination, the Board decided that it would request Bordeaux University to complete certain missing elements of the syllabus, and, on receipt of information that these would be incorporated, the Board members will in all probability be able to award the accreditation sought. This process can be carried out by correspondence. A letter will be dispatched informing the National Focal Point of France.

AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES. US COMMENTS

Following the approved amendment to paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of the Statutes by FIG/IHO, a further matter has been raised by Capt. J. AYRES (USA) for consideration by the Board. The matter was presented and the Board now recommends the following further amendment to paragraph 2.1, which would be read as follows:

"The Board is composed of 8 members, half nominated by FIG and the other half by IHO. These members will be persons of known competence in the civil, governmental or educational sectors of hydrographic surveying. Members will be selected so as to provide as wide as possible a spectrum of knowledge and experience in educational practices and hydrography. They will be as far as reasonable from different geographical areas. Neither FIG nor IHO membership appointments will be constrained by membership decisions of the other organization. A member of the Board will normally be expected to serve for a 6-year term...."

This will require the approval of FIG/IHO parent organizations.

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR INDIVIDUAL ACCREDITATION

Guidelines were reviewed by the Board, and several amendments made. A new draft is to be sent to NFP's and accredited course institutions for comment.

AMENDMENTS TO STANDARDS PROPOSED BY PLYMOUTH POLYTECHNICS

The amendments to mathematical subjects, previously sent by Dr. S. HUGGETT were considered by the Board. It was decided that these amendments will be incorporated to next edition of the Standards with the exception of the proposal to teach coordinate geometry and some of the matrix algebra with the use of vectors. A letter to Dr. S. HUGGETT will be written, informing him of the intentions of the Board.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATUTES AMENDED AT XIth MEETING AND CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

The incoming chairman expressed his concern on the immediate application of the 6 years term of the members of the Board, which would lead to the retirement of the majority of the Board before the next meeting. It was decided that it would be unacceptable and so, a more viable system of changing the members be adopted for the short term. It was found that some members of the Board have difficulty in obtaining funds to attend future meetings. Individual action will be taken to resolve this problem and it will be also taken to FIG Commission IV.

The Board noted with regret the absence of Cdr. SENGUPTA for 5 consecutive meetings and bearing in mind Section 2.2 of the Statutes, the Board considered him to have resigned. The IHO will be informed of this.

STATUS OF THE BIBLIOGRAPHY

The IHB regretted the inability to have produced the issue of the Bibliography as action of the previous meeting. It was decided that the new draft of the Bibliography will be sent to Institutions having accredited courses, requesting which items are utilized in their training and asking them to provide additional references. It is also going to be sent to the Hydrographic Society requesting information on training texts. It will be an objective of the IHB Secretariat to provide a new edition prior to next meeting.

FUTURE COURSES TO BE SUBMITTED

A number of courses was identified as providing future submissions to the Board.

ADVISORY BOARD PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

Members of the Board expressed their concern over publicity for the activities of the Board. To this end, it was proposed to submit an article to the Hydrographic Society describing these activities. Furthermore, members agreed to be more active in the promotion of the Board to educational institutions. It was decided not to follow up with the edition of the brochure on the activities of the Board.

RICS REDRAFT SYLLABUS

The Board was informed that one of the accredited courses - Final Examination in Hydrographic Surveying (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, U.K.), accredited at Category "A" level in 1984, was in the process of making significant changes to its syllabus. The Board would need to review its accreditation, once the syllabus was finalized.

PLYMOUTH POLYTECHNIC COURSE REVALIDATION

The Board was informed of the revalidation of the Plymouth Polytechnic course by the C.N.N.A.

PLYMOUTH POLYTECHNIC CHANGE OF NAME

The board was informed that Plymouth Polytechnic has changed its name to Polytechnic Southwest.

CONFIRMATION OF VENUE AND DATE OF XIIIth MEETING

It was decided that next meeting will be held in Hamburg (FRG) on 26 March, depending on the receipt of a formal invitation and a course to be submitted. In the event of inability, the alternative of Bandung (Indonesia) or IHB (Monaco) will be considered.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Board agreed that the Report of the meeting will be circulated no later than a month from this date and commented by members in no more than another month. It was decided that the Board will implement policy on the re-submission of accredited courses at the end of a 10 years period from the date of accreditation, to update them according to changes introduced to Standards.

There being no other points to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1700 on 13th April.