

Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG) 5th Meeting, Sydney, Australia, 18-21 November 2008

The Chart Standardization and Paper Chart Working Group (CSPCWG), the WG of the IHO CHRIS Committee setting the chart standard, had its 5th meeting hosted by the Australian Hydrographic Office in Sydney, from 18-21 November 2008. The 15 cartographic experts in attendance representing the Hydrographic Offices of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, USA, and the IHB, were welcomed by Mr Michael Prince, AHO Director for Charting. The meeting was chaired by Mr Peter Jones (UK). Below is a summary of the main points discussed.

Production of an INT1/S-52 symbol combined document, jointly by NGA and NOAA, is being significantly delayed. No progress has been made since last year. Such document is reportedly awaited by the chart users, i.e. the mariners, and it had been envisaged to adopt the US INT1/S-52 as an IHO publication. There may be a need to look for another option to produce this document.

It was agreed to develop new symbols or specifications on the following topics:

- Symbol for the entrance of a tunnel for pipelines / submarine cables.
- Specification on showing bridge supports, following the Cosco Busan collision with Bay Bridge (San Francisco) in early 2008.
- Symbol for offshore renewable energy installations (OREI), i.e. ocean wave energy.
- Symbol pattern for unsurveyed and inadequately surveyed areas.
- Specification for platform with superstructure removed.
- Symbol for shellfish beds.
- Abbreviation MRCC for *Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre*.

A draft new section B-600 of M-4 *Chart Maintenance* was reviewed. It will provide an explanation of the current methods of promulgating information and some guidance on assessing new information to decide which method of promulgation may be appropriate.

CSPCWG, as responsible body for IHO Publication M-15 *List of Booklets on Chart Symbols and Abbreviations Published by Various Maritime Countries*, has recommended to discontinue this publication on the grounds that it is obsolete and no longer considered useful. CSPCWG also endorsed a new lay-out for presentation of INT chart metadata in IHO Publication M-11 Part B *Catalogue of INTERNATIONAL Charts*. The ongoing review of S-49 *Guidance for Mariners' Routeing Guides* by a sub-group led by Germany was acknowledged.

The 6th CSPCWG meeting has been planned at the IHB, Monaco, during the 2nd half of November 2009.