

Notes from Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC)

The ARHC comprises Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia and USA with observers from Iceland and Finland.

It held its second meeting 27-29 September 2011 at Copenhagen. The report of the meeting is not yet (12 October) published. The following information may be of interest to CSPCWG.

INT Chart Region. We are informed that ARHC agreed to formalize a new INT Chart Region 'N' to coincide with the area of responsibility for ARHC. Area of responsibility for ARHC are the limits of the Arctic NAVAREAS with exception of a line at 69°N between Denmark and Norway that defines the boundary between INT Chart Area 'D' (NSHC) and INT Chart Area 'N'.



Norway accepted the role of INTernational Chart Coordinator for the ARHC, with the following actions:

- Norway to take the necessary steps to formalize the establishment of an INT Chart Region 'N' coincident with the ARHC; including informing IHB of the details that require adjustment (such as the various changes that would be required in the IHO documents to reflect this new INT area).
- Norway to prepare a proposal on the establishment of a chart advisory group with a draft TOR for ARHC3 consideration.

There was no action to establish a Working Group [ICCWG] at this time.

Mariners' Routeing Guide. A Working Group has been established to consider the possibility of creating a Mariners' Routeing Guide for the Arctic (or possibly several Guides covering the various sub-regions). It may be in digital format. It would be likely to be largely based on S-49 'Standardization of Mariners' Routeing Guides', but may include information additional to the S-49 guidelines due to the particular nature of navigation in the Arctic.