



## CHART STANDARDIZATION & PAPER CHART WORKING GROUP (CSPCWG)

[A Working Group of the Committee on Hydrographic Requirements for Information Systems – CHRIS]

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### CSPCWG Letter: 05/2007

UKHO ref: HA317/010/031-04

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To CSPCWG Members

Date 4 April 2007

Dear Colleagues,

### **Subject: IHC 1997, Decision No 9 – Issue of charts in bilingual version**

You will recall that Michel Huet brought IHC 1997 Decision No 9 to the attention of the 3<sup>rd</sup> CSPCWG meeting. The record of the meeting states:

M Huet explained the principles applied to the titles used for M-11 Part B, ie that the English language version is used where available, in conformity with English being the ‘language of navigators’. He drew attention to IHC 1997 Decision No 9:

‘It is proposed that each Hydrographic Office which does not issue charts in the English language give all legends on charts affecting its territorial waters in its national language and in English.’

The proposal was supposed to have been passed to the former CSC for consideration of technical references. However, no new or revised technical resolution appears to have been generated. He invited the WG to consider Decision 9 in the context of M-4, especially B-241, which is based on TR B2.15 (derived from 1926 & 1929 reports of proceedings).

**ACTION 27:** Chairman and Secretary to review IHC 1997 Decision 9 and consider implications for M-4 (especially B-241) and INT 1.

Andrew and I have therefore reviewed M-4 and INT 1 in accordance with the above action.

#### 1. M-4

At M-4 B-241, the only intervention we suggest is to remove the reference to French. Although French is an official working language of the IHO, and consequently IHO documents must be translated into French, it is not the international maritime language. B-241 was based on TR 2.15, which was cancelled by IHO CL 96/2005.

We have drafted a new specification to place in the ‘language’ section of M-4, at B-510. The draft specification is at Annex A. It will result in the re-numbering of the subsequent two paragraphs, which are specifically for printed versions of INT charts. An alternative would be to include the decision into the ‘standardization’ section at B-110.6, ie ‘Standardization of language’. We did consider including at B-121, but as the whole of B-120 is explaining the use of terms **within the specifications**, not on charts, this did

not seem suitable.

If the proposed new specification is accepted, there will be no need to add a TR to M-3.

## 2. INT 1

All the 'official' INT 1s already include English explanations as well as national language versions. However, there are differences in the way legends are shown. For example, in section D, the German/English INT 1 has only English legends in the Left Hand (LH) column, with German legends in the Right Hand (RH) column. The Spanish version has both English and Spanish legends in the LH column. The French version has only French legends in the LH column. It seems that the Spanish version is most in keeping with the IHC Decision, although as the German version is the official English language version, their method also seems appropriate.

In the graphic in Section A, Germany shows German and English notes. The French and Spanish versions do not indicate any languages for the notes. As INT 1 is intended primarily for the chart user, this is not of great importance. However, for consistency it would be better to follow the German example, which seems to us to be in accordance with the IHC decision.

We invite the INT 1 subWG to consider these matters in more depth when they have opportunity.

I would be grateful for your responses by 30 May 2007. A response form is at Annex B.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter G.B. Jones', with a date '5/1/07' written below it.

Peter G.B. Jones,  
Chairman

Annex A: Draft specification to include Decision No 9 from 1997 IHC

Draft specification to include Decision No 9 from 1997 IHC

**B-510.4** **Language on charts. English is the accepted language** for navigational purposes and for communication at sea. See also B-122. [This is reflected in many IMO conventions and other maritime literature. For example, SOLAS regulation 14 states:

On ships to which chapter I applies, English shall be used on the bridge as the working language for bridge-to-bridge and bridge-to-shore safety communications as well as for communications on board between the pilot and bridge watchkeeping personnel, unless those directly involved in the communication speak a common language other than English.]

The section in [ ] was put in for example; probably no need to retain in the specification.

At the 1997 International Hydrographic Conference, Decision No 9 was:

It is proposed that each Hydrographic Office which does not issue charts in the English language give all legends on charts affecting its territorial waters in its national language and in English.

Consequently, English language versions of all notes should be included on all non-English charts. Navigationally significant legends should also be given in English, or if more convenient, listed in a glossary (key) on the chart.

**B-510.5(I)** **Language on international charts.** Printer nations may translate any elements of international charts into their own national language, in whole or in part, or add to those elements such translations, explanations, annotations, etc. as they may deem appropriate. However, toponymy and international abbreviations should not be so translated unless unacceptable conflict with the printer's national usage will result. Printer nations may add alternative forms (see B-510.2) or substitute their own alternative forms for those of the producer nation.

**B-510.6(I)** **Glossaries.** If desired, partial glossaries may be given on international charts reproduced by printer nations in order to permit the user to understand in particular the generic terms appearing in legends and compound toponyms on that chart without having recourse to a separate document (eg glossaries of terms and abbreviations in Sailing Directions).

RESPONSE FORM

(Please return to CSPCWG Secretary by 30 May 2007)

[andrew.coleman@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.coleman@ukho.gov.uk)

Please use the table below to record your response

	Question	Yes	No
1	Do you agree with the proposed location of the draft specification for use of English language on charts? If no, please state preferred location.....		
2	Do you agree with the wording of the draft specification at Annex A? If 'no', please explain further below		

Additional comments (including any comments about the implications for INT 1):

Name:  
 Hydrographic Office: