

**13<sup>th</sup> CHRIS MEETING**  
**17-19 September 2001, Athens, Greece**

**RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

*(Neil Guy, IHB)*

**International Maritime Organisation (IMO)**

The IHB and the IHO enjoy a good relationship with the IMO and are regarded as the International Charting Authority by the IMO. An IHB Director represents the IHO at IMO Council Meetings, Maritime Safety Committee and Navigation Sub Committee Meetings and is in regular contact with the IMO Secretariat.

The IMO Secretariat consults the IHB on hydrographic and charting issues and the IHB assists the IMO in obtaining the necessary information for them to evaluate proposed traffic separation schemes. In addition the IHB works in close cooperation with the Director of the IMO Technical Cooperation Division and other related international organisations in the promotion and extension of services in developing States. This has led to joint presentations being made to NORAD and in Namibia. This cooperation is now noted and NORAD has recently referred to it as a positive service in the initial considerations of the Mekong River Commission Projects.

Most of the contentious items in regard to the revision of SOLAS Chapter V have been resolved and it is noted that there is little representation of the National Hydrographic Offices in the IMO delegations. There are occasions, such as in NAV 47, when a knowledgeable national delegate could assist the IHB. It was not possible to be in an important working group, a drafting group and in the Plenary at the same time. When a Meeting Agenda reflects a possible requirement for attendance at more than one meeting at the same time the IHB will request permission from an IHO Member state and the IMO for one of a delegation, who would be from an HO to be included officially as a representative of the IHO. This is necessary, as the Plenary Session may not accept an input from a delegate that has not been appropriately registered.

**International Association of Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)**

The IHB works in close cooperation with IALA in both technical and development areas of common interest. As in the case of the IMO, the IHB has been closely associated with IALA in efforts to improve the provision of maritime information services.

The IHB and IALA are about to enter into a MOU and it has been agreed that reciprocal invitations will be extended to allow attendance at committee and working group meetings of the respective organizations. RAdm Neil Guy attended the 2001 IALA Operations Committee Meeting and the Secretary General of IALA and the Chairman this Committee were invited to attend the 13<sup>th</sup> CHRIS Meeting. It is hoped that in accordance with the MOU even closer cooperation will be established between the two organisations.

### **International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)**

The IHB and the IHO Committees have worked closely with IEC on the establishment of IEC testing standards for ECDIS. This cooperation continues and, as with IALA, Observer status has been reciprocally accorded by both organisations. This relationship is mainly with the Secretariat and with the IEC Technical Committee TC 80 and its sub-committees. A need was perceived within TC 80 to establish a new Working Group WG 13 to coordinate and harmonise all the various digital displays that are in existence within the responsibility of TC 80. There is therefore an even greater need for communication and cooperation between the IHO and IEC. It has always been the case that the development of standards for cartographic data displays has been the IHO's, with IEC being responsible for general navigational displays. This does not change and any recommendations for changes in either of these standards will be referred to the IHO for either comment or approval.

### **Comité International Radio-Maritime (CIRM)**

CIRM is an international association of equipment or software manufacturers related to maritime navigation. The Secretariat is based in London and, as with their status in IMO CIRM has been granted Observer Status at CHRIS and, at the discretion of the Chairmen with its Working Groups. It is a forum to obtain industries points of view in an organised manner and is in line with the recent initiatives of the IHO and the IHB.

### **International Organisation for Standards (ISO)**

See CHRIS/13/15.2A

### **International Cartographic Association (ICA)**

See CHRIS/13/15.3A

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