

**14th CHRIS MEETING
Shanghai, China, 15-17 August 2002**

**Discussions on Options to provide Assistance to
or Exchange Experience with those HO's who have not yet
the Capabilities to develop ENC's**

Note by Germany

While a number of Hydrographic Offices have developed ENC production capabilities, and are partly or fully covering their waters with ENC's, and providing corresponding services, many areas in the world are still uncovered by ENC's. This appears likely to remain so for some time, many HO's have not yet acquired any expertise in ENC production.

It is suggested to discuss how the technical experience some HO's have acquired can be shared with other HO's. The following options may be suggested:

- Develop partnership arrangements between HO's having the experience and the capability to host staff members from another Hydrographic Office for on-the-job training. While this may appear to be a WEND matter, it should be discussed which hydrographic offices would be in the position to enter into such partnership programmes, and to request IHB to take further action on that.
- HO's with fully developed ENC production programme have established procedures and are using well tested software instruments for ENC production and development of updates. It is assumed that these HO's, as required under the WEND principles, have set up some kind of quality management, including the necessary documentation. It is suggested to discuss whether it would be a useful assistance to hydrographic offices not having the necessary expertise yet to be provided with a "Handbook on ENC Production" containing a compilation of proven, reliable procedures and tools.

The CHRIS Committee is invited to consider the suggestions, and possibly develop additional options in order to initiate some progress in ENC coverage.