

16th CHRIS MEETING
Ottawa, Canada, 28-31 May 2004

REPORT AND DECISIONS OF THE 8TH WEND COMMITTEE MEETING
(Tokyo, Japan, 5-6 March 2004)

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This paper provides a brief summary of the 8 th WEND meeting (Tokyo, Japan, 5-6 March 2004) and a list of actions arising from the meeting.
<i>Actions to be taken:</i>	CHRIS is invited to take note of this report and to act on Action #10.
<i>Related documents:</i>	CHRIS16-5.1A, 9.1A, 9.1B, INF1

The 8th Worldwide Electronic Navigational Chart Database (WEND) Committee Meeting was hosted by the Hydrographic & Oceanographic Department of the Japan Coast Guard in Tokyo, on 5-6 March 2004. Over sixty representatives of 27 Member States and, for the first time, Observers from non-governmental organizations and professional associations attended the meeting.

The meeting dealt with several substantial issues: offering clarification on two items in the WEND Principles, proposing changes to the WEND Rules of Procedure, discussing whether ECDIS operating in RCDS mode should meet IMO chart carriage requirements and reviewing the actions and recommendations of the WEND Task Group. The Reports from Member States and Regional Hydrographic Commissions reflect that progress continues in the production of ENC's but resources, be it manpower, funding or equipment, remain a limiting factor in achieving ENC coverage.

As noted above, Observers were admitted to the proceedings for the first time. The Committee noted that the WEND Terms of Reference (TORs) and Rules of Procedures (ROPs) do not provide for the attendance of observers while the CHRIS TORs/ROPs do. With the recent additions to the WEND Principles to include user-friendliness and other customer oriented perspectives, the attendance of industry organizations – especially the shipping industries – seemed appropriate. The SPWG has formulated criteria whereby Non-governmental International Organizations (NGIO) can apply for accreditation as Observers to the IHO. As an interim process, the Committee decided to circulate for approval a change to the WEND ROPs that would mirror the CHRIS ROPs regarding observers.

The WEND Task Group reported on its activity over the last nine months. The Task Group reported that the main problems preventing increased use of ECDIS are:

- Insufficient coverage;
- Diversity in quality between HOs and
- Diversity in services between ENC providers.

What needs to be addressed immediately are:

- Completion of small scale ENC coverage;
- Prioritized ENC production programs for large scale coverage;
- Expanded ENC validation and distribution and
- Training and assistance in ENC production and maintenance.

The Task Group then discussed the clarification of the term "Integrated Services", the need for an IHO World ENC Catalogue, a regional view of where assistance is needed and where

it is available, the role of the RENCs and “strawman” proposals for small scale ENC production responsibilities.

A submission to the IMO from the Australian Maritime Safety Administration proposing that ECDIS operating in the RCDS mode, when no ENCs are available, meet the chart carriage requirements without accompanying paper charts was actively debated. Concerns over safety and effects on ENC production and the benefits of an accelerated increase in the use of ECDIS were raised. It was noted that Norway intended to submit a proposal to IMO offering an alternative approach to increasing ECDIS use. The Committee tasked the IHB to attempt to develop an IHO position in advance of discussion before IMO by circulating both the Australian and Norwegian proposals and requesting Member States comments.

The meeting adjourned with a tentative schedule for the 9th WEND meeting to be held before or after the Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference, 11-15 April 2005, in Monaco.

A list of actions arising from WEND/8 is in Annex A.

LIST OF ACTIONS FROM WEND/8

1. ENC Production Cookbook – IHB, in liaison with UKHO, to complete a draft ENC Production Cookbook, to be circulated to WEND Members by WEND Letter for comments / approval; final version to be posted on the IHO website.
2. ICS Bridge Procedure – IHB to communicate with ICS regarding updating of the ICS Bridge Procedure Manual.
3. High Level Paper on ENC / ECDIS – IHB to prepare a briefing paper on the benefits of using ENC / ECDIS, targeted to high level government officials, for use by HOs as necessary.
4. ENC Consistency – IHB to circulate to MS, when finalized, the TSMAD / C&SMWG recommendations on ENC encoding for improved ENC consistency; also to post them on the IHO website.
5. Pending IHO Membership – IHO MS to expedite process of approving pending applications for IHO Membership.
6. SOLAS ENC Production Requirements – IHB to communicate to IMO/NAV that coastal States should be urged to produce official ENCs, as part of Hydrographic Services required by Regulation 9 of SOLAS V.
7. Observers to WEND – IHB to circulate to MS an additional item to the WEND Rules of Procedure to allow NGO participating as observers in WEND meetings, as follows:

“The Committee may invite accredited NGOs and professional associations to participate as observers to Committee meetings.”
8. IHO World ENC Catalogue – The IHB will continue maintaining an IHO World ENC Catalogue on the IHO website, with links to other catalogues (RENCs, MS, etc.).
9. Definition for Integrated Services – IHB to include, as a footnote to the WEND Principles, the definition agreed by WEND for “Integrated Services”, as follows:

“A variety of end-user services where each service is selling all its ENC data, regardless of source, to the end user within a single service proposition embracing format, data protection scheme and updating mechanism, packaged in a Single exchange Set.”
10. Definition for RENC – IHB to communicate the definition for RENC agreed by WEND to CHRIS, for consideration and inclusion in S-52 Appendix 3 “Glossary of ECDIS-related Terms”, as follows:

“RENCs are organizational entities where IHO Member States have established cooperation amongst each other to guarantee a world-wide consistent level of high quality data, and for bringing about coordinated services with official ENCs and updates to them.”
11. WEND Resolution – IHB to draft a CL, based on the resolution by WEND (Doc. WEND8-4A) to speed up ENC production.

12. Guidance for Submission of Proposals to WEND Meetings – IHB to adapt the CHRIS document (Annex B to Doc. WEND8-6A) to WEND needs, then to circulate it to WEND Members for comments / approval.
13. S-64 ECDIS Test Data – France to communicate to IHB proposed additional features for incorporation into IEC 61174 / S64. IHB to refer them to CHRIS for further development.
14. RCDS Mode of ECDIS – IHB to draft a CL reflecting the views at the WEND Committee and soliciting MS' position on the Australian proposal, and providing Norwegian proposal when available, with a view to formulating IHO's position before IMO.