

5th IHO HSSC Meeting
Shanghai, China, 5-8 November 2013

Paper for Consideration by HSSC

Comments by Finland
on re-structuring HSSC Working Groups

Submitted by: Finland

Executive Summary: The document includes comments and proposals on re-structuring HSSC Working Groups

Related Documents: 1. HSSC5-04.2A
2. HSSC5-04.2B
3. HSSC5-04.2C

Related Projects: None

Introduction / Background

1. Finland agrees that there are obvious needs for reorganizing the HSSC Working Groups, as indicated in the reference documents. However the proposals in these related documents propose slightly different options.
2. Finland has the following comments and proposals to the proposed plans to reorganise the HSSC Working Groups as in reference documents:

Analysis / Discussion

3. Finland strongly supports the proposed establishment of S-100WG. The scope of this WG may include S-100, S-99, and perhaps S-64 and S-63 (if regarded as generic, not as product based). Also S-100 §9 should be moved from DIPWG to this WG.
4. Finland emphasizes that if S-100WG will be established then the remaining TSMAD or “S-57 Maintenance Working Group” should have enough resources to keep S-57 fully operational during the long foreseeable transition phase to S-101.
5. In addition Finland has the following preliminary comments to the other proposed plans. However the possible changes should be done based on thorough analysis.
6. Finland is in favour of the proposal proposes also funding for the S-100WG, as noted in para 28 of the document HSSC5-04.2. This is exceptional compared to other WGs and should be clarified in more details.
7. Finland is in favour of the proposed establishment of *Pool of S-100 experts*. However this should be defined in more details.
8. Finland does not support the proposed merging of CSPCWG an SNPWG. Printed charts and nautical publications have quite different features and issues and need different experts.

9. Finland supports the proposal to extent the scope of SNPWG to include S-49 and possible future nautical publications S-10X.
10. Finland supports the proposal to extent the scope of CSPCWG to include S-32 and S-61, and disband HDWG.
11. Finland does not support the proposed extension of the scope of TWLWG to include currents. Currents are quite a different domain than the tidal and water level issues and may need different experts.
12. Finland is in favour to continue keeping DIPWG as a separate Working Group.
13. Finland notes that there are some tasks which belong logically to many Working Groups, e.g. the maintenance of ECDIS Test Data Sets (S-64) where there are issues related to the function of ECDIS and thus belonging S-57/S-100, and issues related to displaying information belonging to DIPWG. These should be carefully considered when re-organising the HSSC Working Groups.
14. Finland is in favour of the proposal to set-up time-limited projects for developing S-100 based product specifications. However, the maintenance of the product specifications should be defined before disbanding the projects. Also explicit ToR, RoP, Work Plans and membership of these projects should be specified when these are established.

Conclusions

15. The proposed reorganisation plans and the above comments are on a high level. Before implementing these changes many details are needed to be clarified and decided. It is important to ensure that any of current important tasks will not be unintentionally forgotten within these reorganisations.
16. Finland supports the proposed establishment of small ad-hoc team to draft detailed transition to the reorganised Working Groups, for adoption of HSSC6. We also support mandating the newly organised WGs to initiate their work where feasible before the final approval of HSSC6.

Justification and Impacts

17. In order IHO to manage the transition to S-100 domain and to fulfil its commitments, some reorganisation of HSSC Working Groups is needed.

Actions Required of HSSC

18. The HSSC5 meeting is invited to
 - endorse the re-organisation of HSSC Working Groups
 - consider the comments and proposals above