

6th MEETING OF THE IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (HSSC)

Viña del Mar, Chile, 10-14 November

The sixth meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) took place in Viña del Mar, Chile, hosted by the Hydrographic Office of Chile (Servicio Hidrográfico y Oceanográfico de la Armada - SHOA), from 10 to 14 November 2014. Rear Admiral Patricio Carrasco, Hydrographer of Chile and Director of SHOA, welcomed delegates at the meeting which was chaired by Dr Mathias Jonas, Hydrographer of Germany. 44 representatives - from 18 Member States, the IHB, and six international organizations accredited as observers - were present. Director Gilles Bessero and Assistant Directors Yves Guillam and Tony Pharaoh represented the IHB.



HSSC-6 participants

The Committee reviewed the activities, proposals, and work plans of its subordinate bodies and the decisions of other organs and organizations affecting its work and decided on a number of outcomes. A summary of the main outcomes is described below:

ECDIS

The Committee:

- endorsed the draft new edition 2.0.0 of IHO publication S-100 - *Universal Hydrographic Data Model* and invited the IHB to circulate it to Member States for approval;
- reviewed the outcome of the consultation of Member States seeking approval of the draft edition 6.1.0 of S-52 - *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS*, draft edition 4.0.0 of the Presentation Library [Annex A to S-52], and draft edition 3.0.0 of S-64 - *IHO Test Data Sets for ECDIS* and endorsed the publication of the new editions, subject to final checks in liaison with the International Electrotechnical Committee (IEC);

- noted that further information from ENC Producers and Regional ENC Coordinating Centres (RENC) was required prior to deciding the implementation scheme of edition 5.0.0 of S-58 - *ENC Validation Checks*;
- endorsed the new Annex C - *ENC Update Status Report* to be introduced in the future new edition 1.2.0 of IHO Publication S-63 - *IHO Data Protection Scheme* and tasked the IHB to finalize the draft new edition in liaison with the Data Protection Scheme Working Group (DPSWG) and then seek the approval of Member States. This activity, conducted in close liaison with the IEC, will complete the process aiming at enhancing IHO and IEC ECDIS-related publications to address various issues related to ECDIS operational anomalies. It is expected that the new editions will come into force in October 2015 for new ECDIS and that the current editions will cease to be valid for all ECDIS one year later, as reported to the International Maritime Organization. The update of ECDIS-related documentation will be reflected in the future new edition of IHO publication S-66 - *Facts about electronic charts and carriage requirements*; and
- approved the timescale and stages of the revision of S-66 which will be conducted by a dedicated project team chaired by a representative of IC-ENC.

In conclusion of its review of ECDIS matters, the Committee paid tribute to the memory of Michael Eaton (Canada), hailed as the “father of the electronic chart” and acknowledged his major contribution to the development and standardization of ECDIS.



HSSC in session

S-100

The Committee reviewed progress in developing the next generation of standards for digital hydrographic products and services, the S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model and associated Product Specifications. The Committee noted with satisfaction the advances in developing the draft edition 1.0.0 of S-101 - *ENC Product Specification*, the S-100 Feature Catalogue Builder, the S-100 Portrayal Catalogue Builder, and an S-100/S-101 Viewer. The Committee commended the efforts of all contributors from IHO Member States and from Industry and expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Korea for its specific support. The Committee endorsed the procedure for registering new S-100 based product specifications and agreed on the way forward to ensure the continuity of the administration of the S-100 Registry and Registers under IHO responsibility in the perspective of the retirement of the current Registry Manager planned at the end of February 2015. The Committee

approved the consideration of the preparation of a new edition of S-102 - *Bathymetric Surface Product Specification* in accordance with IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended.

e-Navigation

The Committee considered IMO activities affecting its work, e-navigation developments in particular, and reflected them in the work plans of the relevant HSSC WG.

Restructuring of HSSC Working Groups

At its previous meeting in 2014, the Committee had agreed the principles for re-structuring its working groups in order to reflect the changing focus from paper to digital data based products and services, best use limited resources, improve its efficiency and facilitate inputs from industry and other stakeholders. The Chair Group reviewed the report of the Correspondence Group on HSSC Working Groups' Restructuring (CGHR) and the comment papers submitted to the Committee and presented consolidated proposals to the Committee which agreed on the implementation of a new structure including four new working groups (WG): S-100WG, ENC Standards Maintenance WG, Nautical Information Provision WG and Tides, Water Level and Currents WG. The terms of reference of the new WG, the generic terms of reference for "project teams" and the arrangements for the transition from the current to the new structure were agreed.

The Committee agreed to the continuation under their current terms of reference of the Chart Standardization and Paper Chart WG, renamed the Nautical Cartography WG, the Data Protection Scheme WG and the Data Quality WG, subject to annual review and further consideration of their interactions with the new WG.

Hydrographic Dictionary Working Group

The Committee noted the recurring difficulties of the Hydrographic Dictionary WG (HDWG) in progressing its work items, due to the lack of participation. The Committee welcomed the offer of Australia to liaise with the chair and members of the WG in order to draft new business rules addressing relations with the S-100 Registry on one hand, with HSSC WG and other IHO and inter-organizational bodies on the other hand.

Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group

The Committee approved the transfer of the WG on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures from the HSSC to the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) and decided to further investigate the possible establishment of a Hydrographic Surveys WG.

Miscellaneous Reports

The reports presented by industry representatives and information papers from Australia, France, Korea (the Republic of) on current developments and topical issues within the scope of the Committee generated significant interests from the participants.

Technical Visit and Hosting

A tour of the SHOA facilities in Valparaiso, including a presentation of the National Tsunami Warning System, was organized in the margins of the meeting. The Chair of HSSC, Director Bessero and the Hydrographer of Chile met the local press on this occasion.



Presentation of the National Tsunami Warning System operated by SHOA

The Committee warmly thanked Chile for the excellent meeting arrangements and the support provided to the participants and acknowledged that this support contributed significantly to the success of the meeting.

Next Meetings

The next meeting of the HSSC, HSSC-7, will take place in early November 2015, in Busan, Republic of Korea. HSSC-8 will take place in Monaco in November 2016 and HSSC-9 will take place in Canada in 2017, location and dates to be determined later.

More Information

Further information is available on the IHO web site at [Home > Committees & WG > HSSC](#).