

6th IHO-HSSC Meeting

Report and Recommendations of the Hydrographic Dictionary Working Group

Submitted by:	Chairman, HDWG
Related Documents:	N/A
Related Projects:	None

Chair:	Jean Laporte, France
Vice-Chair:	Vacant
Secretary:	David Wyatt, IHB
Member States:	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, France, Malaysia, Spain, Turkey, Uruguay, USA.
Expert Contributor:	Alejandro Geronés (Caris)
	See <i>Annex A for full details on HDWG membership</i> <i>Annex B for workplan 2013 - 14</i> <i>Annex C for new definitions</i> <i>Annex D for a discussion on the tentative definition of Mean sea level</i>

Foreword

After more than one year of management by the present team, the time has come to draw up the results of the Hydrographic Dictionary Working Group (in)activities.

Whilst dealing conscientiously with the odd words that emerge every now and then from the IHO various working groups, the HDWG has been unable to bring about a new dynamic and its small estranged community, reputed to represent the World but which has not met for 10 years, is in practice reduced to the chairman and the secretary.

Hardly any exchanges ever takes place in the forum, questions are left unanswered except when pressed by HSSC formal correspondence and the dictionary itself, which is one of the IHO most consulted publication, is left as it is. However, a work programme has been defined but has failed to be implemented due to lack of motivation and resources, or rather to lack of commitment from both the WG members, their supporting HOs and the IHO itself.

Should the HDWG, for all its political and cultural significance, be disbanded or subsumed into an obscure section of the S-100 GI Registry, and then left to sink into digital insignificance?

This is the question which, at this juncture, must be answered by the HSSC.

Meetings Held During Reporting Period

None

Next Meeting

None planned

Work Program

The HDWG received proposals from TWLWG (*tasks B8- Mean sea level and B13 – Water Level Station*) for definitions to be considered for S-32. The proposed new and revised definitions for consideration by HSSC are detailed in Annex C to this report.

All Glossary of ECDIS Related Terms currently in Appendix 1 to S-32 have been translated into French; these terms, English and French, will be added to the respective Wiki dictionaries and the associated Appendix 1 will be withdrawn. The Spanish Appendix 1 version will remain available until the completion of the development of a Spanish Wiki.

Definitions endorsed by HSSC-5 were circulated to Member States via IHO CL 19/2014 and adopted as announced in IHO CL 47/2014. These gave rise to several observations that should be taken into consideration, should a realistic future be envisaged to an independent HDWG:

1. The existence of two or more official IHO languages should not result in accrediting two or more references for the same definition. The principle of uniqueness of IHO definitions, eventually sanctioned by a majority of votes, must be reconfirmed, whichever the language, and entered into the HD updated ToRs.
2. There is not ONE Spanish version, but several interpretations that need to be coordinated between Spanish-speaking MS. The same could be said of French versions which should be a compromise between French-speaking MS and not only reflect the views of one of them.
3. There is a requirement to reintroduce index numbers to help non-English speakers to have easy access to the IHO voted reference definitions.
4. The wiki version is deemed less convenient than the previous paper versions.
5. Etc.

Prior to commencing Work task A2 to review all existing definitions in S-32 in order to identify those which HDWG considers do not fall within the guidance set out in Section 3 of the S-32 Business Rules, the two most active members of the HDWG are of the opinion that the ToRs should be revised and adapted to the 2014 working conditions with due considerations to language issues, standardised layout and value-for-money.

Progress on HSSC Action Items

Nil

Problems Encountered

1. Response to the requests for greater Member State involvement elicited some new members of the WG and confirmation of some existing members as well as the selection of a trilingual expert-contributor able to provide further guidance on issues significant to Marine GIS Developers.
2. The HDWG appears to have a geographical spread reflecting at least the IHO three current languages¹, if not the world distribution of populations, GDP and most spoken languages; however active engagement of all members in the review of proposed definitions will be necessary to ensure a fair distribution of the workload and that the dictionary best serves the interests of all.
3. It has been suggested recently that the HDWG should be reorganised as a sub-group operating under the aegis of another working group tasked with Chart Content and Cartography. In order for the work of the HDWG to cover adequately all disciplines related to hydrography and not become hostage of cartography digital speak, it is recommended that the group maintain its autonomy.
4. The previous consideration leads to the next issue: It is considered vital for the WG to meet face-to-face during 2015 to establish an identity, develop some ownership, momentum and progress the outstanding work items. For this to happen, IHO member states and HOs must commit the necessary resources, in terms of personnel and funding, without which no ownership of the issues will be achieved and no progress made on identified critical items. The time has now been reached for IHO member states and HOs to either back-up comments on the importance of the HD with real action and commitment or for the HDWG to be placed in abeyance until such time as ownership of the issues can be developed.

¹ Respectively Spanish (2nd most spoken world language), English (3rd) and French (14th).
Source: <http://www.ethnologue.com/statistics/size>

Any Other Items of Note

N/A

Conclusions and Recommended Actions

N/A

Justification and Impacts

None

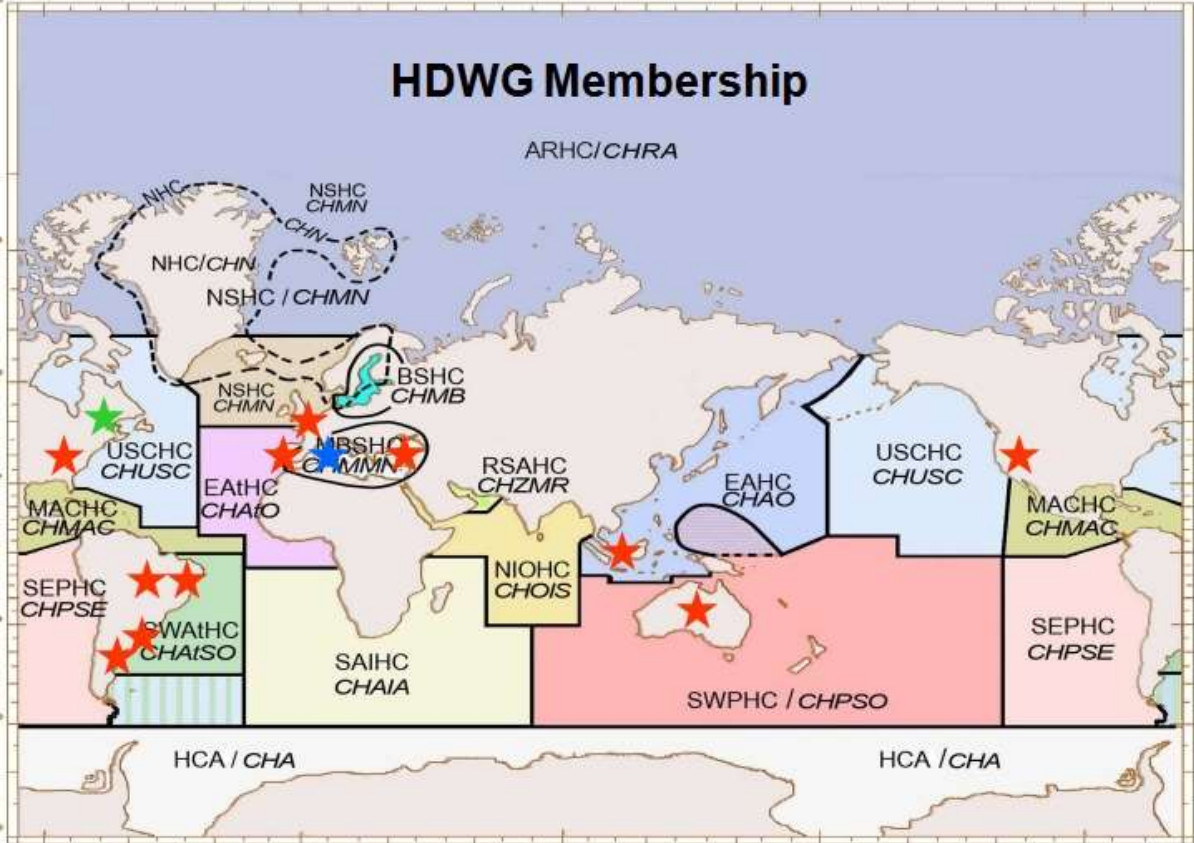
Action Required of HSSC

The HSSC is invited to:

- a. **note** this report
- b. **task** an ad-hoc subgroup to review the current HDWG Terms of Reference and Business Rules
- c. **re-appoint** the HDWG to continue its work under the new set of rules
- d. **approve** the work program at Annex B
- e. **approve** the proposed new and revised definitions at Annex C
- f. **decide** on future of HDWG, notwithstanding other proposals with respect to the reorganization of HSSC subordinate bodies and the commitment of IHO member states and HOs.

HDWG Membership

Country	Member	Email address
Argentina	LCdr Maria Alejandra Allignani	nisapaal@yahoo.com.ar
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USA	Tim Hallock	Timothy.j.hallock@nga.mil
IHB	David Wyatt (<i>Secretary</i>)	adso@iho.int
Expert Contributor	Alejandro Gerones	alejandro.gerones@caris.com



- ★ HDWG Member
- ★ IHB Secretary
- ★ Expert Contributor (Spanish speaker, fluent in English & French)

11. HDWG WORK PLAN 2015-16

11.1 HDWG tasks

A	Maintain and extend the definitions in the IHO Dictionary in French, English and Spanish (IHO task 2.11.1 refers)
B	Liase with other IHO bodies preparing publications containing glossaries (IHO task 2.11.1 refers)
C	Liase with other organizations developing dictionaries and/or glossaries (IHO task 2.11.1 refers)
D	Develop the Spanish language Wiki version of S-32 with commercial contract support (IHO task 2.11.2 refers)

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
A1	Consider proposals from Greece for inclusion of 3 new terms related to the Coast.	H	a. Terms 1 – 3	2011	2012-2013	P	All	S-32	
A2	Review all terms currently included in S-32 for their relevance in accordance with the S-32 Business Rules and propose which definitions should be removed from S-32	M	a. Terms a – d b. Terms e – l c. Terms m – r d. Terms s – z	2012 2012 2013 2013	2013 2015 2013 2015 2014 2016 2014 2016	P P P P	All	S-32	
A3	Review the approved definitions of Altitude, Elevation and Height	H		2012	2013 2014	O		S-32	Alternative definitions to be submitted by HDWG to TSMAD27 (Dec 2013) and CSPCWG10 (Jan 2014) before endorsement
B6	Aquaculture – proposal from CSPCWG	H	a. Aquaculture	2011	2012-2013	P	All	S-32	

Task	Work item	Priority H-high M-medium L-low	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status P-planned O-ongoing C-completed	Contact Person(s) * indicates leader	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
B7	CSPCWG	H	Phase of a navigational light	2011	2012-2013	P	All	S-32	
B8	TWLWG	H	Mean sea level	2011	2012-2013 2014	C	All	S-32, IHO Resolution 3/1919	
B9	SNPWG	H	Underkeel clearance/allowance	2011	2012-2013	P	All	S-32	
B10	IHB	H	Single Beam Echo Sounder	2011	2012-2013	P	All	S-32	
B11	UKHO	M	Seafloor	2012	2013-2014	P	All	S-32	
B12	UKHO	M	Bathymetry	2012	2013-2014	P	All	S-32	
B13	TWLWG	H	Water Level Station	2014	2014	C	All	S-32, IHO Resolution 3/1919	

11.2 HDWG Meetings (IHO WP task 3.1.8 refers)

No meetings have taken place. HDWG is invited to consider face-to-face meeting in 2015.

Chair: Jean LAPORTE, France

Vice-Chair: Vacant

Secretary: David WYATT, IHB

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New Definitions²

(English – Times New Roman), (French – Arial), (Spanish – Arial Narrow)

Water Level Station: A place where WATER LEVEL OBSERVATIONS are obtained. It has continuous OBSERVATIONS available for a sufficient number of years to determine the water level characteristics for the locality. See also 5013 STATION: TIDE.

Observatoire de hauteurs d'eau: Lieu où l'on fait des observations de hauteurs d'eau. Les observations sont faites pendant un nombre d'années suffisant pour déterminer les caractéristiques des hauteurs d'eau particulières à cette localité. Voir aussi 5013 OBSERVATOIRE DE MAREES.

Spanish definition (to be completed)

3156 **Mean Sea Level:** The average HEIGHT of the surface of the SEA at a WATER LEVEL STATION, determined from height readings measured over an appropriate period of time from a fixed predetermined reference level . See also 1222 DATUM: CHART.

3156 **Niveau moyen de la mer :** Hauteur moyenne de la surface de la mer en un OBSERVATOIRE DE HAUTEURS D'EAU, déterminée à partir de hauteurs mesurées pendant un intervalle de temps donné à partir d'un niveau de référence prédéterminé. Voir aussi 1222 ZERO DES CARTES (MARINES).

Spanish definition (to be completed)

² Index numbers are mentioned when the terms are already in the S-32 outdated hard copy version.