

**7TH MEETING OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Busan, Republic of Korea, 10-13 November 2015**

**Paper for Consideration by HSSC
Comment on the Report of the Nautical Cartography Working Group**

Submitted by:	IHB
Executive Summary:	This paper comments on the report of the Nautical Cartography Working Group to HSSC-7.
Related Documents:	HSSC7-05.6A rev2 - <i>Report of NCWG to HSSC7</i> HSSC7-01D - <i>Terms of Reference (TORs) for HSSC and Related Working Groups</i>
Related Projects:	HSSC Work Plan

Introduction

1. This paper comments on the following items of the report of the Nautical Cartography Working Group (NCWG) to HSSC-7:

- revision of the terms of reference of the NCWG;
- application of IHO Resolution 2/2007 to S-4;
- revision of IHO Publication S-11 Part A;
- establishment of a project team on the future of S-4

Revision of the terms of reference of the NCWG

2. In response to action HSSC6/09, the NCWG invites the HSSC to endorse the continuation of its activity and approve the revised terms of reference (ToR) at Annex B of the NCWG report.

3. The IHB proposes in Annex A an amended version of the ToR, taking into account the common provisions of the terms of reference of the other HSSC working groups and including close liaison not only with the groups developing and maintaining S-100 based products but also with the ENCWG and the NIPWG.

4. The IHB proposes that article 3 f, as amended, be reflected in the relevant provision of the ToR of the other HSSC working groups, to ensure consistency.

Application of IHO Resolution 2/2007 to the maintenance of S-4

5. The NCWG expresses concern that “the requirement to strictly comply with IHO Resolution 2/2007 will be adding unnecessary additional levels of bureaucracy when developing a new version of S-4, resulting in considerable delays in the approval by IHO Member States of changes to be made in the next Edition”.

6. The publication of edition 4.5.0 marked the end of a long cycle of revisions which should be followed by a period of stability. The same should apply to ENC specifications following the publication of edition 4.0 of S-57, Appendix B.1, Annex A - *Use of the Object Catalogue for ENC*, edition 6.1 of S-52 - *Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS*, and edition 4.0 of S-52 Annex A - *IHO Presentation Library for ECDIS*.

7. The consideration of standardization issues associated with information overlay services have highlighted the critical need to provide consistent information for the same geographic location in corresponding paper charts and ENCs. In that context, it seems that revisions susceptible to introduce portrayal inconsistencies between paper charts and ENCs should be avoided. The new edition 4.0 of

IEC 61174 - *Maritime Navigation and Radiocommunication Equipment and Systems - Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) - Operational and Performance Requirements, Methods of Testing and Required Test Results* refers to Edition 6.1 (2014) of S-52 and to Edition 4.0 (2014) of the Presentation Library (PL) and, subject to confirmation by IEC Technical Committee 80, should be frozen until 2020 which precludes the implementation of amendments to S-52 and/or the PL other than clarifications. In any case, amendments other than clarifications would need to be reported to the IMO with strong arguments and their implementation would need two to three-year notice at least, except in the case of obvious urgent safety-related issues.

8. In that context it is recommended that the Committee should consider instructing the NCWG to restrict its future work on S-4 to clarifications, when required by chart producers or end users, and to postpone further revisions until the proposed scoping study of the future of the paper chart and the future of S-4 (see paragraphs 13 and 14 below) is concluded.

Revision of IHO Publication S-11 Part A

9. The CSPCWG was tasked in 2008 by CHRIS-20 to develop guidelines for the preparation and maintenance of small / medium scale ENC schemes (action CHRIS 20/24). It was suggested to consider including the guidelines either in S-65 or in “a new document similar to M-11” (now S-11).

10. In 2012, the CSPCWG reported at HSSC-4 that an approach for assistance and advice had been made to the North Sea ENC Harmonization Working Group (NSEHWG) which had been established recently by the North Sea Hydrographic Commission. In 2013, the CSPCWG reported at HSSC-5 that the guidance was developed in collaboration with the NSEHWG through a revision of S-11 Part A. This approach was supported by USA, referring to the MACHC experience in developing its regional charting schemes.

11. In response to the NCWG request for advice on the way forward, the IHB supports the proposal to include the guidance in S-11 Part A, based on the following considerations:

- This proposal is consistent with IHO Resolution 1/1997 as amended - *Principles of the Worldwide Electronic Navigational Chart Database (WEND)* which identifies the INT chart system as “a useful basis for initial area selection for producing ENCs”;
- This proposal is consistent with the recommended terms of reference and rules of procedure for existing or new International Charting Coordination Working Groups (ICCWG) which are tasked to “coordinate the allocation of production responsibilities for paper and electronic charts (INT charts and ENC)” in order to “promote and coordinate the production of international (INT) charts and ENC”.

12. Noting the concerns expressed by Chile, the IHB recommends not using the generic term “international chart” to designate both INT (paper) charts and ENCs, considering that this would lead to confusion in relation with the difference between INT charts versus “national charts” in the paper chart framework.

Establishment of a project team on the future of S-4

13. The NCWG invites the HSSC to approve the establishment of a Project Team under the NCWG to further investigate the future style and content of S-4 under the draft Terms of Reference and Work Plan submitted at Annex D of the report.

14. The proposed objective is “to consider and develop a strategy for the future format, structure and content of S-4, *taking into account the increasing uptake of ENC and ECDIS and associated changes* in the requirements of nautical cartography”. Noting that the NCWG plans to submit to HSSC-8 further consideration and possible options for the future direction of the paper chart in that context (see paragraph 7.3 of the NCWG report), the IHB recommends that the scope and establishment of the project team be guided by the outcome of the on-going study on the future of the paper chart and therefore that the decision be postponed to HSSC-8.

Action required of HSSC

15. The HSSC is invited to:

- a. **Note** these comments,
- b. **Consider** the following recommendations:
 - to adopt the amendments to the draft ToR of the NCWG proposed in Annex A and instruct the IHB to include the proposed amended provision related to the vacancy of the Chair or Vice-Chair position in the ToR of the other HSSC working groups (see paragraphs 3 and 4);
 - to consider instructing the NCWG to limit its future work on S-4 to clarifications, when required by chart producers or end users, and to postpone further revisions until the proposed scoping study of the future of S-4 is concluded (see paragraph 8);
 - to ensure that any proposal to amend to S-4 includes the consideration of the impact of its implementation on ENC's (see paragraph 7);
 - to endorse the inclusion of the guidance for the preparation and maintenance of small / medium scale ENC schemes in S-11 Part A rather than in a separate publication (see paragraphs 11 and 12);
 - to postpone the establishment of the project team on the future of S-4 (see paragraph 14).
- c. **Take any other actions** considered necessary.

Proposed amendments to the draft terms of reference of the NCWG

1. Objectives

...

2. Authority

This WG is a subsidiary of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC). Its work is subject to HSSC approval.

3. Composition and Chairmanship

- a) The WG shall comprise representatives of IHO Member States (MS), Expert Contributors (EC), observers from accredited Non-Governmental International Organizations (NGIO), and a representative of the IHB (“IHB” to be replaced by “IHO Secretariat” when the IHO Secretariat is established). A membership list shall be maintained and posted on the IHO website.
- b) The Chair will monitor membership to ensure that each Regional Hydrographic Commission is invited to be represented on the WG.
- c) EC membership is open to entities and organizations that can provide a relevant and constructive contribution to the work of the WG.
- d) The Chair and Vice-Chair shall ~~each~~ be a representative of a MS. The election of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be decided at the first meeting after each ordinary session of the ~~International Hydrographic Conference (IHC)~~ (“Conference” to be replaced by “Assembly” when the revised IHO Convention enters into force) and shall be determined by vote of the MS present and voting.
- e) A Secretary should be appointed to ensure the smooth running of WG business; to administer consultation and collation of members’ views; and may act as Editor of the WG’s publications. The position is normally ~~filled by drawn from~~ a member of the WG.
- f) If the Chair is unable to carry out the duties of the office, the Vice-Chair shall act as the Chair with the same powers and duties. If the position of Chair or Vice-Chair becomes vacant during the period between two ordinary sessions of the Conference (“Conference” to be replaced by “Assembly” when the revised IHO Convention enters into force) an ~~before the next ordinary IHC, inter-conference~~ elections ~~may should~~ be conducted at the next ~~NCWG~~ meeting of the working group or by correspondence ~~between Working Group meetings.~~
- g) ECs shall seek approval of membership from the Chair.
- h) EC membership may be withdrawn ~~if in the event that~~ a majority of the MS represented in the WG agrees that an EC’s continued participation is irrelevant or unconstructive to the work of the WG.
- i) All members shall inform the Chair in advance of their intention to attend meetings of the WG.
- j) In the event that a large number of EC members seek to attend a meeting, the Chair may restrict attendance by inviting ECs to act through one or more collective representatives.

4. Procedures

- a) The WG ...:
- b) The WG ~~conducts its business mainly should work~~ by correspondence, teleconferences,

- ~~group meetings, workshops or symposia. It will also plan to hold meetings at least once every two years, dependant on membership support and business needs. The WG should meet about once a year.~~ When meetings are scheduled, and in order to allow any WG submissions and reports to be submitted to HSSC on time, WG meetings should not normally occur later than nine weeks before a meeting of the HSSC.
- c) Decisions ~~shall~~ should generally be made by consensus. If votes are required on issues or to endorse proposals presented to the WG, ~~votes shall be taken by a simple majority of the MS present and voting only MS may cast a vote. Votes at meetings shall be on the basis of one vote per MS represented at the meeting. Votes by correspondence shall be on the basis of one vote per MS represented in the WG. When dealing with inter-sessional matters by correspondence, a simple majority of responding MS shall be required. Each MS shall have one vote.~~
 - d) The date and venue of group meetings shall normally be announced by the Chair at least six months in advance.
 - e) The draft record of meetings shall be distributed by the Chair (or the secretary) within six weeks of the end of meetings and participants' comments should be returned within three weeks of the date of despatch. Final minutes of meetings should be posted on the IHO website within three months after a meeting.
 - f) Sub-working groups and project teams may be created by the WG or proposed to HSSC to undertake detailed work on specific topics. The terms of reference and rules of procedure of the sub-working groups and project teams are determined or proposed by the WG as appropriate.
 - g) The WG will maintain close liaison with other HSSC WGs, particularly the ENCWG, NIPWG and S-100WG, and ~~those other groups~~ developing and maintaining S-100 based products, ~~and. The WG should liaise also~~ with other ~~international and~~ IHO bodies, international organizations and industry, as appropriate and as instructed by HSSC.
 - h) The WG should prepare annually a report on its activities and a rolling two-year work plan, including expected time frame.