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IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HSSC CL 1/2016

References:

- A. IHO CL 17/2016 dated 31 March - *Call for submissions to update the IHO Strategic Plan*
- B. Minutes of HSSC-7
- C. IHO CL 25/2016 dated 25 May - *Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) - 8th Meeting, 14-18 November 2016, IHB Monaco*

10 June 2016

Dear Directing Committee,

1. In response to Reference A requesting input to the revision of the IHO Strategic Plan and in accordance with the arrangements agreed by the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) (see reference B), please find attached the outcome of the consideration of the current version of the IHO Strategic Plan by the Chair Group of the HSSC.
2. The Chair Group of the HSSC has also identified the main items for the next cycle of the Committee's work programme and agreed the associated performance indicators. The development of the draft work programme will be progressed subsequently for further consideration at the 8th meeting of the HSSC in November 2016 (see reference C).

Yours sincerely,

Dr Mathias JONAS
Chair, HSSC

Enclosure: Outcome of the workshop of the Chair Group of the HSSC - Paris/Saint-Mandé, France 1 - 2 June 2016 - *Outcome - Input to the Revision of the IHO Strategic Plan*

**WORKSHOP OF THE CHAIR GROUP
OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Paris/Saint-Mandé, France 1 - 2 June 2016**

OUTCOME

Input to the Revision of the IHO Strategic Plan

Submitted by:	HSSC Chair Group
Executive Summary:	This document reports on the outcome of the workshop of the HSSC Chair Group which considered the input of the HSSC to the preparation of the 19 th International Hydrographic Conference / 1 st Session of the IHO Assembly. It provides the HSSC Chair Group input to the revision of the IHO Strategic Plan.
Related Documents:	IHO Resolution 12/2002, as amended – <i>Planning Cycle</i> IHO CL 17/2016 dated 31 March - <i>Call for submissions to update the IHO Strategic Plan</i>
Related Projects:	None

Introduction / Background

1. IHO Resolution 12/2002 as amended sets out the timetable for the review of the IHO Strategic Plan and the Inter-Conference / Assembly Work Programme. According to the Resolution, twelve months prior to the next Ordinary International Hydrographic Conference (which is anticipated to be held as the first session of the Assembly subject to the entry into force of the Protocol of Amendments to the Convention on the IHO), Member States and the two programme committees – the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) and the Hydrographic Standards and Services Committee (HSSC), should be invited to submit any proposals to update the Strategic Plan and the Work Programme.
2. In accordance with the Resolution, IHO CL 17/2016 invited Member States and the Chairs of IRCC and HSSC to submit to the Directing Committee any proposals to update the Strategic Plan no later than 1 July 2016, so that any such proposals can be compiled and circulated in accordance with the review timetable.
3. This document provides the input of the HSSC Chair Group to the revision of the current Strategic Plan adopted by the 4th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (2009).

Overview of the Strategic Plan

4. The Chair Group is of the opinion that a full-scale revision of the current Strategic Plan is not required. It offers the following comments as regard the structure of the Plan:
 - The Chair Group considers that it would be helpful to include in the Preamble a flow diagram linking the Strategic Directions to the definition of the Elements and Tasks of the IHO Work Programme and to the designation of the associated Performance Indicators.
 - The Chair Group considers that the classification of the strategic assumptions as “strengths” (S), “weaknesses” (W) “opportunities” (O) or “threats” (T) does not serve any valuable purposes.
 - The Chair Group is not aware that the risk management framework referred to in section 5.2 of the Plan and described in Annex A has ever been implemented, noting that currently no targets are associated to the performance indicators. The Chair Group recommends that Chapter 5 of the Strategic Plan be retained, subject to implementing it when preparing the

next edition of the IHO Work Programme (WP) and suggests that both Annexes A and C be revisited and inserted in the Work Programme rather than in the Strategic Plan itself.

Proposed amendments to the Strategic Plan

5. The amendments proposed by the Chair Group to update the Strategic Plan are shown below as addition and deletion.

Vision, Mission and Object

...

The **mission** of the IHO is to create a global environment in which States provide adequate, standardized and timely hydrographic data, products and services and ensure their widest possible use.

...

Strategic assumptions

...

1.1 An adequate data-centric hydrographic infrastructure is an essential geospatial foundation layer to support the move to an open data environment.

...

2.2 GrowingThe development of the Blue Economy and environmental concerns, related in particular to climate change, awareness will generate increasing demands and wider uses for hydrographic information beyond solely core navigational safety use.

...

4.1 Technological developments (digital era, high rate communication systems, sensor technology and integrated services and precise positioning systems) are a major driving force for changes and require interoperable data management and portrayal.

...

Strategic Directions

...

2.6 promoting the use of new technologies and the opportunities offered by globalization, and international cooperation and crowd-sourcing.

...

6. In addition, the Chair Group suggest inserting sub-headings in Chapter 6 - *Progress Monitoring* as follow:

6. Progress monitoring

6.1 Monitoring mechanism

The mechanism to monitor the implementation of the Strategic Plan and identify any needs for revision includes the following elements:

...

6.2 Implementation

The implementation of performance indicators is based on a two level approach:

...

6.3 Assessment and review

Accordingly, the assessment of the working level PIs and the review of progress with the strategic directions ...

7. Considering that the six-month reporting mechanism put in place by the EIHC-5 provides little added value, the Chair Group recommends returning to an annual reporting mechanism, in accordance with the provision of Chapter 6 of the current Strategic Plan and with the annual cycle of the Committees and of the Council (when established). A common report template would be welcome. The Council or the Committees could decide that some specific critical tasks require more frequent reporting but this should not be systematic.