

The 6th meeting between the representatives of EU/EEA Hydrographic Offices, IHB and representatives of EC took place in Amsterdam, Netherlands, on 25 June 2014.

Participants:

- Iain Shepherd (DG Mare)
- Sylvain Gambert (DG Mare)
- Gilles Bessero (International Hydrographic Bureau)
- Sean Cullen, Geological Survey Ireland (Ireland)
- Thomas Dehling, Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (Germany)
- Leendert Dorst, Hydrographic Service Royal Netherlands Navy (Netherlands)
- Michel Even, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Evert Flier, Norwegian Hydrographic Service (Norway)
- Bruno Frachon, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Gerhard Heggebø, Norwegian Hydrographic Service (Norway)
- Mathias Jonas, Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (Germany)
- Niels Kinneging, Rijkswaterstaat (Netherlands)
- Paolo Lusiani, Istituto Idrografico della Marina (Italy)
- Vasileios Petropoulos , Hellenic Navy Hydrographic Service (Greece)
- Yves-Henri Renhas, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Noralf Slotsvik, Norwegian Hydrographic Service (Norway)
- Andrea Taramelli, Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (Italy)
- Johan Verstraeten, Flemish Hydrography (Belgium)
- Ellen Vos, Hydrographic Service Royal Netherlands Navy (Netherlands)
- Magnus Wallhagen, Hydrographic Office, Swedish Maritime Administration (Sweden)

Apologies:

- Guillermo Coll Florit, Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina (Spain).

Summary report and decisions:

1- Welcome and approbation of agenda

Bruno Frachon thanks the Hydrographic Service of the Royal Netherlands Navy for hosting this meeting in the Royal Netherlands Navy premises. Leendert Dorst welcomes the participants.

As Iain Shepherd must leave the meeting at 10.45, the agenda is re-ordered as follows:

- coastal surveys and mapping in Europe (HOs)
- Horizon 2020 and DG Mare programmes (Iain Shepherd)
- maritime spatial planning (Sylvain Gambert)

Ellen Vos proposes to report on the 2014 INSPIRE Conference under the agenda item on Maritime Spatial Planning.

2- Coastal surveys and mapping in Europe

(pdf as attached file 1)

Yves-Henri Renhas presents the needs for coastal mapping. Representatives from HOs and other institutes of Italy, Sweden, Norway, Germany and France present some of the experience they gained in coastal surveying. Yves-Henri Renhas presents the benefits of a joint programme and the issues to address before launching such a programme. DG Mare confirms its interest for studying these issues.

3- Contribution of Horizon 2020 to the blue growth

(pdf as attached file 2)

Iain Shepherd presents the opportunities offered by the Horizon 2020 programmes in relation with the blue growth.

4-Sea bed mining

(pdf as attached file 3)

Iain Shepherd presents the environmental issues which arise in deep sea mining and ask for which support HOs could provide to address these issues.

5-Maritime spatial planning

(pdf as attached file 4)

Sylvain Gambert presents the directive on maritime spatial planning (MSP) that the European Commission proposed last year. Discussions between Member States took place. The draft directive has been updated. It appears that:

- Member States should use and share “physical data about marine waters”
- most of the georeferenced data needed for MSP are hydrographic data
- the directive mentions EMODnet as a data source.

For MSP, databases of raw data are not adapted. Organized sets of processed data are needed. Presentation shows that use of data for maritime spatial planning raises several challenges. HOs could deal with some of them.

HOs should adopt an Infrastructure oriented approach rather than, or in complement to, a data oriented approach. They should anticipate the requirements of maritime space planners. They recommend a regional (RHC) approach.

Ellen Vos reports on the significant contributions from the marine community to the 2014 INSPIRE 2014 and notes the excellent synergy between representatives from HOs, Academia and Industry. The meeting welcomes the conclusion of the Conference which highlights Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures and encourages HOs to develop an infrastructure-based approach.

6-Next meeting

No date has been decided during the meeting for a next meeting of IHO EU network WG with European Commission.

However, during 31th North Sea Hydrographic Commission meeting which took place just after the 6th IHO EC meeting, a specific meeting on coastal mapping has been decided to take place in Saint-Mandé on 28 August or 2 September.