

The second meeting of the International Hydrographic Organization - European Union Network Working Group (IHO-EU Network WG - IENWG) took place in Paris (Saint-Mandé) France, on 29 January 2015.

Participants:

- Gilles Bessero (International Hydrographic Bureau)
- Paul Canham, United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (United Kingdom)
- Rune Carbuhn, Danish Geodata Agency, Geodatastyrelsen (Denmark)
- Michel Even, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Bruno Frachon, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Gerhard Heggebø, Norwegian Hydrographic Service (Norway)
- Mathias Jonas, Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und Hydrographie (Germany)
- Corine Locket, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Yves-Henri Renhas, Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine (France)
- Noralf Slotsvik, Norwegian Hydrographic Service (Norway)
- Jose Ramon Torres Garcia, Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina (Spain)
- Magnus Wallhagen, Hydrographic Office, Swedish Maritime Administration (Sweden)

Apologies:

- Suzanne Dael, Danish Geodata Agency, Geodatastyrelsen (Denmark)
- Panagiotis Gkionis, Hellenic Navy Hydrographic Service (Greece)
- Jens-Peter Hartmann, Danish Geodata Agency, Geodatastyrelsen (Denmark)

Summary report and decisions:

1. Welcome and approbation of agenda (pdf as attached file 1)

Michel Even welcomes the participants. The draft agenda is adopted.

2. Experience gained with coastal mapping tender

Corine Locket presents the experience gained in preparing the response to the call for tender in coastal mapping.

@ to prepare and send a project of consortium and an action plan (France)

3. Intergroup on “seas, rivers, islands and coastal areas” in the European Parliament.

Corine Locket presents the establishment of an Intergroup on “seas, rivers, islands and coastal areas” in the European Parliament. She gives the list of Members of Parliament who belong to the Member States which are represented in IHO EU Network WG. Most of them are elected in coastal regions. The chair is Gesine Meisner from Germany. The WG decides to organize a meeting with the chair, if possible during the last week of May, in order:

- to promote the action of European HO's,
- to present the benefits, not only for navigation but also for the blue economy, that are already achieved and could be increased by more cooperation between IHO and EU

- to explain the need to have surveys and so to have a financial model for this.
- @to be prepared by the chair of the WG

4. Participation in EMODnet programme

HOs should pursue discussion among themselves and with DG Mare to address the relevant issues, such as the resolution of DTM they agree to release. A roadmap should be drafted in order to respond to the call for tender when it is published (@ France, end of April).

The policy that HOs suggest to implement for EMODnet3 should be discussed with DG Mare, as was the case for JECMaP. It should take place before end of June. HOs should also define among themselves how they will respond the call for tender.

Through the Baltic Sea Bathymetric Database, the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission has adopted an integrated way to deliver a DTM towards EMODnet2. Mathias Jonas suggested that the other Regional Hydrographic Commissions build on this concept and use the same software to operate regional databases. Magnus Wallhagen agreed to share the know-how. That should allow implementing an organizational scheme based on Regional Hydrographic Commissions to respond to EMODnet3.

After the meeting, following a paper submitted by Mathias Jonas, the chair sent a letter¹ to the chairs of relevant RHCs.

5. Work programme for IHO EU Network WG and Horizon 2020 (pdf as attached file 2)

The following work items were identified by the meeting:

- Implementing the coastal mapping project, subject to success of the tender;
- Preparing EMODnet 3;
- Monitoring EU initiatives relevant to HOs;
- Lobbying EU organs and groups on HO activities and issues.

The meeting considered briefly the involvement of the IENWG in the Horizon programme. A framework programme for 2014-2020 was established by regulation 1291/2013 fo the EU Parliament and Council, 11 December 2013.

A work programme 2014-2015, was published by decision Commission (2013) 10 December 2013 with the following noticeable parts:

- part 1: general introduction: blue growth
- part 9: food, agriculture, marine and maritime research, contains most of marine and maritime possibly related topics
- part 10 secure clean efficient energy
- part 11 smart green integrated transport
- part 12 climate action, environment

In part 9: food, agriculture... marine and maritime research contains (pages 39 to 60) the list of call for proposals to be launched in the domain of blue growth. However, they are not directly related to hydrographic issues.

The best way to build up a joint research programme in matters relevant to hydrography seems to act in pre-programming phase for the Work Programme 2016-2017.

¹ Letter 014 SHOM/DMI/NP 13 February 2015

Following a request from an industry stakeholder submitted to the IHB, the meeting agreed to consider also how the EU Directive on Marine Equipment could foster the requirement that software-based equipment such as ECDIS be updated to the latest version of the relevant standards. The IHB representative agreed to draft a background paper for further consideration of the IENWG (@ IHB).

6. Miscellaneous

To ask Greece to explain the aims and to promote the achievements of the IENWG within the next European Maritime Day in Piraeus next May. (@chair of WG)

To set a process to monitor the publication of DG Mare in order to detect calls for tenders, calls for proposals and events which could be of interest to the IENWG (@France)