

**REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA AND  
ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SAIHC)  
By the Chairman, Captain Abri KAMPFER, South Africa**

**Chairman:** Mr Albano GOVE, Mozambique (1999 – 2003)  
Captain Abri KAMPFER, Hydrographer South Africa (2003 - 2007)  
Mr Augusto Bata, Mozambique (2007 – 2009)  
Captain Abri KAMPFER, Hydrographer South Africa (2009 – present))

**Membership:** France, Mozambique, Mauritius, Norway, South Africa and United Kingdom.

**Associate Members:** Angola, Comoros, Kenya, Malawi, Madagascar, Tanzania, Portugal and Seychelles.

**Observers:** Brazil, USA

**Meetings:**

A National Hydrographic Committee (NHC) Seminar, supported by the IHO Capacity Building Fund was held from 14 – 15 September in St Gilles, La Réunion and it was well attended. The 7<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Conference was held from 16 – 17 September 2009 at the same venue.

**Agenda Items - 7<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Conference**

The following are the principal agenda items dealt with during the above-mentioned meeting.

- Report from IHB
- 4<sup>TH</sup> EIHC: Conference Decisions
- Results from the 1<sup>ST</sup> IRCC
- Preparations required for the 1<sup>ST</sup> HSSC
- GEBCO: Shallow water bathymetry
- INT chart scheme for Region H: Progress made since last meeting; actual Charting status (S-55); ENC production status; new requirements and modifications proposed to the scheme.
- Regional Capacity Building Management Plan
- Approvals of Candidate Bids from SAIHC
- Generic B-lateral Agreement for provision of Hydrographic Services
- Presentation of National Reports: Hydrographic surveying, nautical charting, nautical publications and information status.
- Hydrographic Survey status (S-55)
- Procedures in response to Marine Disasters
- Marine / Hydrographic Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI)

- SAIHC Statutes

## **Conclusions**

Main conclusions were as follows:

- Member States to investigate the progress of the ratification of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO convention in their respective countries.
- Member States and Associate Members were requested to sign the statutes of the commission. Responsible authorities will be notified of the importance of signing the statutes.
- INT Chart producing nations to check and update the information in S-11 and provide feedback to the Region H Coordinator (SA).
- Latest surveys carried out by Tanzania in its region to be forwarded to UKHO once appropriate administration procedures have been finalised. All were urged to ensure that charting authorities receive regular updates to allow for timely charting action.
- MS and associated members are encouraged to provide Shallow Water Data information for compilation of the World GEBCO Chart.
- SAIHC Capacity Building matters to be addressed by a SAIHC Capacity Building Working Group (WG) composed of RSA, France, Norway, UK, Portugal, Mauritius and Mozambique.
- Response to Marine Disasters. All are to ensure that contact details are provided and kept up to date. SAIHC to propose IRCC to produce guidelines on a 'disaster' action plan.
- SAIHC Chairman to invite Chairs of adjacent RHCs to future SAIHC Conferences.
- Western Indian Ocean Marine Electronic Highway and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project, funded by the World Bank will remain a standing agenda item for feedback on the progress and training opportunities.
- IALA will be invited to all future SAIHC meetings due to their involvement with Aids to Navigation in the region.
- The importance of S-55 was re-iterated as it forms the basis of establishing capacity building needs in the various regions. All Member states were urged to keep S-55 up to date by online corrections or with the annual S-55 Questionnaire.

## **Venue and date of next meeting**

The 8<sup>th</sup> SAIHC Conference will be held in Luanda, Angola in September 2011 or alternatively in Walvis Bay, Namibia.

## **Actions required of IRCC**

IRCC is invited to:

1. Note the content of this report
2. Advise on Guidelines for a Marine Disaster Action Plan for RHCs (IHO CL 89/2005.)