



**13th NORTH INDIAN OCEAN
HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION CONFERENCE
Yangon, Myanmar 19 – 21 Feb 2013**



REPORT TO IRCC5

- Chair:-** Vice Admiral SK Jha (India) Jun 2012 to Jun 2013
RAdm Charin Boonmoh (Thailand) Jun 2013 to Jun 2014
- Vice Chair:-** RAdm Charin Boonmoh (Thailand) Jun 2012 to Jun 2013
RAdm Thomas Karsten (UK) Jun 2012 to Jun 2013
- Members:-** Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Kingdom, Pakistan.
- Associate Members:-** Australia, France, Mauritius, Oman, Seychelles, USA.
- Observers:-** IHB, Malaysia, Sudan, GEBCO, Kongsberg, IIC Tech., Caris, Fugro, SHRI Russia, IALA, IWA India, Jeppesen.

1. The 13th NIOHC meeting was held in Yangon, Myanmar from 19 to 22 Feb 2013. Attendees are underlined above.
2. Status of IRCC4 Action Points:-
 - (a) **IRCC4/01 Encourage the approval of pending applications for IHO membership.** Was discussed in the meeting and all MS were encouraged to approve pending applications.
 - (b) **IRCC4/06 Comply with CBSC procedures and ensure the timely provision of the appropriate documentation that justify expenses associated to CB Projects, and to demand refund if needed not later than one month after the event has finalized.** This has been noted for compliance by CB Coordinators.

- (c) **IRCC4/07 Invite GEBCO Guiding Committee/Bathymetric Regional Project Chairs to attend corresponding RHC meetings, aiming at strengthening collaboration with a priority on improving high resolution shallow water bathymetry at the regional level.** GEBCO was represented by Dr. Rochelle Wigley. A presentation was given to all members during the meeting.
- (d) **IRCC4/08 Circulate draft C55 framework developed by Australia; RHCs to provide comments to Chair; Chair to provide final version to IHB.**
Members who had brought their C-55 updates were asked to submit them to IHB for updating. Others were encouraged to forward updates if any to IHB.
- (e) **IRCC4/09 Consider amending Statutes of the RHCs in order to allow non-IHO MSs to host RHC conferences, when and if applicable.** The existing NIOHC Statutes have the provision.
- (f) **IRCC4/13 Provide written feedback on Annexes B and C of WEND Principles (CONF 18/WP3) to IHB for approval by MS.** The NIOHC view is that whilst the spirit of the text in the draft Annexes B and C Guidelines to the WEND Principles is acknowledged, in their current format these annexes are not fully supported. NIOHC warmly welcomes the work of the WEND Drafting Group in revising the text of the Guidelines into a more user friendly format and will contribute where necessary.
- (g) **IRCC4/17 Circulate the paper “A Blueprint for Ocean and Coastal Sustainability” to RHCs to be used as a awareness raising tool.** The document was provided to all members of the NIOHC.
- (h) **IRCC4/18 Provide the IRCC Chair with their report on the progress of the relevant tasks of the IHO 2012 Work Programme.** All tasks relevant to the NIOHC were examined and reviewed. A project for multibeam data collection/processing and paper chart/ENC production has been submitted to CBSC for consideration. Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka will participate in the courses conducted by India by end 2013/early 2014.
- (i) **IRCC4/20 Review the relevant tasks of the IHO 2013 Work Programme in their respective Work Plans and report on suggested updates, if any to the IRCC Chair.** All relevant tasks were reviewed and are being progressed.
- (j) **IRCC4/27 Inform MSs of the IMO’s transition to and the implication of the mandatory IMO Member States Audit Scheme from 2015.** Action completed and kept as permanent agenda in the NIOHC.
- (k) **IRCC4/30 Consider the participation of the Stakeholders at the RHC conference.** Implemented.

3. **Other agendas that were discussed in the meeting are as follows:-**

- (a) **Capacity Building**. A modification to the 5 year plan has been submitted to CBSC. The new proposal is for Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka to undergo a multibeam data collection/processing course followed by paper chart and ENC production course in India. The proposal has been given priority 1 for funding consideration by CBSC.
- (b) **NIOCCWG**. The NIOCCWG met on the sidelines of the meeting and resolved all issues pertaining to INT Charting/ENCs in the region before reporting their findings to the plenary. Alterations and addition in the S-11 are being forwarded for uploading by IHB. Overlaps/gaps in ENCs are being addressed.
- (c) **MSDI**. A presentation was given in the meeting on MSDI.
- (d) **VIMSAS**. Discussions on VIMSAS and its importance was highlighted during the meeting. It forms a permanent agenda for the NIOHC.
- (e) **Presentations by Industry**. There was a good representation by the industry for the meeting. The presentations were followed by detailed discussions in the meeting.
- (f) Pakistan has been inducted as a full member of NIOHC during the meeting.
- (g) The next meeting will take place in Bangkok, Thailand.