

MARINE SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING GROUP (MSDIWG)

1st Meeting, IHB, Monaco, 4-5 February 2008

The IHO/CHRIS Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (MSDIWG) had its inaugural meeting at the IHB, Monaco, on 4-5 February 2008. The MSDIWG has been established by the CHRIS Committee following a decision by the 17th IH Conference in May 2007, to identify the Hydrographic Community inputs to National Spatial Data Infrastructures (NSDI). The meeting was attended by the Chairman of the MSDIWG, Mr. John Pepper (UKHO) and representatives of the HOs of Australia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, The Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia and USA, and members of the IHB, plus an expert contributor from SeaZone (UK).

The meeting reviewed the current status of SDI development in each participants country'. It was noted that the EU initiative INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community) will apply to European HOs. The meeting also supported the new IHO Geospatial Standard for Hydrographic Data, S-100, which was considered to be the relevant standard for marine SDI development.

The meeting agreed to produce an IHO SDI Guide, aiming at assisting IHO member states in their dealings with SDI. It was agreed that the guide should cover all SDI aspects, including Spatial Data Strategy / Policy, People / Networking, Data Management, Frameworks / Standards, and Dissemination. It is intended that a final draft of the guide will be submitted to the 20th CHRIS meeting in November 2008 for review / approval. The meeting divided into small working groups to develop a questionnaire, in view of assessing the level of readiness of HOs to contribute to an SDI. A draft was prepared, which will be finalized by correspondence and sent to member states. The following schedule of work was agreed:

- ✓ 15 March 2008: Questionnaire completed, to be circulated to MS by CL.
- ✓ 1 June 2008: Analyzing all responses to the questionnaire.
- ✓ 1 August 2008: Drafting of the IHO SDI Guide.
- ✓ 1 September 2008: Initial draft of the guide to be completed.
- ✓ 30 September 2008: Final draft of the guide to be completed and made available as a CHRIS-20 document.
- ✓ November 2008: Review of the final draft IHO SDI Guide by CHRIS-20.

The WG has planned to meet again in mid-September 2008 to review and finalize the draft guide.