

2nd NCWG MEETING
IHB, Monaco 26-29 April 2016

Paper for Consideration by NCWG
Consultation for INT chart production (S11 part 'A')

Submitted by:	NATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE, INDIA
Executive Summary:	Simplification of consultation procedure for production of INT Charts/ENCs in the non controversial waters.
Related Documents:	IHO S11 Part 'A' and S4.
Related Projects:	None

Introduction / Background

The consultation process for approval of draft INT charts in compliance with INT chart standards should be made simpler to encourage the HOs to produce INT charts with latest survey data of their national waters and making the product (chart/ENC) available to the mariner well in time. In the draft of S11 part 'A' circulated vide NCWG Letter 06/15 dated 23 Jul 2015, under para 3.10 (sited below), the consultation list has been lengthened by adding RENCs and The Technical Experts Working Groups (for example, a regional ENC Harmonisation Working Group). In reality RENCs do not have a direct role in the scheming of INT charts and relevant issues in case of common waters. As far as technical experts groups are concern, a few of them have the relevance to INT chart/ENC scheming. Therefore the consultation list should rather be left as it was in the earlier version of S11 than creating a red tape in the name of consultation.

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3.10 **Consultation.**

3.10.1 *Cooperation and collaboration is important and essential to ensure the optimum outcome in the charts produced and the consistency of their content. Draft International chart schemes should be circulated for comment to the following, as appropriate:*

- *All members of the ICCWG and, where appropriate, members of the RHC.*
- *The Coordinators of adjoining ICCWGs, if the scheme impacts on their region.*
- *Hydrographic Offices producing or printing charts in the region.*
- *RENCs.*
- *Technical Experts Working Groups (for example, a regional ENC Harmonisation Working Group).*
- *The Chairman of the NCWG.*
- *The IHB (IHO Secretariat).”*

Practically speaking the matter should be limited to the respective RHCs and adjoining RHCs in case of overlap in consultation with NCWG the controller of INT chart specifications finally the IHO. The ICCWGs can study the matter minutely within the region towards arriving at an appropriate solution ensuring of proper coverage and the safety of life at sea. This is what it is required and covered in the existing S11 Part 'A' 2.0.5 May2012.

Analysis / Discussion

Regarding the consultation procedure, INHO, India had expressed its concern in reply to NCWG Lt.06/15, but the comment by the Chair NCWG is in favour of additional consultants. Comments as follows:

INHO Comment on Consultation (3.10.1): Recommended for deletion of RENCs, Technical Expert Working Groups from the consultation list. Too many consultations may lead to delay in processing.

Comment by the Chair, NCWG: There is no reason why all consultees should not be consulted 'in parallel', with a reasonable response time provided (for example, NCWG allows 8 weeks for consultation). Additional consultees would not extend the process.

There are too many working groups existing in the IHOs structure. For instance the technical working groups in the IHO structure, the RHCs and the WENDWG are working under IRCC. On the other hand S100WG, ENCWG, NCWG, NIPWG, DPSWG, DQWG and the HDWG which are of chart/ENC relevance working under HSSC. Within these again the project teams have their specific objectives. According to the ToRs, only the NCWG is responsible WG for maintaining the INT Chart specifications and related standards. The objective of the ENCWG is to maintain the standards documents like S-52, S-57, S-58, S-62, S-64 and S-65. The objective of RENC is to distribute ENCs through a single window in compliance with IHO standards and they have no jurisdiction to the process of INT chart scheme. As a result of Capacity Building efforts of IHO and prominent MS like India, more and more states are aspiring to become producer of INT charts of their waters. This development would help bring in ever-new INT charts compiled by local HOs with fresh/current hydrographic data. This is a welcome trend and requires to be encouraged in the favour of safety of navigation. The widening of consultation process would have an effect of curbing this healthy trend.

Conclusions

Inclusion of too many WGs and RENCs in the consultation list will slowdown the process. According to the ToRs of ICCWG under para 3.7 Rules of Procedure, the draft proposal will be circulated to the following for review and comments:

- All members of the ICCWG and, where appropriate, all members of the [Region] Hydrographic Commission;
- Coordinators of adjoining regional ICCWG, if the scheme impacts on those regions (for example, to ensure consistency and coherence of coverage across regional boundaries, for the allocation of chart numbers);
- Hydrographic Offices producing or printing charts of the Region;
- Chairman CSPCWG, if independent advice is required.

Encouraging the native HO's to produce INT charts of their respective national waters is considered necessary to achieve the objective of INT charts. However for most medium and large scale INT charts, the Producer Nation will be the IHO Member state with responsibility for charting the waters covered by these charts.

Recommendations

In light of above retain the consultation list from Para 3.10.1 S11 part 'A' Edn. 2.0.5 May 2012.

Justification and Impacts

1. Valid inputs from the right working groups like NCWG, ICCWG.
2. Involvement of only affected parties viz, Producer Nation, Printer Nation, Regional Coordinator, Adjoining Regional Coordinator if applicable, ICCWG and the IHO.
3. Reduces the delay
4. Would help avoid complicating the process. The ease of approval process would be a motivation for more and more states to produce INT charts with fresh currency data of their waters replacing traditional extra regional producers.

5. In view of point 4 above, a simple process would help provide motivation for employment of resources for new surveys by host HOs.

Action required of NCWG

The NCWG is invited to discuss the matter toward simplification of consultation procedure for production of INT charts.

- a. Consider the recommendation for discussion with the Member States and the INT Chart coordinators.
- b. Make necessary amendment to the new edition S11, Part 'A'.
- c. Take up necessary steps for implementation.