

Paper for Consideration by WENDWG

Harmonizing S-65 to the revised WEND principles

Submitted by:	United States
Executive Summary:	In 2014 the IHO Member States approved a revision to the WEND principles. The WEND principles are used as a foundation in S-65 – ENC Production, Maintenance and Distribution Guidance. Therefore S-65 needs to be aligned with the revised WEND principles.
Related Documents:	S-65
Related Projects:	N/A

Introduction / Background

In 2014, the IHO Member States approved a revision to the WEND principles which included revised wording regarding the introduction of mandatory carriage and the definition of a cartographic boundary. In addition, the IHO MS also approved revisions to the Guidelines for the Implementation of the WEND principles, which includes improved guidance for dealing with gaps and overlaps of Electronic Navigational Charts.

Analysis/Discussion

While the WEND Principles and associated Implementation Guidelines provide overarching guidance to member states, the IHO also maintains S-65 – *Electronic Navigational Charts, Production, Maintenance and Distribution Guidance*. The purpose of S-65 is as follows:

- This document provides a high level guide to the production, maintenance and distribution of Electronic navigational Charts (ENCs).
- It offers a framework to inform hydrographic offices of the processes and requirements necessary to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs.
- It provides references to documentation which can support each stage of the process. It is not intended to serve as a technical reference manual but to enable hydrographic offices to gain an overview of ENC production processes, and the requirements and procedures that need to be in place to set up an ENC production facility.

In addition to providing additional guidance to hydrographic offices, S-65 also incorporates the WEND principles. However, with the revision of the WEND principles in 2014, S-65 needs to be brought into alignment to the current iteration of the WEND principles.

In addition, consideration should be given to incorporating the WEND guidelines into S-65 as it provides implementation guidance for the WEND principles. The guidelines are currently only located on the web-page for the WEND working group and if they were incorporated into S-65, the revision may reach a greater audience.

Conclusions

As a result of the Member States approving revisions to the WEND principles, S-65 is no longer in alignment to the latest IHO technical resolution and therefore should be updated. In addition, S-65 covers ENC production, maintenance and distribution it could also be considered a good “home” for the WEND guidelines in order to make them more visible to IHO member states.

Recommendations

Currently, the newly formed ENCwg is responsible for the maintenance of S-65, however, the updates to S-65 fall under the auspices of the WEND working group so it may be more appropriate to ask HSSC if WEND could prepare the next edition of S-65. If not, then at the next HSSC, WEND should propose the update of S-65 and have it added to the ENCwg’s workplan.

Justification and Impacts

As stated above, S-65 is currently out of alignment to the latest version of the WEND principles, meaning that if IHO Member States refer to S-65 for edgematching data between two nations, they will not find the revised definition of a cartographic boundary.

In addition, because the WEND guidelines have improved guidance on how to deal with overlaps so it may be useful to include the guidelines in S-65 rather than referring to their existence. Currently, there are two mechanisms for codifying IHO guidelines – via an IHO technical resolution or publication within an S number publication. Since the Guidelines to the Implementation of the WEND principles are considered “guidance” documents it falls under the scope of S-65, which is ENC production guidance.

Action Required of WEND

The WEND is invited to:

- a. note the proposal and consider asking HSSC to add the following to S-65:
- b. Update S-65 to include the revised WEND principles
- c. consider adding the Guidelines for the Implementation of the WEND Principles in S-65