

2nd MEETING OF THE ARCTIC REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (ARHC)

Copenhagen, Denmark 28-29 September 2011

1. The 2nd meeting of the ARHC took place in Copenhagen Denmark 28 and 29 September 2011, under the Chairmanship of Dr Savithri Narayanan, the Dominion Hydrographer of Canada. Twenty eight delegates participated representing Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia Federation and USA. Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos represented the Bureau. A one day Conference was organized the 27 of September where the navigational issues of the Arctic region and the Arctic Hydrography were examined.

2. By all participants it was recognized the importance of the Arctic region as the number of ships visiting the region and the crossing of the northern passage was increasing. Various papers were presented concerning the marine traffic in the Arctic, the paper and ENC coverage, the establishment of a marine routing guide, the status of nautical publications, the Arctic projection and the establishment of an Arctic SDI. Denmark has been named the coordinator for the cartographic region of the Arctic that was developed and for the INT charts and ENCs. It is important to emphasize that the ARHC and NSHC have agreed the parallel 69 degrees North to be the boundary between the two Commissions.

3. Mr Svend Eskildsen the Director of the Danish Maritime Safety Administration (DaMSA) became the new Chair. The next meeting will take place in October 2012 in Norway.