

BSHC Chart Datum Working Group (ChartDatumWG)

ChartDatumWG Report to the BSHC 16th Conference

[5 September 2011]

The ChartDatumWG TORs request the ChartDatumWG to report annually to the BSHC.

1. Status of Work of ChartDatumWG

Mr. Jukka Varonen has acted as the Chair of the ChartDatumWG. There have been some changes to the BSIC ChartDatumWG CWG membership. *Mr. Juha Korhonen* has acted as the secretary of ChartDatumWG. All the BSHC countries have nominated a member to this Working Group, however not all have been active or participated to themetings.

The ChartDatumWG TORs and Work Programme 3.0 were approved by the BSHC 14th Conference in 2009. The main tasks for the ChartDatumWG are to prepare the implementation of the EVRS in the Baltic Sea, to forward to IHO TWLWG more specific Mean Seal Level definitions and recommendation especially for non-tidal areas, to study the validation, interpolation, prediction and distribution of water level information, and to cooperate with relevant other international bodies e.g. BOOS).

The WG has forwarded to TWLWG proposals to amend IHO resolutions related to vertical datums.

The communication within the ChartDatumWG has been performed by ChartDatumWG Letters and e-mails. The Chair has communicated with the IHB, the TWLWG and other relevant institutes (e.g. BOOS, Finnish Geodetic Institute, Lantmäteriet Sweden LantmFinnish and Swedish Meteorological Institutes).

2. ChartDatumWG meeting 29-31 August 2011, Norrköping

The ChartDatumWG meeting was held in Norrköping on 30-31 August 2011. There were 11 participants from 4 BSHC countries, from Norway and representatives from relevant other organisations, i.e. BOOS, Lantmäteriet Sweden and Finnish Geodetic Institute. The main issues were to review the work since the previous meeting, the progress made by the IHO, TWLWG and other bodies, to comment draft INSPIRE specifications, to inform on TEN-T *MonaLisa* 3.3 project, to analyse the current situation and to clarify the tasks and Work Programme of the ChartDatumWG, strengthen the relations with BOOS and other related institutes and invite them to consider to become as an observer to the WG.

3. *MonaLisa* project Sub-activity 3.3

The *MonaLisa* Subactivity 3.3 "*Pilot implementation of Harmonised vertical reference*" is planned to clarify and give further guidance to the BSHC members for their transition to a harmonised vertical reference. Finland and Sweden are the main participants in the project and both will implement a small scale pilot. Germany is an observer.

This Subactivity 3.3 has the following goals:

1. To develop a small scale pilot implementation of a harmonised vertical reference and study and analyse the implications of the implementation.
2. To develop examples and recommendations to BSHC Members for their transition to a harmonised vertical reference.

A Sub-activity 3.3 meeting was held prior the ChartDatumWG meeting on 29 August 2011. The goals, the relations to the work of the ChartDatumWG and the *MonaLisa* Subactivities 3.1 and 3.2 were clarified, the draft Work Plan was discussed and agreed further tasks to develop it further on. The Sub-activity 3.3 time frame is until the end of 2013. The Work Plan will be presented at the BSHC 16th Conference.

The Sub-activity 3.3 meeting recommended also other BSHC members to consider of joining as an observer to this sub-activity.

4. ChartDatumWG Work Programme

No amendments are proposed to the existing ChartDatumWG TORs.

The ChartDatumWG meeting on 30-31 August 2011 had no time to review the ChartDatumWG Work Programme in details. It was agreed that the Chair will make a proposed Draft Work Programme V. 4.0. This is in [Annex 1](#). It includes those Tasks which were identified as the priority issues and which are expected to be fostered during 2011 - 2012 bearing in mind the resources the BSHC members have.

The ChartDatumWG plans to have its next meeting in June or August 2012.

5. Comments to INSPIRE draft specifications

The ChartDatumWG has identified that in the current INSPIRE draft Guidelines there are seriously inappropriate and incomplete specifications. Deadline for comments to INSPIRE is 21st of October 2011. The WG decided that it is important to forward concerns and comments to the INSPIRE. Draft detailed comments will be circulated within the WG before BSHC 16th Conference. Conference is asked to decide on procedures to forward the comments to INSPIRE.

6. Actions for the BSHC 16th Conference:

The BSHC 16th Conference is requested to

1. note this Report
2. decide on procedures to forward the comments to INSPIRE
3. invite the BHSC members consider to join as observers to *MonaLisa* Subactivity 3.3
4. approve the proposed ChartDatumWG Work Programme V. 4.0

Annexes:

1. Proposed Draft ChartDatumWG Work Programme V. 4.0.

Annex 1:

Proposed ChartDatumWG Work Programme V 4.0 for 2011 – 2012

[Proposed to be approved by the BSHC 16th Conference, September 2011]

Note: This Work Programme includes those Tasks which were identified as the priority issues and which are expected to be fostered during 2011 - 2012 bearing in mind the resources the BSHC members have.

Tasks:

- Clarify the status and usability of EVRS in all BSHC countries
- Utilise the results of *MonaLisa 3.3* pilots for preparing the transition to EVRS
- Evaluate the plans of BSHC members for transition to EVRS
- Support IHO TWLWG on developing on more appropriate specifications for vertical datums on different types of sea and water areas
- Follow up the progress of development of specifications for vertical datums in INSPIRE Guidelines
- Intensify cooperation with BOOS, e.g. to prepare a MoU with BOOS