

11th Meeting of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC11) Wollongong, Australia, 30 May - 1 June

The 11th meeting of the Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC11) was held in Wollongong, Australia from 30 May to 1 June. The meeting was attended by 11 members and 29 observers from 21 countries. The IHB was represented by President Robert Ward, Director Mustafa Iptes and Assistant Director Alberto Costa Neves (CBSC Secretary).

The IHO Capacity Building (CB) Strategy revision was one of the major topics in the agenda and the CBSC agreed on the main topics and the timetable for the revision process. The CB Strategy revision was tasked to the CBSC by the 18th International Hydrographic Conference (IHC18) and the new document will be reported back to the 5th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHC5) in 2014. The main topics for revision are: the possibility of funding equipment; establishment of limits for non-Member States participation in CB activities; the need for comprehensive projects and the use of consultants; the use of C-55 as a country profile database; the use of funds for administrative issues on a limited basis; the co-operation with stakeholders; the development of Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) standard courses; and the need of Category B survey courses.

The CBSC approved two new CB Procedures 7 and 8 that will enter into effect immediately and decided to establish Terms of Reference (ToR) to guide the work of the CB Coordinators in each Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC).

The CBSC acknowledged the significant contribution of International Maritime Organization (IMO) for the development of hydrographic services in the developing countries through the Technical Co-operation Programme. The CBSC also acknowledged the support of Norway in the development of the CB Management System and the Performance Indicators (PIs). The preliminary figures for the Strategic PIs were discussed and reported to IRCC5.

The CBSC acknowledged the significant contributions made by the Republic of Korea and Japan to the IHO Capacity Building, and recognized the risk assessment developed by New Zealand as a positive tool to establish the priorities for surveys/charting in a region, as well to guide the CB activities and projects. CBSC also recognized the industry contribution to Capacity Building and the need to get further engagement with industry partners.

The CBSC exchanged experiences regarding the implementation of the 2012 and 2013 Capacity Building Work Programme (CBWP), reviewed the activities associated with the 2013 IHO CBWP and, based on new information received from the RHCs, it was adjusted. The CBSC also reviewed the CB projects submitted by the RHCs and adopted the 2014 IHO CBWP.

The next meeting will be held in Brest, France from 14 to 16 May 2014. The full report of the meeting will be published on the IHO website.



The Participants of the CBSC11 Meeting.