

Note to the General Director of “Port Autonome de Lomé” and Executive Coordinator of the Working Committee on Hydrography, Oceanography and Maritime security in Togo

Related to the 12th Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Conference (EAtHC)

- 1 - The 12th EAtHC will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, from 12 to 16 November 2012.
- 2 - The conference workshop will focus on capacity building on provision of hydrographic services (SOLAS Chap. V, Reg.9).
 - 2.1 - Each country offers elements for structuring the content of the workshop:
 - 2.2 - CtHOSNM believes that the training will reset and commit institutions that are involved in hydrography, oceanography and safety of maritime navigation to find ways to debate on the effectiveness of a strengthened legal framework to address multiplied issues concerning the status at sea and in coastal areas.
 - 2.3 - CtHOSNM supports the workshop initiative on capacity building in terms of hydrography during the 12th EAtHC which agenda is similar to the previous conferences, is marked by national reports presentation.
 - 2.4 - CtHSONM suggests the assessment of ongoing courses of hydrography in the sub region. The assessment will encourage Member States to discuss new innovations, and perhaps create a Master degree training center in marine resources and maritime safety.
 - 2.5 - What basic applicable tools each country must have to improve and promote its strengths in monitoring the status of the seabed?
 - 2.6 - SHOM transits in ports for navigation purposes must take into account operations of hydrographic surveys of areas which did not undergo mapping or charting of water's topographic features.
 - 2.7 - Is it possible to think of a joint provision of hydrographic services so that individual resources acquisition cost and maintenance is minimized, or which other regional disposition can be installed to ensure continuous monitoring of basins?
 - 2.8- Will we have an application kit at the end of the capacity building course?
 - 2.9 - Piracy occupy the frontline in territorial waters fairly open in the Gulf of Guinea. Member States are watching carefully so that maritime economic disaster is avoid. EAtHC may be considered as a legal training (workshops, courses) for young lawyers on the Law of the Sea. SHOM and EAtHC can initiate civil service for military and gendarmerie maritime Member States as it is done in European countries. Other aspects of oceanography, cartography and hydrography closely related to maritime law can supplement training corpus to be supported by IHO, EAtHC and SHOM.

3 - Hydrography and sea infrastructure resources, the background of the biodiversity, are to be considered as Marine Protected Areas. We will offer the workshop, the opportunity to establish in the Gulf of Guinea and anchor buoys along pipelines between Nigeria and Ghana with branches in Togo and Benin (under agreement with the operation company).

3.1 - In this context (Hydrography and environment), installation and buoys anchoring for atmospheric and oceanic variables equipment reading and security tools can form a project with the aim of training marine biologists (a lacks in the sub region) constituting the critical mass for Marine Protected Areas. This commitment may result in a partnership with IOC, IHO and hydrographic services of France, England, Portugal and Spain.

3.2 - New hydrographic and marine cooperation for hydrographic survey are offered to our countries: China, Japan, and Korea. The cooperation between China and Nigeria under the bathymetric survey of the continental shelf is an example. We need to know the opinion of member states, France, Spain, Portugal and England.

3.3 - Marine disasters, which strategies for member states? Does the conference of Monaco provide real applications, hardware and tools to Member States?

3.4 - The bathymetry of shallow depth attracts countries where aquatic environments are prominent: CGILE and SHOM may incur a framework agreement to that effect. CGILE has a Fish Finder, a bathymetric survey equipment laser beam.

3.5 - The current profiler provided by SHOM is down. We seek a startup solution. We will have discussion with SHOM.

3.6 - The National 2010-2012 Report is in pipeline; CtHOSNM stakeholders are invited to provide activities reports, especially: PAL (Technical Director and Captain), Navy, CGILE, Gendarmerie Maritime, and Department of maritime Affairs.

3.7 - SHOM sent a report to the Director of Maritime Affairs on the monitoring of the administrative arrangement between the Republic of France and the Togolese Republic signed on the 3rd December 2008. It is requested that the competent officer reads and learns from it for action, including the appointment of a cartographic data officer.

3.8 - SHOM requests that Togo communicate the outcome of surveys and works in the framework of the port's extension so that it is noticeable on the charts (maps and bathymetry of the basin and its approaches and detailed plans for construction of terminal containers). This information is necessary for updating nautical charts and publications.

3.9 - SHOM provided in Togo 3 CD Rom containing georeferenced images for areas like Lomé and Kpémé. It is indicated that the central segment will be provided before the end of the year or early 2013. CGILE received a copy for use in GIS.

4 - We have the latest maps developed, publication 2011, sent by the Commander of the Navy of France in Lome.

5 - I suggest to your attention a CtHOSNM meeting on Wednesday 31st October 2012.

6 - I also suggest that Togo is still represented at the 12th EAHC as associated country.

7 - I rely on the Head office of the port to support the delegation at the conference workshop on capacity building on the provision of hydrographic services.

8 - The suggested staff (8 members) is as follows

- General office of the Port (3 members - DG / DT / Captain)
- CGILE (1 member)
- Navy (1 member)
- Gendarmerie Maritime (1 member)
- The Department of Maritime Affairs (1 member)
- Military Cooperation of France (1 member)

9 - You are asked to provide a list of the Togolese official delegation as at 28th September 2012. The national report will follow.

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