

**HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION OF MESOAMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SEA  
13th Assembly, Antigua Guatemala, Nov 19 to 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012**

**COUNTRY REPORT**

# **GUATEMALA**

**MADENA**



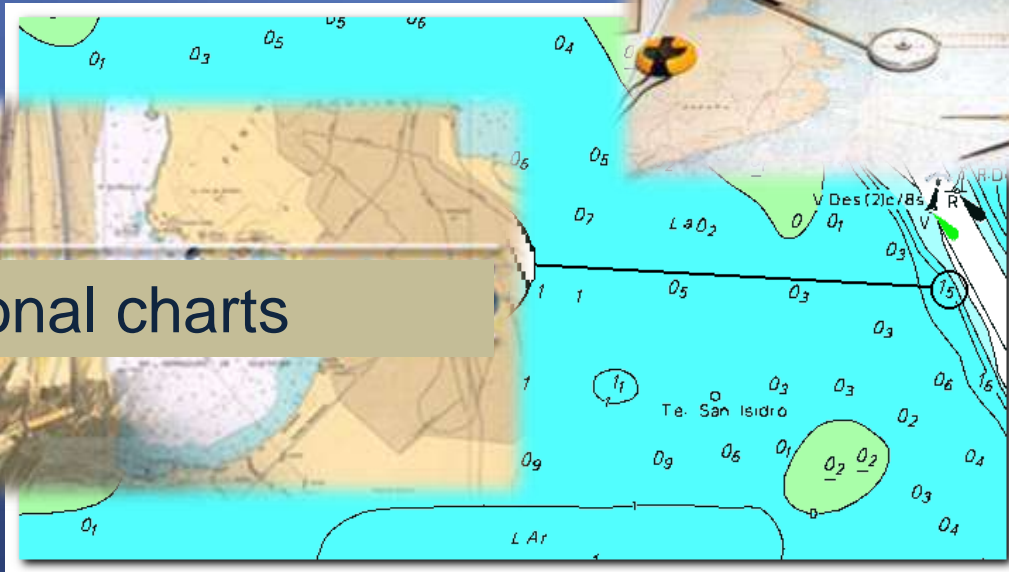
**Gobierno de Guatemala**

# Agenda

- Introduction.
- Hydrographic Background.
- National Hydrographic Situation.
- (IICHO)
- Surveys.
- Coverage
- Generation Capacity.
- Conclusions.
- Contribution or Requiries



Navigational charts



# Introduction

"The establishment of a national maritime policy requires a lot of knowledge of the geographical, geological and geophysical seabed and coastline, currents and tides, some physical properties of the sea and the presentation of these parameters after the proper process, so they can accurately describe the nature of the seabed, its geographical relationship to the land and the characteristics and dynamics of the ocean, in all areas of national navigation. "

*Captain  
Federico Bermejo*

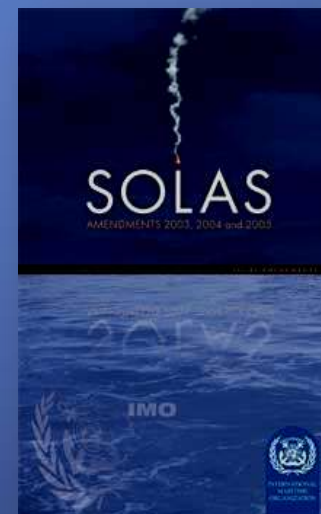


# Hydrographic Background

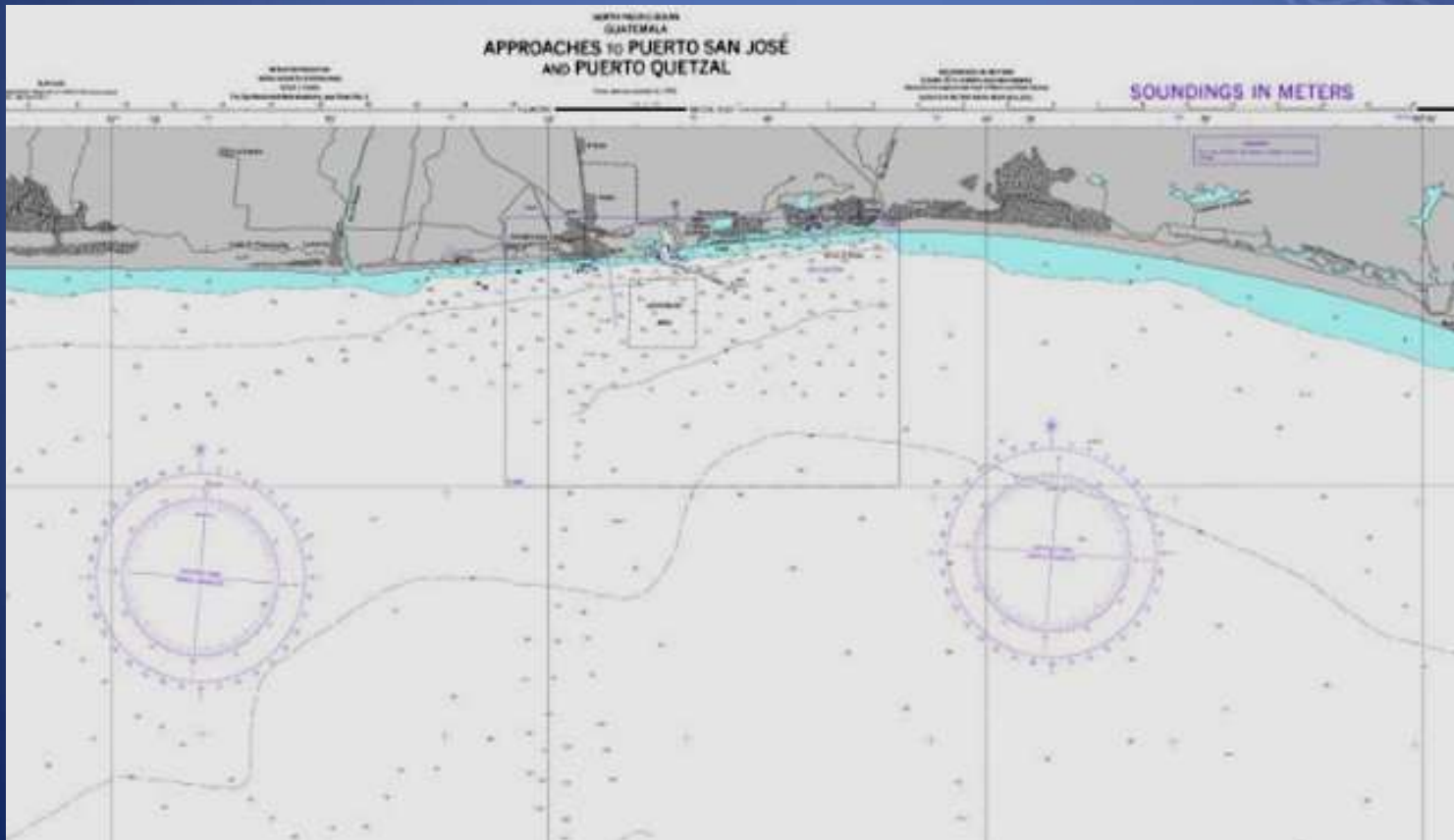
Guatemala ratified the Convention on the IHO, held in Monaco on MAY03 1967, by Decree No. 85-70 of the Congress of the Republic, the only Central American country that agency integrated.

Chapter V, Regulation of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, of which we are part, reads as follows:

"Hydrographic Services: Contracting Governments undertake to arrange for the collection and compilation of hydrographic data, publish, distribute and update all information



- On Jan 14 1975, The Ministries of Communications, MDN, IGN, entered into cooperative arrangements with NAVOCEANO hydrographic, NIMA, 28,164 nautical charts are published Santo Tomas de Castilla, Puerto Madero nautical chart, 21,510 Guatemala, Acajutla, 04 and 05 Gua Quetzal seaport updated until 1988.



# National Hydrographic Situation

- In the 2011 El CONAPAC transfered the Hydrographic Ship “GC-656” “Gucumatz” with its respective crew to the CONACAR, but this ship does not have Hydrographic Equipment.
- The CONACAR within its organization has a Division of Hydrography composed of a (01) Division Chief-six (06) persons for field and office work.
- The ENG, has taught basic Hydrography to the Navy personnel of The National Defense and Port Companies of the Country.



- Quetzal Port Company (EPQ) includes in its organization, the Maritime Observation and Investigation Department (MARIOB), which has personnel with basic knowledge and it also has hydrographic equipment which is needed for bathymetric surveys areas of interest as well as other projects carried out the hydrographic ports of Santo Tomas de Castilla, San Jose and Champerico.
- The National Port Company (EMPORNAC) has a section of hydrography, with minimal staff, basic training and hydrographic equipment provided by the Gulf of Honduras Project.



- The Ministry of the National Defense (MDN)
- Pays annually the membership to the IHO on behalf of the State of Guatemala.



MADENA





# Hydro – Oceanographic Survey Inter Institutional Commission

- On MARCH 21 1985 the 254-85 Government Decree is issued. This commission was integrated by UNICAP, MDN, MEM, MAGA, Communication and IGM representatives, it did not work because the UNICAP institution disappeared and it would be the one to preside this commission.
- On Jan 11 1991 based on 51-91 Government Decree the integration of this commission is modified and it is integrated as follows:

Delegate and alternate MDN, Communications, MRE, MEM, MAGA, IGN. Which may:

Plan, coordinate, supervise and execute any research for new and updated information on the physical, chemical, geological, bilógicas, morphological national aquatic spaces.



- From 2003-2008 MDN representatives participated in several meetings with various government and private entities in order to integrate COHINAC for various reasons that commission could not be consolidated
- On March 10 2011 the first meeting takes place in the DGAM facilities in order to resume the integration, making the 2nd meeting on March 24 2011 being held at the INSIVUMEH facilities..
- Hydrographic data currently collected in Santo Tomas de Castilla, Puerto Barrios and Puerto Quetzal. It is necessary to update the nautical charts of the State of Guatemala.
- The preparation of EEHG, by contributing to the development DGAM hydro-oceanografico the country.



# Hydrographic Service /Office

**MARITIME ISSUES GENERAL DIRECTION**  
**Maritime Authority of Guatemala**



Fieldwork: Inter Institutional Commission of Hydro-Oceanic Research of Guatemala (IICHO),



Location and probing of the best channel to enter port..

Regular monitoring, observing changes in seabed and bathymetric surveys.

Publication of information and establishment of navigational aids.

Legal Responsibilities before I.H.O.



# Surveys

Pacific Ocean

1. Quetzal Port
2. Champerico Port

Caribbean Sea

3. Barrios Port
- Santo Tomás de Castilla Port



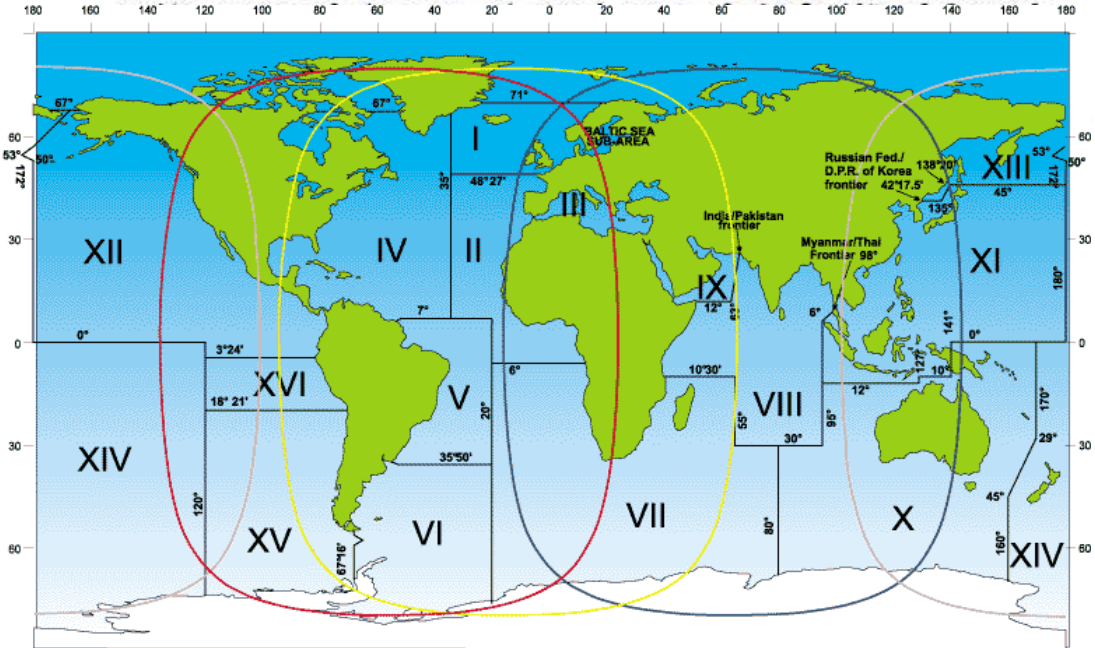
MADENA



5  
Completed

Arrangement for Hydrography/Oceanography between Agencies of the Republic of Guatemala and the United States of America

1. The Guatemalan Ministry of National Defense represented by the Guatemalan Navy, the Guatemalan Ministry of Communications and Public Works represented by the National Geographic Institute (IGN), the United States Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO), the United States Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic Center (DMRHC) and the United States Defense Mapping Agency Inter-American Geodetic Survey (DMA IAGS) agree to participate in hydro-



**GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS FOR CO-ORDINATING AND PROMULGATING RADIO-NAVIGATIONAL WARNINGS**

- (a) In-country liaison with the appropriate agencies through the DMA IAGS Project Officer in Guatemala.
- (b) Logistic support in the shipping of technical materials and equipment to and from Guatemala.
- (c) Day-by-day monitoring of the progress of all hydrographic and oceanographic in-country projects.
- (d) Any available tidal data in the survey areas.



New Charts and Updates

New Publications:

IMS:

It does not apply

# C55:

	A	B	C
Depth > 200m	10	70	20
Depth < 200m	0	0	100

MADENA



# Capacities Generation

## Required Trainings:

Nautical Charts Generation

## Offered Trainings:

Basic Programs, without Classification  
(S-5)





# Conclusions

MACHC.13-05 GT

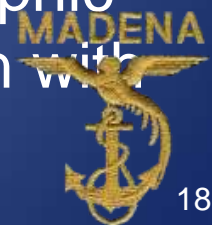
1. The integration of the International Inter Institutional Commission of Hydro-Oceanic Research of Guatemala, will permit to our country to accomplish the acquired compromise with the maritime community, the Hydro-oceanic research results that take place in the sovereign aquatic jurisdictions of the country are officially published.
2. The Update and generation of New Nautical Cartography is a matter of main interest for the GMA accepting technical assistance of other States and International Organizations.



# Conclusions

MACHC.13-05 GT

- 3. It is considered appropriate to encourage to countries of the Central America area for their integration to the IHO.
- 4. To create a Regional Hydrographic Service within the setting of the Central America Integration System (SICA) that adjusts to the hydrographic needs of the commercial navigation.
- 5. Postulate as a host country to develop a Non-classified Regional course in Spanish for Hydrographic Equipment Operators in the Central America region with the support of HCMAC



# Contributions/Queries /Comments



MADENA



HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION OF MESOAMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN SEA  
13th Assembly, Antigua Guatemala, Nov 19 to 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012

COUNTRY REPORT

# GUATEMALA

*IHO Member since 1967*

MADENA



Gobierno de Guatemala