



KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

“National Report”

**8th North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission
Meeting–Goa , India – 15-17 April 2008**

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

NATIONAL REPORT

Executive Summary

1. **GDMS** was recently re-structured and re-organized in the following order:

General Commission for Survey,
General Directorate of Military Survey,
Hydrographic Department

2. **Hydrographic Surveys:**

- Survey entry of the Naval Base at the port city of Jeddah was completed this year in cooperation with the Pakistani Navy.
- For new ships and the acquirement of advanced new technology, no progress was made in those two areas during the past year.

3. **New Charts and Updates:**

- Electronic Navigational Charts:
- No new chart was produced or existing chart updated during the year;
- No ENC's were distributed during the year;
- No international charts were produced or distributed during the year.

4. **New Publications and Updates:**

- No new publications were issued during the year;
- No new or old publications were updated during the year.

5. **MSI:**

**EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRANSMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GMDSS Master PLAN**

-Establishing search and rescue units and centers along the coasts of the kingdom administered by STATION LINK OF STC GMDSS TOWERS.

-It is Organized and operated by marine coast guard patrols and it is highly equipped with appliances and apparatus dedicated for search and rescue missions and offering help and assistance to those who are in need.

-Supervise the organization and preparation of joint maritime search and rescue plans with other concerned governmental entities

Plans Developing SAR&MSI

(A) to follow the issuance of a legislation for volunteering SAR tasks.

(B) to encourage private companies and establishments to invest in SAR services and to follow up the efforts conceding the issuance of a legislation organizing the work of private SAR companies and establishments .

(C) to coordinate with the concerned organizations in inspection of ships in Saudi ports to organize the process of gathering information and to Make sure these vessels (especially passenger ships and ships carrying Hajjes and Umar) are committed to the specifications of maritime safety mentioned in the system of Saudi ports and international conventions •

(D) to coordinate with concerned authorities at ports and agents to provide data and information necessary concerning the ship and Its condition, schedule, arrival and departure times especially passage" ships and the number of the passengers coming for visit, Umra or Hajj .

6. Publication S-55:

- No update of this publication was made during the year.

7. Capacity Building:

- 4 officers were sent to India this year for a hydrographic survey course
- One officer is still in the UK, attending graduate studies in Hydrography.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Requirement for Expertise and Training Courses:

- The Hydrographic Department of Saudi Arabia is in need of an experienced hydrographer with strong background in hydrographic surveys and nautical chart production. We hope that fellow member-states will help us find the right person who would be able to help us develop the training and production capabilities of our staff. Possible candidates should be ready to accept long-term employment as a residents in Saudi Arabia.

Training Requirements:

- Our current plan for the immediate future is to send out 4 more officers to receive training in hydrography surveying(CAT-B),
. Short courses as following :
 - MBES & Data Processing
 - ENC,S Production.
 - Data Management.

Oceanographic Activities:

- A seismic survey carried out by Aramco Company was completed in the Arabian Gulf.
- A magnetic survey carried out by Aramco Company was also completed in the Gulf.

8. Other Activities:

- A research effort for the conservation of marine life in the Red Sea is currently underway, with sponsorship from Prince Khalid Ibn Sultan Foundation in collaboration with the National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD).