

**Distinguished RSAHC Members, Associat Members ,
Gentelmen ,
The distinguished delegates of RSAHC
Mr. Chairman,**

The Islamic republic of Iran has been a member of IHO Since 1961 . In our Country Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) is in charge of all the hydrographic activities , but we have two other powerfull , well established and well staffed organizations which are acting together with PMO as the Hydrographic Core of I. R. of Iran. PMO is in Charge of hydrographic surveys of its Entrance Channals and the basins of Iranian Ports in both Caspian Sea (North of I.R.of Iran) and Persian Gulf and Oman Sea (South of I.R.of Iran) . On the other hand one of the main responsibilities of other two organizations are doing hydrographical surveys from our teritorial and inland waters , also producing Paper / ENC Nuatical Charts under the known international rules , regulations and standards. (IHO Standards)

According to the Administrative regulation T1.3 of the International Hydrographic Organization, establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions has become one of the basic responsibilities of IHO. In this regard, the first conference of IHO to establish the regional commission of ROPME Sea Area (Including the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea and North part of Arabian Sea) was held from 7 to 10th October, 2000 in Tehran hosted by the Ports and Maritime Organization(PMO) of the Islamic Republic of Iran and with the co-ordination of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME).

The Particular aims of this Commission are as follows:

- To promote safety of navigation through technical co-operation and training in the domain of hydrographic surveying, marine cartography and nautical information.
- To examine in its area of interest, matters which IHO is concerned, avoiding any interference with the prerogatives of the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) and of any other bodies set up by the IHO.
- To stimulate all countries of the Region to expand their hydrographic activities and to encourage them to seek advice and technical assistance from the IHB and other organizations in order to strengthen their hydrographic capabilities.
- To facilitate the exchange of information related to surveys, research and/or scientific and technical development to assist in planning and organizing the hydrographic activities in the widest sense, but without interference in national responsibilities.
- To co-ordinate and implement the INT Chart Scheme for the Region and to monitor its suitability.
- To carry out studies and projects through working groups of the Commission or as a working group of the IHO when deemed necessary.
- To exchange information about provision of services for GIS applications of hydrographic data.

Activities of I.R.of Iran as the INT Area Coordinator

The aim of the international chart is to facilitate the provision of minimum sets of charts suitable for the navigational requirements of international shipping. According to INT Chart Scheme In total, at the beginning, there were 106 International charts in different scales within the Region (I). These charts are assigned among the RSAHC regional countries together with United Kingdom .States within the INT chart Region (I) are as follow:

Bahrain, I.R. of Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

At the extraordinary session of RSAHC in Monaco it was decided to give the responsibility of INT Area Coordinator of new Area "I" to the Islamic Republic of Iran considering the back bone of our country in this area and amount of our coast lines (more than 4000 Km in North & South of Iran.)

The main responsibilities of I. R. of Iran as the INT Arae 'I' Coordinator are as follows:

- To monitor the latest condition of INT Chart schemes in the RSAHC region,
 - To pursute the RSAHC Members to produce more INT Chart schemes ,
 - Circulate the draft INT Chart schemes to all members of riginal charting group , and where appropriate , to members of the RSAHC,
 - To coordinate with adjoining Regional Charting Group, if the scheme impact their region,
 - Circulate the draft INT Chart schemes to producing or printing charts in RSAHC Region,
 - Circulate the draft INT Chart schemes to the Chairman of the CSPCWG,
 - The smaller the scale , the more necessary it is obtain the wide consensus.
 - This consultation can generally be efected by correspondance.
 - The final draft of the scheme should be submitted to the RHC for formal approval.
- In this regard we have contacted every State in the RSAHC via e-mails and have got some good feed backs from some of the States. Some States have told us that they are not producing any INT Charts. Also I. R. of Iran had contacted the IHB and asked for some consultation in this regard. The answer was very informative for us ,
- INT Area 'I' already has a scheme which have not been agreed up on as of now and it is not final yet.

The achievement in INTChart production for RSAHC States are as follows:

1. Bahrain

Bahrain was assigned 4 (four) charts in the Region (I) INT chart scheme .

Today has the same amount of INT charts, but Bahrain has requested for INT Chart Scheme for New port of Khalife Bin Salman .

2. Islamic Republic of Iran

At the beginning according to INT chart scheme in the region (I), it was 9 (Nine)Iranian charts which by today there are 10 (ten) INT Charts with some small changes considering the last version which was sent to IHO. Also have some more INT Chart Scheme for introduction in near future.

As you can see there were no significant growth, but the INT Chart production will be boosting in next couple of years.

3. Kuwait

There were seven charts assigned to Kuwait.

There are still seven Charts assigned to Kuwait .

No change

4. Oman

In the region (I), 21(twenty one) INT charts were assigned to Oman, by the end of year 2005 the number of INT Charts produced by Oman was the same.

No change

5. Pakistan

Pakistan had produced the 6 (six) charts in INT chart series covering the North Arabian Sea.

At this moment they have asked for 3 more charts to add to the previous 6 , since these new INT Charts for Guater Port are located at the boarder of Pakistan and I.R. of IRAN , the INT area "I" coordinator had to pass these new charts to the Hydrographic dept. of I.R. of IRAN to check and sea whether or not this INT Charts are prepared properly . the result was that 2 of these INT Charts were produced under bilateral agreement of I.R.of Iran and Pakistan and they were supposed to furnish I. R. of Iran with the source datas af the said INT Charts. Almost 50% improvement from the year 2005

6. United Kingdom

At the beginning, 59 INT charts was assigned to UKHO, now 61 charts are assigned to them.

Almost no change

Result:

As a result you can see that it was not much of improvement in INT Charts of the region "I", which demand more cooperation between the RSAHC States.

I am so enthusiastic that with good understanding of the present RSAHC States at this meeting , we will have much better coverage of INT Charts in this region the next time that we have to report to the 4th RSAHC Meeting in near future.

Thank you for your attention.

June 8th 2009

IHB

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