



UNITED KINGDOM NATIONAL REPORT

To the

**6th ROPME SEA AREA HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (RSAHC) MEETING**

**Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
9-11 February 2015**

This report supplements the UK Generic National Report, posted on the UKHO website and describes UK's activities of direct relevance to the RSAHC region.

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1. UNITED KINGDOM HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE (UKHO)

UK Delivery of Hydrographic Services

1.1 The UK delivery of hydrographic services is described in the UK Generic National Report. However, it is worth highlighting the benefits which derive from the close liaison, which exists between UK's Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and UK's maritime administration, the Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA), in providing a co-ordinated approach to hydrographic and maritime safety representation both nationally and internationally.

UKHO Governance and Targets

1.2 This is described in the UK Generic National Report to the IHO, see www.ukho.gov.uk → About Us → Role & Purpose → UK National Report

UKHO Organisation



1.3 Details of the UKHO's organization are provided in the UK Generic National Report (section 1) together with general contact details. Specific contact details relevant to the RSAHC region are included at the end of this report.

Production Systems

1.4 This is described in the UK Generic National Report to IHO.

Cooperation and Partnerships



1.5 The UK is committed to the bilateral arrangements which it has developed in cooperation with other international government hydrographic authorities, covering a range of topics, including the use of copyright data, and also promotes other forms of co-operation between the participants, helping to enhance international maritime safety and protection of the environment.

2. SURVEYS

2.1 Details of the management of civil hydrographic surveys in UK Home Waters are provided in the UK Generic National Report, and on the UKHO website. UK's National Hydrographic Committee (known as the UK Civil Hydrography Annual Seminar (CHAS)) meets on an annual basis and provides the necessary breadth of interests to ensure that all surveying requirements are taken into account when prioritizing the work of the Civil Hydrography Programme (CHP). CHAS was expanded in 2007 to include a much wider range of organisations which conduct hydrographic survey, and has been considerable successful in promoting co-operation between these organisations.

2.2 Any requests for survey assistance from nations within the MACHC region will be assessed within the UK MoD, with advice from UKHO. UKHO can also contribute to project

management of hydrographic surveys, and has a post dedicated to the phased development of new international survey activity and capability. It acts as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in direct overseas surveying schemes, including UK Overseas Territories and Regional Hydrographic Commission initiatives. Further information can be obtained from Mr. Sam Harper (samuel.harper@ukho.gov.uk).

3. CHARTS

3.1 UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the RSAHC region.

Paper Charts



3.2 The following charts have been published since the last RSAHC meeting:

GB Chart Number	INT Chart	Title	Published
NE 2443	7238	Sir Abu Nu'ayr to Zirku	19/06/2014
NE 2444	7239	Eastern Approaches to Jazirat Das and Jazirat Halul	19/06/2014
NE 2886	7243	Jazireh-Ye Lavan and Jazirat Das to Ras Tannurah	19/06/2014
NE 2887	7232	Dubai And Jazireh-Ye Qeshm to Jazirat Halul	19/06/2014
NE 2889	7211	Dubai - Jabal Az Zannah and Jazirat Das	19/06/2014
NE 3413	7227	Oil and gas Terminals in Qatar and the United Arab Emirates	19/06/2014
NE 3177	7222	Outer Approaches to Abu Dhabi	26/06/2014
NE 3178	7226	Approaches to Mubarras Terminal including Zaqqum Traffic Separation Scheme	26/06/2014
NC 3759	-	Approaches to Port Of Sitrah	15/01/2015
NC 3760	-	Approaches to Bahrain – Southern Part	15/01/2015
NC 3761	-	Approaches to Bahrain – Central Part	15/01/2015
NC 3786	-	Approaches to Bahrain – Northern Part	15/01/2015
NE 3511	-	Said Bin Sultan Naval Base and Approaches	22/01/2015
NE 3522	-	Approaches to Muscat (Masqat)	22/01/2015
NE 3523	-	Outer Approaches to Said Bin Sultan Naval Base	22/01/2015

3.3 Charts scheduled for publication in the next six months.

- NE 3175 Jazirat Al Hamra - Dubai and Jazireh-Ye Sirri
- NE 3176 Ajman to Sir Abu Nu'ayr
- NE 3179 Jazirat Das to Ar Ru'ays
- NE 3412 Hamriyah to Mina Seyaha
- NE 3414 Dubai And Approaches
- NE 3713 Approaches to Abu Dhabi
- NE 3715 Abu Dhabi Sas an Nakhl and Mussaffah
- NE 3780 Approaches to Jabal Az Zannah And Ar Ru'ays
- NE 3951 Sir Bani Yas to Khawr Al `Udayd

3.4 Charts scheduled for publication in the next six to twelve months.

- NC 3778 Ports Of Jabal Dhanna (Jabal Az Zannah) and Ruwais (Ar Ru'ays)
- NC 3779 Outer Approaches to Jabal Dhanna (Jabal Az Zannah) and Ruwais (Ar Ru'ays)

Digital Charts



3.5 As noted in section 3.1, UK's Generic National Report provides information on UK's portfolio of chart products and services. The following paragraphs provide information specifically relevant to the RSAHC region.

ENCs

3.6 Within the RSAHC region, the UKHO has released a total of 131 ENC cells:

The breakdown of current GB coverage is shown in Table 1 below, limits of the ENC's are shown within figures 1-3.

RSAHC Region Released Cells	
ENC Usage Band	Number of GB ENCs
General (2)	6
Coastal (3)	33
Approach (4)	52
Harbour (5)	39
Berthing (6)	1
Total number of released ENCs	131

Table 1

ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission - GB General Usage Band Coverage

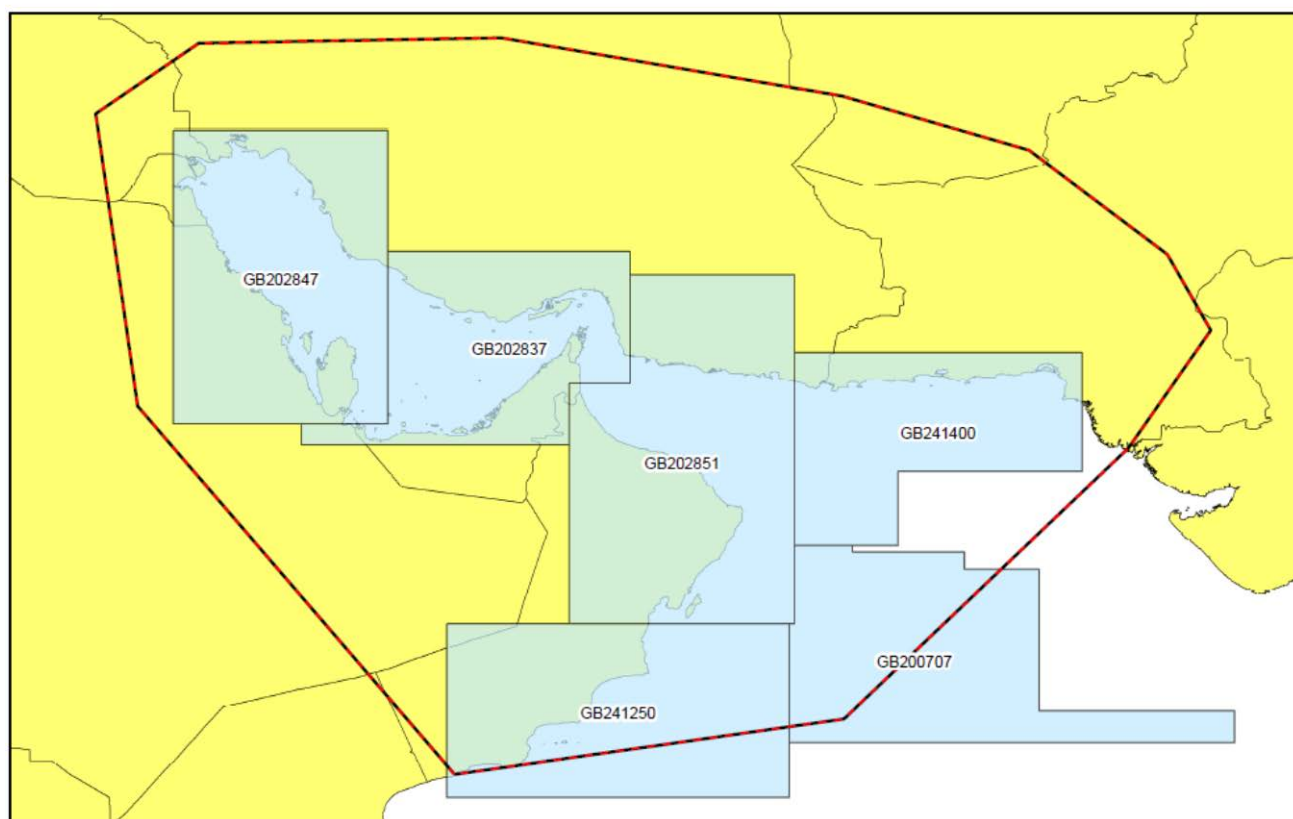


Figure 1

ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission - GB Coastal Usage Band Coverage

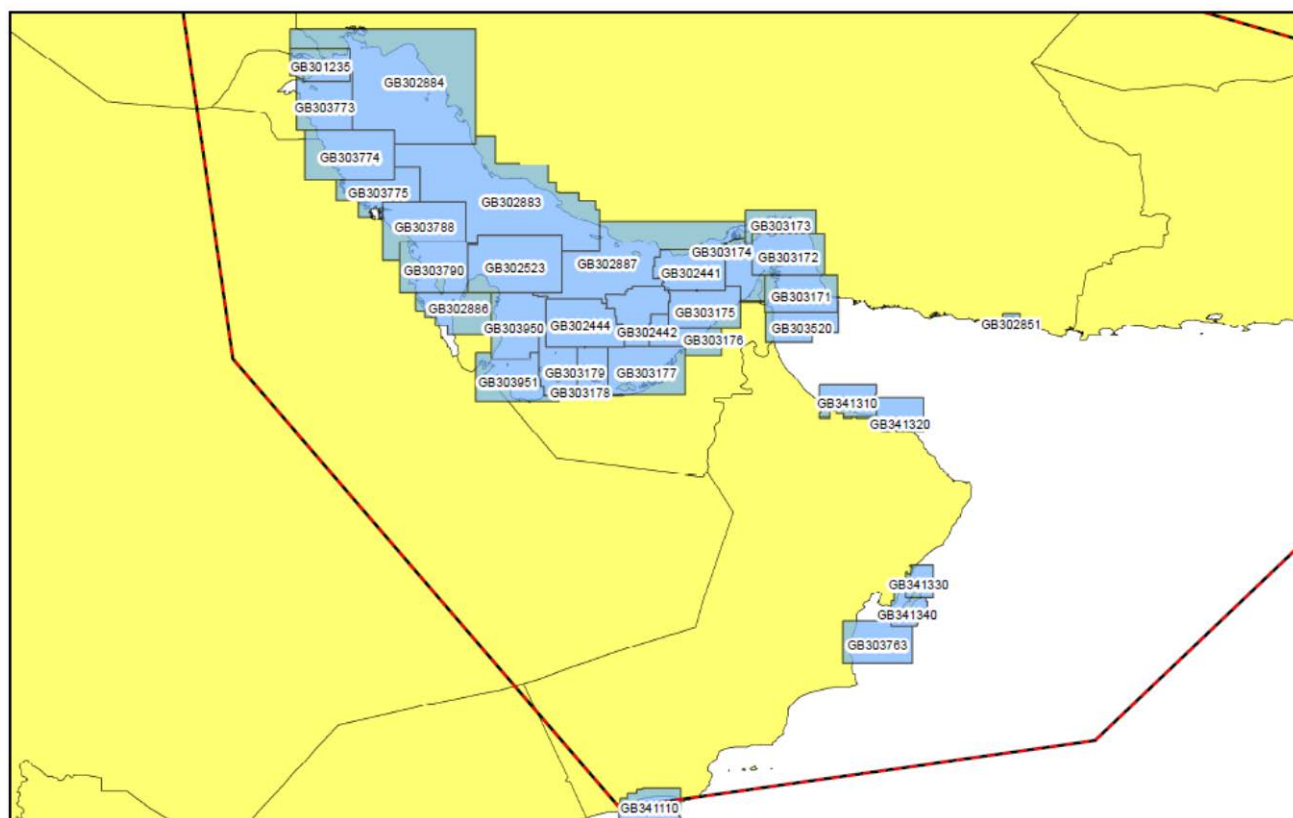


Figure 2

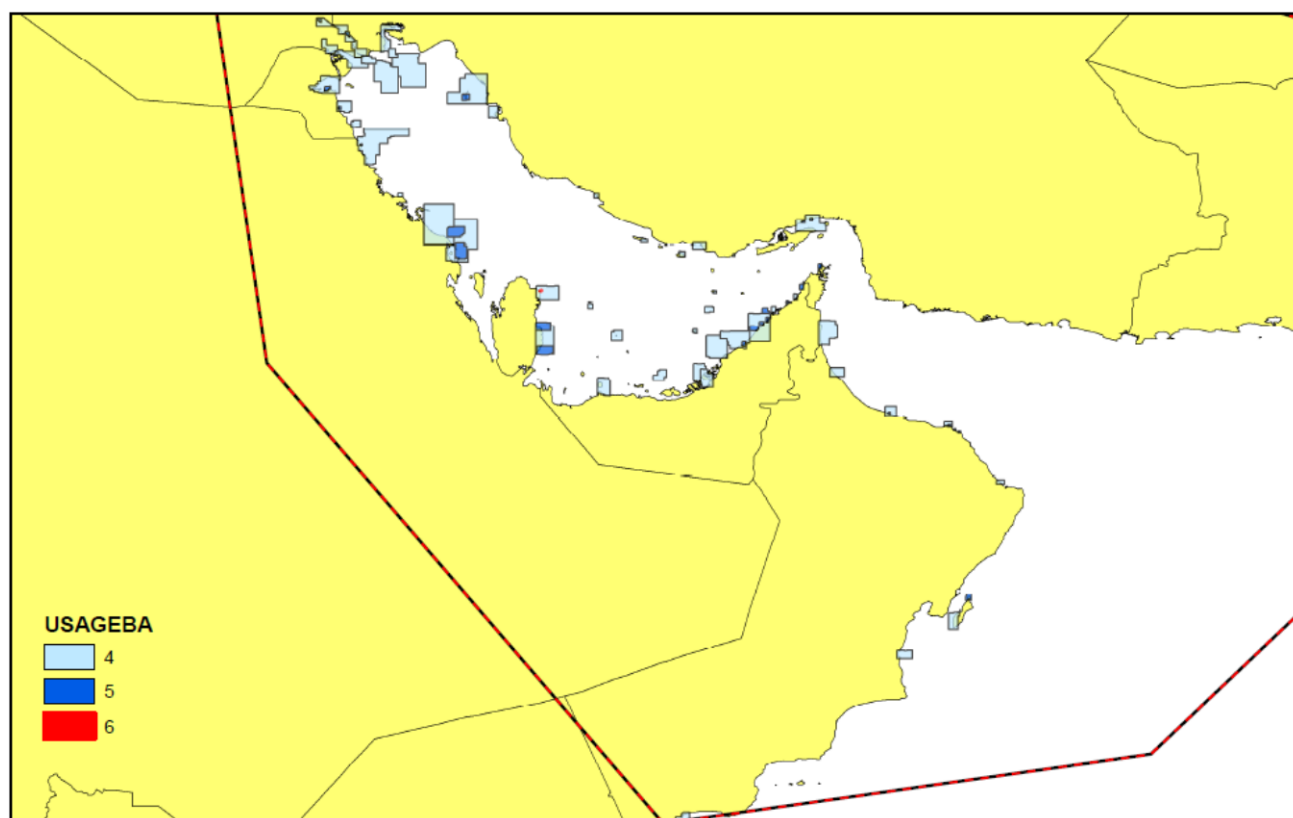


Figure 3

ENC Distribution

3.7 The UKHO, along with other European hydrographic offices, was a founder member of the IC-ENC RENC. IC-ENC (International Centre for ENC) concentrates its efforts on the validation and consistency of ENC data and leaves the marketing of ENCs to the shipping industry to its value-added resellers and chart agents. Additional details can be found on the IC-ENC website (www.ic-enc.org).

4. PUBLICATIONS

Paper Publications



4.1 The current status of Admiralty Sailing Directions in the RSAHC region is as follows:

NP38	West Coast of India Pilot	July 13
NP63	Persian Gulf Pilot	Apr 13
NP64	Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Pilot	Oct 12

Digital Publications



4.2 The UKHO continues to develop digital equivalents to its existing paper publications; these have advantages to the mariner of providing additional functionality and minimising the task of updating.

4.3 The Admiralty digital catalogue may be downloaded free from the UKHO website (www.ukho.gov.uk); it includes details of all paper and digital charts and publications and is updated weekly. It is a useful tool to check on the ENC coverage within the region and to show the latest edition dates of both charts and publications.

5. MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION



5.1 The ROPME Sea Area covers the northern portion of NAVAREA IX, the coordinator of which is Pakistan (who also provides access to SafetyNET). Karachi NAVTEX station is currently not operational, however, Pakistan is actively progressing a procurement program to renew the station. Coastal warnings normally transmitted from that station are currently being broadcast via SafetyNET until further notice. Oman is in the process of renewing their complete GMDSS infrastructure. Pakistan continues to provide effective piracy support information via SafetyNET.

5.2 As NAVAREA I Coordinator, UK maintains close liaison with the NAVAREA IX Coordinator. Any information received at UKHO which requires urgent promulgation is passed to the NAVAREA IX Co-ordinator on a H24 basis.

5.3 GMDSS MSI coverage in the ROPME Sea Area is approximately 80% and once Oman has finished their program should increase this percentage. Administrations should be encouraged to develop their capabilities and infrastructure further and to provide at least Phase One hydrographic capability to promulgate MSI in a timely and efficient manner through their National Co-ordinators in coastal regions, or to utilise the communication facilities of the NAVAREA IX Co-ordinator for navigational warnings.

5.4 During December 2014 UKHO supported a training team who carried out a MSI Capacity Building Training Course in Oman, 16 delegates from 15 countries attended the course.

5.5 Assistance in promulgating Notices to Mariners and other paper and electronic chart correcting material should also be encouraged through co-operation with other hydrographic offices in the region if required.

5.6 The current Admiralty weekly Notices to Mariners are supplemented by daily updates and are available on UKHO website.

6. C-55 (previously known as S-55) LATEST UPDATE

6.1 As described in the UK Generic National Report, UK is committed to providing regular updates to the C-55 entries for UK Home Waters and its Overseas Territories. For the latest update see C-55; we have incorporated the additional breakdown of chart coverage (percentage of metric and WGS84 charts) as requested in IHO Circular Letter 102/2008.

6.2 UK has also provided assistance to update C-55 entries to other countries, where the UKHO retains the primary charting responsibility, recognising that local input remains critical to the maintenance of C-55 as an up-to-date and authoritative reference document. If any country where we have helped in providing the data previously for C-55 requires assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.

7. CAPACITY BUILDING

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7.1 UK fully supports the IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee (CB SC) strategy and particularly its emphasis on getting Phase 1 and appropriate Phase 2 capacity in place to enable coastal states to meet their obligations under SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 4 and 9. UK will continue to contribute resources to both CB SC initiatives and to providing bilateral assistance. Most RSAHC member states have 'state of the art' survey capability but it is not always utilised to best effect.

7.2 Since the last extraordinary RSAHC meeting, the CB Coordinator organised a 'Workshop on Port & Shallow Water Surveys' which was hosted by Abu Dhabi in late September 2014. This very successful workshop was only the second such capacity building activity organised in this region in five years but proved that with good communication and commitment anything is possible. The Pakistan Navy supplied the instructors, Bayanat (Abu Dhabi) the survey launches and on-shore equipment for the practical demonstrations and five member states took advantage of the opportunity.

7.3 As reported in the UK Generic National Report, UKHO has a post dedicated to capacity building. Its key aims are to ensure that capacity building is properly considered in UKHO activity and that UKHO's capacity building activities are fully co-ordinated. It will act as the initial point of contact for UKHO involvement in capacity building activities, including UK involvement in regional hydrographic commission initiatives and IHO Capacity Building Committee activities. It will have a particular responsibility for UK Overseas Territories and liaison with UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with overseas High Commissions to generate phased development of capability and new survey activity. Further information can be obtained from Mr Jeff Bryant (Jeff.Bryant@ukho.gov.uk).

Cartographic Training provided by UKHO



7.4 A general description of training provided by UKHO is included in the UK Generic National Report. Further details of the training opportunities offered by UKHO can be found on the UKHO website.

ENC Training and Assistance



7.5 UKHO strongly supports the successful uptake of ECDIS using ENC, and is happy to assist other nations to produce, maintain and distribute ENCs. Details of courses, sponsorship, venues and options for bespoke training provided by UKHO are included in the UK Generic National Report.

Survey Training at Flag Officer Sea Training - Hydrography, Meteorology and Oceanography (FOST-HM)

7.6 Nationally and internationally certified courses delivered by FOST-HM in Plymouth, are described in the UK Generic National Report.

8. OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES

This is described in the UK Generic National Report.

9. OTHER ACTIVITIES

The IHO theme for the 2014 World Hydrography day was

“Hydrography - much more than just nautical charts”

9.1 The UKHO celebrated World Hydrography Day 2014 at a reception held at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, London on 23rd October 2014, hosted by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for farming, food and marine environment Mr George Eustice and Mr Ian Moncrieff CBE (Chief Executive, UKHO) and Rear Admiral Tom Karsten (National Hydrographer, UKHO).



9.2 In 2014 our co-hosts were the UK Government Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the biggest users of hydrography in the UK for non-navigational purposes.

9.3 Our guests were invited from across the maritime sector to a networking event highlighting the value of hydrography to the UK Economy and the many applications of hydrographic survey.

9.4 The annual presentation of the Alexander Dalrymple award was made to the 2014 winner, Captain Peter Kortenoeven, Hydrographer of the Royal Netherlands Navy. The award is a symbol of recognition for outstanding dedication and contribution to hydrography and as such is an extremely prestigious award in this sector. It takes its name from Alexander Dalrymple who established the Hydrographic Office in 1795 and is regarded as a leading figure in the history of the development of hydrography

10. CONCLUSION

10.1 The UKHO continues its commitment to carrying forward hydrographic activities through the work of the IHO's Regional Hydrographic Commissions, and notes that each commission has its own particular opportunities and challenges.

10.2 UK has a strong commitment to the ROPME area, through its primary charting and through its continuing interest in developing regional hydrographic self-sufficiency through capacity building measures.

10.3 There is a continuing challenge to link the scarce local data gathering resources into a broad programme of prioritised chart compilations and new editions.

10.4 The provision of adequate ENC coverage, in support of the IMO carriage requirement for ECDIS that has been introduced progressively into force from 2012, presents a significant challenge globally; the RSAHC is progressing ENC coverage.

10.5 With a diverse range of shipping interests in the Region, improving the effective distribution of hydrographic publications and updates remains paramount.

Taunton, January 2015

UKHO POINTS OF CONTACT

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For matters related to Sailing Directions, please contact:

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