



Draft report of SAGNEP5 to SAIHC 15.

The purpose of this mail is to provide you with a brief overview of the outcome of SAGNEP5, which was held on 21-22 February 2018 in Cyber City, Ebéne, Mauritius.

1. The hosts, the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping (Shipping Division), Republic of Mauritius pulled out all the stops and contributed to a very successful meeting and memorable visit to Mauritius
2. We had the honour of the Minister Premdoot Koonjoo opening the meeting
3. Seven (7) countries were in attendance, i.e. Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mauritius, Comoros and Seychelles. In addition, the Indian Ocean Commission attended as well, along with the IALA World Wide Academy (WWA) Dean, Mr Omar Fritz-Eriksson and Mr Jacques Manchard, Senior Adviser, and the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office. The latter also represented the IHO. The total number of international attendees were 17, with 25 local attendees, totalling 42.
4. In terms of the work done by a SAMS sub-group to finalise the submission of the work of the Sub Committee that was established at SAGNEP4 to propose a way forward:
 - 4.1. It was agreed to change the name from Southern African Regional Co-Operation Group on Safety of Navigation and Marine Environment Protection (SAGNEP) to *Southern and East African and Islands Regional Group for Safety of Navigation and Marine Environment Protection (SEAIGNEP)*.
 - 4.2. The meeting agreed to the proposed geographical area, which includes Southern (from Angola), Central, and Eastern Africa (up to Kenya) and the Islands
 - 4.3. The principle to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was preferred instead of a Constitution. The amended version of the draft MOA is to be distributed in order for members to get the necessary mandate to accept the relevant text and for it to be signed, as appropriately.
5. Members were reminded of the IMO mandatory audit, and when it is to take place in the Region. Information pertaining to the general findings were communicated from an auditor's perspective. The relevant IMO guidelines in this regard will be distributed shortly in order for Member States to prepare themselves for the audit. The presentation highlighted the areas that generally needs to be improved upon.
6. A live demonstration was given of how the portable Identifiers (AIS Class B unit) that can be fitted to small fishing vessels, which is part of South Africa's Oasis/ABSEA Identifier Project, is tracked by satellite AIS.
7. The offer by SAMS to share some of these Identifiers with the Members States to be used for a possible 3-4 months trial period, was reiterated. For those that are interested, please respond to the attached mail in this regard.

8. The topic of a suitable life jacket to be used by fishers were also highlighted. The various options available will be shared with you as well.
9. The need for a Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan was identified. There was a discussion on the establishment of the Regional Co-ordination Centre and the finalisation of the Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan. The IOC will assist with setting up a workshop in order to discuss the way forward
10. The need for the regular updating of contact information and other specific information that is being called for by the Secretariat (Data Base & Regional Info) on a quarterly basis, was highlighted. The intention of the latter is to be used to compile a requirement for the improvement of safety of navigation within the SEAIGNEP area, and to be used to approach international donor organisations – a typical Phase 2 of the WIOMHCCP (Western Indian Ocean GEF-Marine Highway and Coastal Contamination Prevention) Project.
11. The National Reports showed improvements in many areas, but also the lack thereof in other areas
12. The Western Indian Ocean GEF-Marine Highway and Coastal Contamination Prevention (WIOMHCCP) Project publication was handed over to representatives of the various countries. SAMSA was the appointed executing agent of this project – view the electronic version at: <http://www.samsa.org.za/event/west-indian-ocean-marine-highway-development>
13. Capt. Karl Otto from South Africa is to continue as Chair
14. Vice Chair:
 - 14.1. Due to the passing of Capt. Sewbaluck, Capt. Asiva Coopen from Mauritius acted as Deputy Chair for the duration of SAGNEP5 meeting
 - 14.2. A request for nominations would be forthcoming to allow members to get the necessary mandate to put their names forward
15. Next meeting: The next meeting, SEAIGNEP6, will be in 2019 in The Seychelles, the date which is still to be identified. It was reiterated that there needs to be sufficient notice of the date in order for members to diarise the date and also obtain the necessary permission to travel, etc.

A report is being compiled and will be distributed once completed.

Regards

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