

**South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)**

11<sup>th</sup> meeting – Brisbane, Australia

(15-16 February 2012)

**IHB Report**

**Introduction**

1. The following notes report on current activities and issues being addressed by the IHB.

**Status of Approval of Amendments to the IHO Convention**

2. Progress on Member States' approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention is slow but steady. By January 2012, 33 of the required 48 approvals had been received by the Government of Monaco acting as the depositary nation for the IHO.

3. Fiji, New Zealand and Tonga have yet to indicate formally their approval of the Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention.

**Status of Approval of New Member States of the IHO**

4. Montenegro and Haiti have applied for membership of the IHO. By August 2011, the status of approval for membership was as follows:

State	Voting Status
Montenegro	51 of 52
Haiti	48 of 52
Viet Nam	2 of 52

5. Fiji and Tonga have not yet indicated support for Montenegro. Papua New Guinea is in the process of providing its formal agreement to the Government of Monaco through the required diplomatic channels.

6. No IHO Member States in the SWPHC have indicated support for Viet Nam to join the IHO as yet.

7. The States of Bulgaria, Mauritania, and Sierra Leone have been accepted for membership of the IHO, but have yet to submit their letters of accession.

**XVIII<sup>th</sup> IHC**

8. Preparations for the XVIII<sup>th</sup> IHC are on schedule. There are seven Proposals tabled so far, however, there may be additional proposals from Member States and from the Reports of Working Groups that report directly to the IHC (such as the S-23 WG).

9. By January, 35 Member States, including five SWPHC States, have indicated that they will participate in the IHC.

**Global Availability of ENCs**

9. The IHO provided a report on the availability of ENCs to the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IMO Subcommittee on Safety of Navigation (NAV57) in June.

10. As in previous years, the IHO pointed out that the coverage statistics provided in its report were based on total tonnage for the top 800 of the world's ports. Therefore, there will be some ports and areas of the world frequented by relatively few, albeit large vessels, such as cruise ships, where ENC coverage may still be missing. The IHB again invited relevant authorities to bring any such shortfalls to the attention of the relevant coastal State and to the IHB so that the matter can be addressed. After two years, no such reports have been received at the IHB.

11. NAV57 did not ask for a specific report on global ENC coverage for 2012.

#### **S-100**

12. The implementation of S-100 is proceeding satisfactorily. The UKHO continues to host the supporting S-100 registry. Development of the S-100 based ENC Product Specification S-101 and other Product Specifications is also proceeding well.

13. The IHB has represented the IHO in a number of forums that have expressed interest in extending S-100 as a standard for modelling and exchanging maritime data. Strong interest is being shown by IALA and by the IMO to use S-100 as a baseline standard for e-Navigation data exchange requirements. The ever-widening interest in using S-100 places an additional responsibility on the IHO to ensure that the maintenance and development of the standard is appropriately supported and resourced now and in the future.

#### **Capacity Building Funding**

14. The Republic of Korea has increased its financial contribution to IHO capacity building efforts from approximately 100K USD to 400K USD per year in future years. The arrangements for spending this money are included in a revised Memorandum of Understanding between the RoK and the IHO signed by the President in June and reported in IHO CL 38/2011.

15. The IHB participated in Capacity Building assessment visits to Kiribati and Vanuatu and liaison visits to Fiji and nearby Palau. Comprehensive reports on the status of hydrography and nautical charting of Kiribati and Vanuatu together with recommendations have been produced and distributed to relevant national authorities and stakeholders in each country.

#### **New IHB Staff**

16. Mr Dan Costin joined the IHB as the Information Technology Assistant (ITA) in January 2011. He is occupying a new position created after the untimely death of m. Rachid Semlali as Office Manager. Mr Costin is employed full-time in support of the IHB IT infrastructure and the administration of the IHO S-63 data security scheme. He will take on the role of S-100 Registry Manager in the future. Meanwhile, many of m. Semlali's other administrative support duties have been superseded or redistributed among existing staff.

17. Captain Alberto Costa Neves joined the IHB in May to replace Captain Federico Bermejo, Professional Assistant, on his retirement. Captain Neves position has been titled Professional Assistant – Program Management (PA-PM). As well as replacing Captain Bermejo in providing primary support for IRCC activities, PA-PM will support the Directing Committee with the growing workload of program performance monitoring and reporting, and the compilation of the IHO work programmes and budgets.

18. Mr Christian Velard retired as Professional Assistant – Administration and Logistics at the end of 2011 after 25 years service. Mme Ghislaine Fauchois, previously Administration and Accounting Officer was promoted and has taken over from Mr Velard. Ms Fauchois has been replaced by Ms Sandrine Brunel.

19. Commander David Wyatt will join the IHB in May 2012 to replace Mr Steve Shipman, Professional Assistant, on his retirement.

### C-55 Updates

20. The latest information in C-55 covering the States in the SW Pacific is as follows:

State	Last updated
Australia	Oct 2008
Australia - Christmas I.	Oct 2008
Australia - Cocos (Keeling) I.	Oct 2008
Australia - Macquarie I.	Oct 2008
Australia - Norfolk I.	Oct 2008
Cook Is.	Aug 2011
Fiji	May 2007
France- French Polynesia	May2010
France - New Caedonia	May 2010
France - Wallis and Futuna Is.	May 2010
Kiribati	May 2007
Nauru	May 2007
New Zealand	Aug2011
New Zealand - Niue	Aug 2011
New Zealand - Tokelau	Aug 2011
Palau	Nov 2008
Papua New Guinea	Oct 2008
(Western) Samoa	Aug 2011
Solomon Is.	May 2007
Timor Leste	Sep 2004
Tonga	Aug 2011
Tuvalu	May 2007
UK- Pitcairn dependencies	Jan 2010
USA -American Samoa	Dec 2003
USA -Howland and Baker Is.	Jul 2004
USA - Jarvis I.	July 2004
USA – Kingman Rf. and Palmyra I.	Jul 2004
Vanuatu	May 2007

### Action Requested of SWPHC

21. SWPHC members are invited to **Note** this report and take any actions as considered appropriate.

