



South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission

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SWPHC LETTER 04/2007

Dear Hydrographer,

SECOND NOTIFICATION OF 8th SWPHC MEETING - TAHITI 18 20 SEPT 07

France is well advanced on the arrangements for the 8th SWPHC Meeting which will be held in Papeete, French Polynesia on 18 to 20 September.

Attached please find the Minutes of the 7th Meeting (Annex C) and the List of Actions (Annex D). Can you please report back to me by 31 July on the progress made on the actions your organisation is responsible for. I will then publish an up-to-date list.

Also attached is a draft Agenda (Annex B). Can you also advise any additions or amendments by 31 July.

I will require your National and NGO Reports prior to the Meeting. These will need to be distributed to other representatives so they can prepare for any discussions. Can I have these by 21 August. Reports are required from countries and NGOs that will not be able to attend.

The Meeting will be held in:

Radisson Plaza Resort Tahiti
Lafayette Beach
PK BP 14170 98170 Arue
Polynésie Française
www.radisson.com/aruefrp

Accommodation can be arranged at the Radisson Plaza. You will need to make your own bookings through:

Mrs Mélanie HUILLET - Département banquets et conférences -
 Reservation Code : SWPHC8
 - Email : banquetsmanager@radisson-tahiti.pf
 - Phone: + 689 488 805 | Fax + 689 488 893 |

The room rates are:

Currency : xpf (franc pacifique), : 1 euro = 120 xpf
 - Standard Room without breakfast = 15270 xpf or 127.25 euros
 - Standard Room breakfast included = 17474 xpf or 145.62 euros

These are special discounted rates arranged for the meeting and can only be arranged through Mrs Huillet. Please note that the traffic is very heavy in Papeete. Therefore it is highly recommended to book in Radisson for the duration of the conference. You should make the reservations soon to be sure of getting a room.

As far as I am aware only a few Members have notified of their attendance at SWPHC 8. These are:

Country	Representatives	Accompanying
New Zealand	Mr. John Spittal (Chair)	Mrs Jo Spittal
New Zealand	SWPHC Secretary (tba)	
Tokelau	Zak Patelesio	
France	Vice Admiral Gilles Bessero Director SHOM	
France	Yves Guillam, Head of Plans, Policy and External Relations (designated)	
France	Ms Helene Lecornu, head of Public Information	
France	Denis Creach, head of the Pacific Oceanographic Mission (New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Wallis&Futuna)	
France	Thierry Dervin, Head of the Hydrographic Unit in Papeete	

I now need a firm indication of the countries and NGOs that will attend and the names of representatives.

Please complete the form in Appendix A and return it by 14 July. I appreciate that this is short notice but I assume you have planned to attend based on CL2 -2007. An earlier indication if possible would be very helpful to our French colleagues. Both Yves Guillam and I need to know the information.

Mrs Teresa Kinzett tkinzet@linz.govt.nz cc to jspittal@linz.govt.nz
and

Mrs Guylaine Haral guylaine.haral@shom.fr c to yves.guillam@shom.fr

I have had no replies about my proposals to invite Pacific Maritime Administrators to attend SWPHC 8 and I therefore assume you have no objections. My intention is to send them a separate invite tomorrow with much of the information in this letter. I will probably omit the Minutes. Contact me over night if you have any last minute concerns.

I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible in Tahiti.

Yours faithfully

John A Spittal

Chair

South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission

National Topographer/Hydrographer

New Zealand.

Draft 8th SWPHC Conference Agenda

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks
(Chair)
2. Confirmation of Agenda
(Chair)
- 2a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair and date and place of next meeting
(Chair)
3. Review of Action Items from the 7th SWPHC Conference (Wellington - November 2005)
(All Members)
4. Exchange of information through National Reports
(All Members)
5. Reports from other regional agencies and observers
(IHB, SOPAC, SPC, etc)
6. Reports on the Technical visit to PacMA and the Ministers of Transport Meeting, Samoa.
(Chair, IHB, Samoa.)
8. Reports on CBC Meetings.
(Australia.)
9. Reports on XVII IHO Conference, May 2007.
(Australia, France, NZ, PNG, Tonga, UK, USA.)
10. Review status of the INT Chart Scheme for Area L
(All Members, IHB)
11. Regional co-operation in surveying and chart production
(All Members)
12. IHO Special Publication N° 55 (Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide)
(IHB and All Members)

13. Progress with Production and Distribution of ENC's
(All Members/UK)
14. Other Business
(All)
15. Summary of Resolutions, Decisions, Recommendations and Actions
(Chair)
16. Date and Venue of next conference
17. Closing Remarks

The Conference reviewed the status of the action items arising from the 6th SWPHC Conference. During this review any matters arising or follow up actions identified were discussed and are recorded below. The “Item No” (eg *Item 1*) refers to the Action item number from the SWPHC 6th Conference actions list.

3.1 *Item 1. (Liaise with Director, SOPAC to implement a standing invitation for the SWPHC (Chair or representative) to represent the IHB at SOPAC Council meetings). Action Completed*

The Chair, SWPHC has received a standing invitation from SOPAC for a representative to attend SOPAC Council meetings. Due to constraints of travel and cost the SWPHC Chair could not attend.

Mr Felix Maharaj (Fiji) had represented the IHB/SWPHC at meetings with SOPAC in Fiji in advance of the 2005 SOPAC Council meeting (Samoa in October). Mr Bhaskar Rao, SOPAC had attended the October meeting. The 2006 SOPAC Council meeting is planned for September in Honiara.

As many SWP nations commit to Government representation at the SOPAC meetings the merits of holding the 8th SWPHC Conference in conjunction with the SOPAC Council meeting was introduced and discussed further at Agenda Item 16.

3.2 *Item 2. (Provide to all Members, IHB, SOPAC and SPC the feedback received from shipping lines regarding areas of inadequate surveys in SW Pacific.) Action Complete*

One response (from P&O Cruises) was received to the many questionnaires sent. The letter was forwarded to UKHO (and copied to IHB) as all issues raised were in the UK charting area. During discussion on this item a new ongoing action for all SWPHC members was agreed.

Action (All Members): Ongoing item for all members, including SOPAC and SPC, to continue to regularly seek feedback from users regarding inadequately surveyed areas in the SWP. Members to provide feedback and any information to SWPHC Chair

3.3 *Items 3 and 4. Related to Item 2 above. Actions Completed*

3.4 *Items 5. Action Withdrawn* Australia reported that this item was outside the mandate of the SWPHC

3.5 *Items 6 and 7. Actions Completed*

3.6 *Item 8 (Upon receipt of information from France and USA prepare a report on gaps in large scale chart coverage in the SW Pacific and forward it to the IHB. Report to make recommendation on how gaps can be closed, or nations affected to consider whether large scale charts of such areas are required). Action Partially Completed*

Australia tabled an A0 graphic (DOC SWPHC7-3.6) to each SWPHC member in lieu of a report. The graphic depicted limits of areas of charting responsibility as supplied by members. Rather than limits of USA area of charting responsibility the USA had provided limits of individual charts. The coverage diagram indicated there were no charting gaps in the coastal regions, but that three gaps existed between national charting limits as indicated below. (These gaps are shown separately in Doc SWPHC7-3.6.1 to 3.6.3).

1. Northern area gaps between BA area and US area which overlaps with EAHC
2. In the gap between New Zealand and South of the French area, and
3. In the gap near Tahiti between the BA, NZ and France areas.

Members agreed to address ways of overcoming the gaps.

Action (UK, France, NZ, Chair) The affected members to consider the gaps and address chart coverage of those gaps, especially identifying coverage for any shipping routes which may transit the gaps.

3.7 *Items 9 and 10. Action Completed*

3.8 *Item 11. (Formulate a plan to conduct visits (at ministerial level) to the island countries in the SW Pacific, making them aware of the importance/benefits of hydrography, obligations under SOLAS Chapter V (9), etc., seeking guidance as appropriate from the IHO CBC).*

This action was reported and addressed at Agenda Item 10.

3.9 *Item 12. (Compile standards for metadata for circulation among Working Group (NZ, Australia, France, Fiji, UK, SOPAC), and for consideration at next SWPHC Conference).*

This action had been amended by the Chair from compiling a standard to providing a presentation which was delivered as Agenda Item 12.

3.10 *Item 13. (SOPAC to provide SWPHC secretariat with its Work Programmes for dissemination to SWPHC members).*

SOPAC reported that the work plan had not been agreed for 2006 and once available would be circulated. The action to circulate the work plan is recoded under Agenda Item 5.

3.11 *Item 14. (Contact United States regarding information about INT 626 and INT 652 production). Action Completed*

The USA had advised there were no objections to another nation producing these chart, UK has agreed to become producer nation. M11 will need to be amended to reflect the

change to producer nation. UK has accepted responsibility to produce these two charts, before the end of 2007

Action (UK): UK to produce INT 626 and 652 before end of 2007

Action (Chair): Chair to advise IHO of the transfer of producer status and request M11 be updated

3.12 *Item 15, 16 and 17. Actions Completed*

3.13 *Items 18 and 19 (Review national data in the S-55 data-base and to put in place a systematic process for regular update) and (Use the S-55 Questionnaire as the framework for analysis leading to a prioritised national survey plan). Actions Amended to become Standing Agenda Items*

This action was considered complete and moved to become standing agenda items, Updates to IHO Special Database S55. Progress on S55 and a report was received at Agenda Item 9. Prioritised National Survey plans were considered to be part of the national reports.

3.14 *Items 20, 21, 22 and 23. Actions Completed*

4. Exchange of information through National Reports of Members

Docs: SWPHC7-4.1	National Report Australia
SWPHC7-4.2	National Report Fiji
SWPHC7-4.3	National Report France
SWPHC7-4.4.1	National Report New Zealand
SWPHC7-4.4.2	New Zealand presentation on regulation
SWPHC7-4.5	National Report Papua New Guinea
SWPHC7-4.6	National Report United Kingdom
SWPHC7-4.7	IHB Report

4.1 Reports from, Australia, Fiji, France, New Zealand United Kingdom and IHB were received in digital format. A verbal report, received from Papua New Guinea, is summarised below. No report was received from Tonga or the United States. Following each national report, questions and clarifications were sought and the following items were raised.

4.1.1 Fiji proposed that the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) be invited to attend future SWPHC Conferences in an Observer status. Australia supported the proposal and the Conference agreed to invite SPC to attend future SWPHC Conferences in an Observer capacity.

Action (Chair): Chair SWPHC to write to the Secretariat of the South Pacific Community (SPC) and invite a representative to attend future Conferences of the SWPHC in an Observer Status.

4.1.2 The Conference discussed the world wide shortage of Hydrographic skills and problems this created for the SWP, with the greatest risk being the vast unsurveyed areas being transited by ships. There was general agreement that funding through a range of mechanisms was available for surveyors to go onboard ships of opportunity and collect data; for example; the IHB Capacity Building budget, the NZDF Mutual Assistance Programme and NZAid administered by New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

4.1.3 The IHB asked each SWPHC member wherever possible to take every opportunity to stress upon those in respective government organisations the importance of improving hydrography of the SWP.

4.1.4 France advised that an agreement had been signed between Monaco and France over the responsibilities for hydrography under SOLAS Chapter 5, and this agreement was being signed with other countries.

Action (FRANCE): France to provide SWPHC Chair with a copy of agreement as signed between France and Monaco for distribution to SWPHC members as a guide to international agreements under SOLAS

4.1.5 Australia advised an intention to complete small scale ENC coverage by 2009. Australia drew SWPHC Members attention to the NOAA survey priorities document as a guide to national survey priority planning. The NOAA document is on the internet at <http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/NHSP.html>

4.1.6 The New Zealand report included a presentation (DOC SWPHC7-4.4.2) on the development of a government context for regulation and risk management in hydrography was seen as a possible method for SWPHC members to increase the awareness of Hydrographic matters in respective governments.

Action (New Zealand): To provide documents of the final regulatory and risk management approach to hydrography to the IHB and SWPHC members.

4.2 Papua New Guinea Report (DOC: SWPHC7-4.5)

Hydrography in PNG is in transition to a new agency, the PNG National Maritime Safety Authority (NMSA) is being established under the Department of Transport. A hydrographic Staff of 5 is envisaged in the future. The hydrographic program maintains cooperation with the Australian Hydrographic Service (AHS) under the terms of an existing memorandum of understanding which has been in place for many years, by

which all PNG charts are produced by the AHS and the AHS conducts at least one major hydrographic survey each year in the PNG waters.

Two projects are underway in PNG, the complete rehabilitation of the approximately 145 aids to navigation and the complete recompilation and modernization of the PNG Hydrographic chart portfolio of 56 charts in digital format. By the end of 2007 PNG will have complete ENC coverage of its waters.

4.3 IHB Report

The SWPHC was asked to record the following;

- The co-operative approach between Fiji/SOPAC and PNG/Australia to address Hydrographic deficiencies is a good example of capacity building.
- Record a vote of thanks to Mrs Carol Kohl, LINZ for work and support in updating S55 for smaller nations in the SWP.
- 21 June 2006 is designated World Hydrography day and where possible Members enhance publicity of the importance of hydrography.

Discussion following the IHB report included the impending requirement for nations to deliver ENC of the SWP to meet IMO timeframes. The vast white spaces and “remote areas” of the region posed problems for prioritising any ENC development. The publication S55 and knowledge of shipping lanes was seen as the way to define priority areas. The IMO will discuss the operation of large passenger ships in remote areas at MSC meeting in May 2006. The members agreed that the IHB should present information on issues of large passenger ship safety in the SWP to IMO.

Action (IHB , Chair): S55 Co-ordinator and SWPHC Chair to input evidence for the IHO report to IMO MSC on the issue of large passenger ship safety in remote areas. This report to be completed and submitted to IMO by 7 Feb 2006 (if more than 6 pages)

5. Reports from Associate Members, Observers and Other Regional Agencies

Docs: SWPHC7-5.1 SOPAC Report
 SWPHC7-5.2 RNZN Report

SWPHC Associate members, Samoa and Tokelau provided verbal reports to the Conference. Observers SOPAC and the RNZN provided digital reports whilst Observers NIWA and NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided verbal reports.

5.1 Samoa Report

Samoa has no resident hydrographic survey capability. Charting of Samoa is undertaken by New Zealand. There are four charts; NZ 86, 865, 1414 and 8655. The quality of charts could be improved but there is no new data and have been no major shipping accidents to date. A geodetic survey programme was recently completed which may help in updating the charts. Samoa has one of the smallest EEZ in the SWP and has a desire to become full member of the SWPHC, which would require membership of the IHO.

The Conference noted that Tokelau and Samoa collaborate to generate MSI and such collaboration to provide coverage in the SWP is to be encouraged.

5.2 Tokelau Report

Tokelau Islands are moving towards self governing status with close association to New Zealand. There is no hydrographic infrastructure in Tokelau and most administration is carried out in NZ or Apia, Samoa. An estimated 1300 people live on the three atolls and 5000 live in Australia and New Zealand respectively. New Zealand carries out charting of Tokelau and 1 chart NZ 885 provides approach and atoll coverage. In recent years there have been visits by a cruise ship to Nukunono for short periods. The numbers of people attempting to land from such ships swamp those atolls where there are no services for tourists. Some changes were required to update the chart and Tokelau undertook to provide this information to New Zealand

Action (Tokelau): Tokelau to provide New Zealand with information to update Chart NZ885

5.3 SOPAC Report

SOPAC identified that there were a number of science cruises each year that could contribute to hydrographic knowledge of the SWP if a surveyor was onboard to ensure data collection was undertaken consistently and data was adequately processed. The IHB proposed SOPAC could be provided with a distilled version of S44 and any MBES standards in an effort for SOPAC to improve data quality.

SWPHC members discussed; the significance of having skilled personnel onboard rather than merely survey instructions and documents, and the availability of surveyors to provide support. It was recognised that there were no “spare” personnel available in the region at short notice. The importance of having the SOPAC work plan in advance was seen as being a catalyst for agencies to provide support.

Action (SOPAC): SOPAC to provide Chair SWPHC with a copy of the work plan as soon as possible.

Action (Members): SWPHC members to study the advance SOPAC survey work programme and where possible combine national surveys with SOPAC Science cruises

Action (Members): SWPHC members to study the advance SOPAC survey work programme and where possible place Hydrographic surveyors on SOPAC cruises.

Action (Chair): Chair SWPHC to provide SOPAC with copies of existing survey documentation and standards NZPHSG, S44, MBES Standard as soon as possible.

6. Review status of the INT Chart Scheme for Area L

Docs: SWPHC7-6.1	M11-Region L
SWPHC7-6.2	M11-Region L Supplement
SWPHC7-6.3	UKHO INT Charts Region L

National reports included plans for publication of INT charts, and SWPHC members were asked to forward any changes to M11 to Australia as Area L Co-ordinator,

Action (Members): SWPHC members to forward updates to M11 to Australia, who will co-ordinate and submit amendments to the IHB

7. Regional co-operation in surveying and chart production

SWPHC Members acknowledged that respective Hydrographic Services undertake work independently rather than collectively. Ideas for improved regional co-operation were discussed including; a consolidated regional survey programme based on S55, a multinational survey team that could be deployed in the area, identification of areas of risk to shipping and also skills needs.

IHB reaffirmed the crucial role that capacity building visits have and the ongoing communication of the risks of poor hydrography to the responsible government agencies. Samoa advised that the meetings of the Pacific Islands Maritime Association (PacMA) provided an adequate forum for education of ministers about hydrography.

It was agreed that the Chair should seek an invitation to attend the next PacMA meeting (Apia mid 2006) and brief attendees on the importance of hydrography, the role of S55, and MSI.

Action (Chair): Chair SWPHC to seek an invitation for the SWPHC to attend and address the next PacMA meeting (Apia mid 2006) on the importance of improving MSI and hydrography in the region

8. Debrief on Memorandum of Understanding between IHO and SOPAC and information shared

The IHB advised the memorandum was in place, but as yet no data had been exchanged. SOPAC stated that the key to data exchange was quality of data capture and obtaining optimal vessel usage by prior planning. To encourage the IHB/SOPAC relationship, it was suggested that the next SWPHC Conference could be held in conjunction with the

next SOPAC meeting. The SWPHC could represent the IHB and brief the scientific and technical working group on capacity building, noting that this group meet prior to the next SOPAC meeting planned for Honiara in September 2006. This matter was discussed more fully during item 16.

9. IHO Special Publication N° 55 (Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide)

Docs: SWPHC7-9.1 IHB Presentation, Revision and Update of S55
SWPHC7-9.2 SWP Prioritised Survey List - First Draft

The IHB advised that the IMO MSC circular #1179, (refer http://www.imo.org/includes/blastDataOnly.asp/data_id%3D12644/1179.pdf) establishes the IHO online database S55 as an authoritative source of information on the status of surveying and charting worldwide. IHB encouraged members to use this database as a way of educating government agencies of the importance of hydrography to auditing and improving safety of navigation in the SWP.

The challenge for the SWPHC is to encourage members to develop a prioritised national survey plan to overcome the deficiencies identified in S55. 85% of SWPHC states have less than 25% of the water inside the 200m contour surveyed to modern standards.

The Conference acknowledged that the IHO efforts towards capacity building (funding CB visits) improved the likelihood of national support for increasing the survey effort. Agreement was also reached that by using S55 as a start point a potential set of SWP survey priorities could be developed. A draft set of priorities (refer DOC SWPHC7-9.2) considered to be a “strawman” was extracted from the S55 information for consideration by members post Conference. The draft set of priorities was to be forwarded to the IHO early 2006 for consideration as part of a proposed CBC visit to Fiji in early 2006. (See also Item 10).

Action (Chair, Members): The “strawman” priority survey programme derived from S55 to be circulated to Members. Members to review content, amend and submit to SWPHC Chair by end of January 2006.

10. Capacity Building Activities, Plans for Visits and Funding for the South West Pacific

10.1 IHB reminded Members that finances had already been assigned for capacity building visits and that this needed to be spent in the current year. IHB confirmed the sequence should be that initial visits to nations to meet with officials was the top priority, to be followed by completion and updates to S55 and then any projects to build capacity or address particular “hydrographic hot spots”.

Fiji advised that a visit early in 2006 to coincide with the next meeting of the Maritime Affairs Co-ordinating Committee would be useful.

PNG advised that a CB visit would be welcome in the first half of 2006, when the key personnel in the new administration have been appointed

SOPAC agreed to liaise with the Chair over visits and provision of points of contact, and advised that the next SOPAC meeting would be in Honiara in September 2006, which presented an opportunity for CBC meetings in the margins.

Samoa agreed that a visit coinciding with the next PacMA meeting (Apia, mid 2006) would be most useful.

Tokelau advised that they could not host a visit. The relevant Tokelau Ministers were resident in Apia so including Tokelau in any proposal for a visit to Samoa would enable attendance.

Action (Members): Members to advise relevant agencies in their country of intended visit, and advise SWPHC Chair of the heads of the authorities they have contacted

Action (Chair, IHB): Chair to arrange for technical visits to as many SWP nations and agencies as possible for the first half of 2006. The visiting team to include an appropriate MSI expert. Note that this may mean a three man visit team, (Chair, IHB and MSI Expert).

Action (Chair): SWPHC Chair to produce a plan and budget for the visits by the end of January 2006. (Noting that IHB funding was proposed for a two man team).

10.2 IHB advised that bids for future capacity building work needed to be submitted to IHB by 1 April 2006, for consideration at the next CBC meeting in Mozambique in June 2006. Australia confirmed they would attend the CBC meeting and if acceptable would represent any SWPHC interests on behalf of the Commission.

Action (Chair, Members): The Members to submit to the SWPHC Chair by 1 April 2006, any CB bids for consideration at the next CBC meeting, July 2006.

Action (Australia): Australia to represent SWPHC at the next IHO CBC meeting in Mozambique 7-8 July 2006.

11. IHO Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) briefing

Docs: SWPHC7-11

Report of SPWG Meeting in London 2005

11.1 Australia briefed the Conference on the progress and outcomes of the IHO Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) meeting in Wollongong and issues arising. The revised IHO Regulations had been approved by SPWG and advised by CL 71/05. The next step was ratification of the new regulations by Member States. SWPHC Members were asked to make every effort to check and ensure the documents sent from the IHB had been received by respective foreign affairs ministries and progressed through the diplomatic ratification process as soon as possible .

Action (Members): Members to pursue the progress of documentation under CL 71/05 through diplomatic channels and report progress on ratification to Australia prior to Dec 05 SPWG Conference

11.2 Australia advised the SPWG had not addressed one issue in the new regulations. Namely, the definition of “hydrographic interest”. A strawman had been prepared for circulation and discussion in Regional Hydrographic Commissions with results to be discussed at the next SPWG in 2007. Australia offered to represent the SWPHC at that meeting.

Action (Australia): Australia to represent SWPHC at next SPWG meeting in Mexico, 5-8 December 2005.

11.3 The new IHB regulations require representation of regional commissions on the IHB Council, and the selection of a SWPHC representative was discussed at length. The members agreed to the following principles for representation.

- all full member states (member) of the SWPHC are eligible for selection as the representative of the SWPHC on the Council unless they advise otherwise
- the member selected is obliged to attend Council meetings and attend to Council business and carry out the work of the SWPHC representative
- the member elected is obliged to be aware of the issues of the region and consider the interests of the region when voting
- the member elected is to report back to the SWPHC on matters of Council, on any vote and the position they took
- election of the member will be on the same basis as Commission decisions as agreed in the Statutes
- the term of the elected member is an issue that requires clarification at the next SPWG meeting (Dec 05). The following issues were to be considered;
 - the term is an inferred three year term
 - the issue of substitution in the event that the elected member cannot attend
 - cost of representation and how it is to be managed

IHB reminded SWPHC Members to advise their governments of the increase in costs of representation arising from these changes to the IHO structure.

12. Presentation on Geospatial Metadata for the South West Pacific

Docs: SWPHC7-12 Geospatial metadata presentation

The following summarises the New Zealand presentation on metadata. France advised caution when dealing with metadata for the SWP as it is time consuming work, and there are many initiatives and programmes already in existence. IHB advised that there was sparse metadata for the SWP, and that there were greater priorities for survey than work in the metadata area. In view of the work expected to flow from the Geospatial conference in Rostock as advertised by IHB CL 100/05 the members agreed that the SWPHC needed to keep abreast of metadata issues and a small working group be convened.

Action (UK, NZ, IHB): UK, IHB and NZ to monitor metadata development and issues especially in light of the Rostock conference and report to SWPHC8 on implications for Members (Note, the IHB have issued a CD with the presentations from the Rostock meeting as an Annex to CL119/05 and comments/feedback as CL 19/06)

13. Progress with Production and Distribution of ENCs

Docs: SWPHC7-13 SWP ENC Schema

National production of ENC had been advised during national reports. ENC production was being connected to achieving the IMO deadlines for carriage. The Conference discussed national situations and issues surrounding production of ENC. Australia and UK offered assistance to other SWP nations if requested to produce and deliver ENC.

The borders and overlaps in the small scale ENC schema for the SWP previously developed by Australia were discussed, with the need for a review of usage codes identified. (Refer Document SWPHC7-13)

Action (Australia, UK, France, Chair): Australia to lead a review of the SWP ENC schema for usage code 1 and 2 in accordance with WEND principles and report to SWPHC8

14. Other Business

14.1 Structure of National Reports

DOC: SWPHC7-14.1 IHB Standard Format for National Reports (CL 123/05)

Some SWPHC national reports were already in the format suggested by the IHO. SWPHC Members agreed to adopt the IHO format for national reporting.

14.2 Revision of Statutes

DOC: SWPHC7-14.2

Revised Statutes dated 8 November 2005

14.2.1 Australia suggested that under the current statutes there was difficulty conducting the work of the Commission when the Chair of the SWPHC changed at each Conference. It was harder for the incoming Chair to both pick up actions agreed by the earlier Conference and also host the next Conference.

Members and Observers fully discussed the issues and noted that in the interest of increasing SWPHC membership and exposure of hydrographic issues to the Government Ministers of SWP nations, in the case of the SWPHC there was benefit in dis-associating the work of the Chair of the SWPHC from the task of hosting the next Conference. There was also benefit in having the SWPHC Conference either prior to or following other significant SWP agency meetings to maximise possible attendance of Members and Observers. For example; there was no reason why a SWPHC conference could not be held after a SOPAC Council meeting in an Observer nation, (for example, Solomon Islands) whilst the Chair and responsibility were retained by New Zealand.

14.2.2 Australia submitted amendments to the statutes to accommodate the changes to the chair and also hosting of the Commission conferences. These draft amendments were fully discussed and a revised set of statutes were agreed to date 8 November 2005

14.3 Repository of SWPHC Files

Australia suggested that the lack of a centralized filing and administration system for the SWPHC hindered access and continuity of the business of the SWPHC. IHB reported that the IHO website was designed to hold the papers and records of the commissions, and subject to IHB staff work load whatever is supplied to the IHB can be loaded to the website. Members and Observers agreed that all documentation should where appropriate be loaded to the relevant IHO Commission website pages.

14.4 Sponsor for Corporate Membership of Hydrographic Society

Australia advised that the Australasian Hydrographic Society has offered to sponsor Corporate Membership of the Society to the following nations if they choose to join; Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Kiribati.

Action (Members): Nominated Members who wish to take up a sponsored membership of the Australasian Hydrographic Society to contact the Society Secretary (Mr Mal Jones)

- 15. Summary of Resolutions, Decisions, Recommendations and Actions Arising**
DOC: SWPHC7-15 Summary of Action Items from the 7th Conference
of the SWPHC

16 Date and Venue of next conference

The Members agreed that the preference was to hold the next SWPHC Conference in Honiara in Sept 2006 in conjunction with the SOPAC meeting, and if this was not possible then France agreed to investigate a Conference in New Caledonia

In view of the amendments to the Statutes and the possibility that the next Conference could be held in non member nation it was unanimously agreed that New Zealand continue to Chair the SWPHC for another year.

Propose that this should be reflected in item 16 of the Report and also in the Summary of Action Items.

Action (Chair, SOPAC, France): Next Conference provisionally agreed for Honiara, late Sept 2006, to be arranged in conjunction with SOPAC, and Solomon Islands. This to be verified by the end of March 2006. The fallback Conference to be held in New Caledonia Feb Mar 2007

Action (Chair, New Zealand): New Zealand to continue Chairmanship of the SWPHC for another year.

Annex D

SWPHC7-15: SUMMARY OF ACTIONS ARISING FROM 7th SWPHC CONFERENCE

Action No.	Refer to 7 th Meeting Agenda Item	Action	To be undertaken by
1.	3	Ongoing item for all members, incl SOPAC, SPC to continue to regularly seek feedback from users regarding inadequately surveyed areas in the SWP. Members to provide feedback and information to SWPHC Chair	All Members
2.	3	Regarding SWPHC charting limits, (refer to chart produced by Australia Doc: SWPHC7-3.6) Members to consider the gaps and address chart coverage of those gaps, especially identifying coverage for any shipping routes which may transit these gaps; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern area gaps between BA area and US area with overlaps with EAHC • In the gap between New Zealand and South of the French area, and • In the gap near Tahiti between the BA, NZ and France areas. 	UK, France, NZ, Chair
3.	3	INT 626 and INT 652 to be produced by UK before end of 2007	UK
4.	3	IHB to be advised to amend M11 to reflect UK as producer nation of INT 626 / INT 652.	Chair
5.	3	S55 included as standing item in SWPHC meeting agendas	Chair
6.	4	Chair SWPHC to write to the Secretariat of the South Pacific Community and invite a representative to attend future Conferences of the SWPHC in an Observer Status.	Chair
7.	4	France to provide SWPHC Chair with a copy of agreement as signed between France and Monaco for distribution to SWPHC members as a guide to international agreements under SOLAS	France
8.	4	NZ to provide a copy of the study of hydrographic regulation to the IHB and SWPHC Members	New Zealand
9.	4	S55 Co-ordinator and SWPHC Chair to input evidence for the IHO report to IMO MSC on the issue of large passenger ship safety in remote areas.	S55 Co-ordinator, SWPHC Chair

		This report to be completed and submitted to IMO by 7 Feb 2006 (if more than 6 pages) Deadline of 14 Jan 2006 to IHB	
10.	5	Tokelau to advise NZ of the location of reported chart deficiencies for Chart NZ 885	Tokelau
11.	5	SOPAC to provide programme of work plan to SWPHC Chair for dissemination to all members (This is an action arising from SWPHC6)	SOPAC
12.	5	SWPHC members to study the advance SOPAC survey work programme and where possible combine national surveys with SOPAC Science cruises	All Members, SOPAC
13.	5	SWPHC members to study the advance SOPAC survey work programme and where possible place Hydrographic surveyors on SOPAC cruises.	All Members, SOPAC
14.	5	Chair to provide to SOPAC copies of the following documents, NZPHSG, S44, MBES Standard	Chair
15.	6	SWPHC members to forward updates to M11 to Australia, who will co-ordinate and submit amendments to the IHB	All Members, Australia
16.	7	SWPHC Chair to seek an invitation for the SWPHC to attend and address the next PacMA meeting (Apia mid 2006) on the importance of improving MSI and hydrography in the region.	Chair, Samoa
17.	9	The "strawman" priority survey programme derived from S55 (Doc: SWPHC7-9.2) to be circulated to Members. Members to review content, amend and submit to SWPHC Chair by end of January 2006.	Chair, Members
18.	10	Members to advise relevant agencies in their country of intended visit, and advise SWPHC Chair of the heads of the authorities they have contacted	All Members
19.	10	Chair to arrange for technical visits to as many SWP nations and agencies as possible for the first half of 2006. The visiting team to include an appropriate MSI expert	Chair, IHB, MNZ
20.	10	SWPHC Chair to produce a plan and budget by the end of January 2006. (Noting that funding was proposed for a two man team).	Chair
21.	10	Members to submit to the SWPHC Chair by 1 April 2006, any CB bids for consideration at the next CBC meeting, June 2006.	All Members, Chair
22.	10	Australia to represent SWPHC at the next IHO CBC meeting in Mozambique 7-8 July 2006.	Australia
23.	11	Members to pursue the progress of documentation under CL 71/05 through diplomatic channels and	Members

		report progress on ratification to Australia prior to Dec 05 SPWG meeting	
24.	11	Australia to represent SWPHC at next SPWG meeting in Mexico, 5-8 December 2005	Australia
25.	12	UK, IHB and NZ (Richard Murcott) to monitor metadata development and issues especially in light of the Rostock conference and report to SWPHC8 on implications for Members	UK, IHB, Murcott
26.	13	Australia to lead review of SWP ENC schema for usage code 1 and 2 in a accordance with WEND principles and report to SWPHC8	Australia UK, France, Chair
27.	14.4	Members wishing to take up a sponsored membership of the Australasian Hydrographic Society to contact the Society Secretary (Mr Mal Jones)	Members
28.	16	Next meeting provisionally agreed for Honiara, late Sept 2006, to be arranged in conjunction with SOPAC, and Solomon Islands, to be verified by the end of March 2006. The fallback meeting to be held in New Caledonia Feb Mar 2007	SOPAC, Chair
29.	16	New Zealand to continue Chairmanship of the SWPHC for another year.	Chair, New Zealand