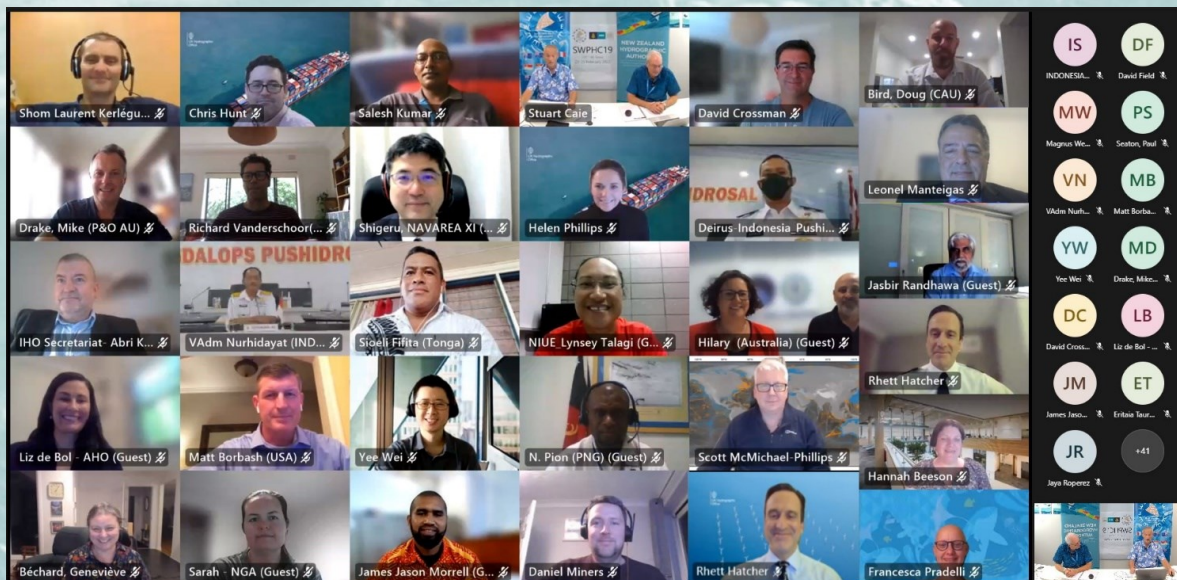


**THE 19TH MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC
HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SWPHC19)
VTC, 23 - 25 February**

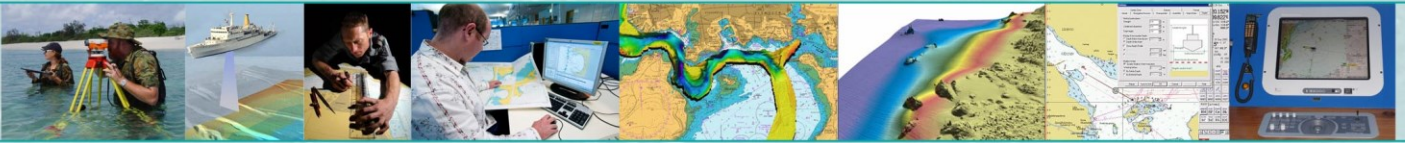
Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2022	
Task 3.2.1.14	Prepare for and report meetings of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)

The 19th meeting of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) initially planned to be held in Vanuatu, was held in a VTC format from 23 to 25 February 2022. Representatives from Australia, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, United Kingdom and United States attended the meeting. Indonesia, Kiribati and Niue were represented as Associate Members. Three NAVAREA Coordinators, several observer organizations and industry delegates were also present. Director Abri Kampfer and Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas represented the IHO Secretariat.



Participants in the 19th SWPHC Meeting

The meeting commenced with a “Te reo Māori karakia & mihi” (formal greeting) and the SWPHC Chair Mr Adam Greenland (New Zealand) welcomed the participants. Mrs Jan Pierce, Deputy Secretary of LINZ, reflected on the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the IHO Strategic Plan that raised the importance of Hydrographic information for the management of resources. She also mentioned the importance of several initiatives such as Seabed 2030, UN Global Geospatial forum, International Geospatial Information Framework that give focus to open data and connecting



users to marine data. IHO Director Abri Kampfer provided his opening remarks mentioning the celebration of the centenary of the IHO and stressed that is the second remote SWPHC Meeting which highlights the importance of essential technology to maintain the possibility to continue to work in these trying times. He highlighted the importance of the Joint IHO/Singapore Innovation & Technology Laboratory and some of the achievements, such as the Roadmap v2.0 for the S-100 Implementation. He thanked for the organization of the meeting with a very rich agenda and wished a successful meeting to the participants.

The meeting proceeded with the matters arising from the previous SWPHC18 Meeting, the respective list of actions and the comments provided by the members regarding the SWPHC Statutes.

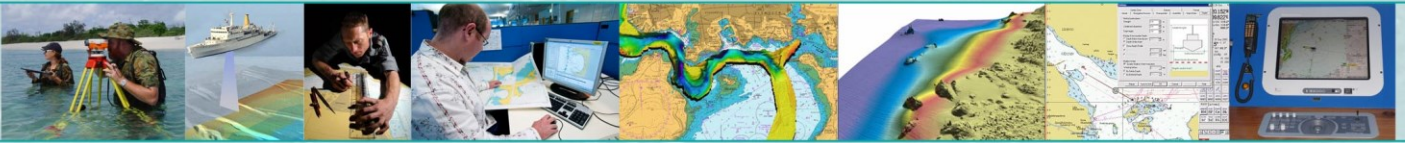
IHO Director Kampfer provided an overview of the SWPHC membership, emphasising the fact that IHO Secretariat stands ready to assist non-member states to become IHO members. He reported on the outcomes of the 5th Meeting of the Council and the proposals from HSSC, IRCC and the Secretariat for delivery of the Strategic Performance Indicators (SPIs) mentioning the IRCC letter 01/2021. The HSSC's governance document on the 'dual fuel' concept, the Empowering Women in Hydrography project, the IHO e-Learning Center at ROK, the modernisation of GMDSS and the recognition of the Iridium SafetyCast service were mentioned as important developments. Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas provided a detailed update on the IHO Empowering Woman in Hydrography project activities in progress.

The Meeting proceeded with the update on the outcomes from the IRCC13 and HSSC13 meetings, mainly focused on the actions and recommendations to SWPHC. The need to share experiences on the S-100 implementation strategies, the SPI attributed to IRCC and HSSC and the decision for the application of ISO 9001 principles in the development of S-101 product specification was emphasised. The S-100 Implementation priorities and timeline as well as the challenge in the future production of S-101 in conjunction with S-57 was discussed.

The WENDWG Chair presented the WENDWG12 meeting highlights such as the WEND-100 principles and the S-1XX implementation Guidelines that will determine how the WEND-100 principles will be applied to each specification. He also mentioned the need for a Regional S-1XX Coordinator and a proposal for the INT Chart Coordinator to become the S-1XX Coordinator.

The MSDIWG Vice-Chair presented the most important topics of the MSDIWG12 meeting including the focus on data discoverability and FAIR principles, the SPIs included in the MSDIWG work plan and the importance to consider S-100 as a universal data model to be used for other use cases, not just navigation. She also enhanced the Webinar series organized last year and the upcoming in-person seminar in Singapore in the same week of the MSDIWG12 meeting and back-to-back with the UN GGIM MGI and the OGC MDWG meetings.

The main outcomes of the National Reports were summarized with the respective achievements and challenges, enhancing the continued investment in technology, partnerships and collaboration for data collection, the engagement with the MSDI groups and



the contribution with the Seabed2030 project. A common aspect was the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Members activities and the transitioning to S-100 as an important challenge.

The meeting received presentations on the activities of IALA and the SPC (Pacific Community). The IALA representative mentioned the technical webinar series available on IALA YouTube, Guideline on sustainable structural design for AtoN, the education opportunities, mostly online at present, and the future transition of IALA to an Inter-governmental Organization. The SPC provided a presentation about its Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division, including projects developing capacity in the region in the continental shelf submissions, geodetic reference frames, geodetic survey operations and tide predictions. SPC is looking to create a new vision and get a permanent observer to SPC from the EU.

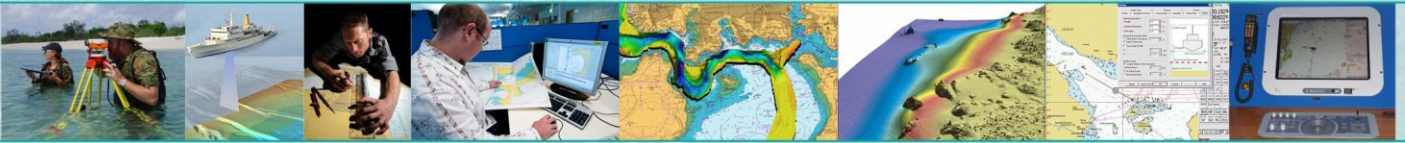
The SWPHC Working Groups provided their respective reports, starting with the update from the International Charting Coordination Working Group (ICCWG), mentioning the new INT Charts and the new Navigational Purposes 1 and 2 ENC's produced since the last meeting as well as the proposals for new INT Charts and the ENC overlap situation. The SWPHC MSDIWG Chair provided an update on the WG activities since the last SWPHC meeting mentioning the update in the IHO map of SDI Portals, the increase of the members, the activities in the Workplan and expressed the intention to seek opportunities to reach out to other regional organizations.

Three NAVAREA Coordinators presented their reports from areas X, XI and XIV. The Members were encouraged to nominate points of contact to NAVAREA XI and a standardized template for MSI Reports was requested from the IHO WNWNS sub-committee.

The meeting proceeded with the review of the gap analysis of the SPIs of the IHO Strategic Plan 2021-2026. SWPHC established a Work Plan & Priorities Working Group that presented the steps to form the Work Plan including: a stakeholder's analysis, Theory of Change methodology and an analysis of the SWP contributions to IHO working groups. The Chair of the SWPHC SPIs Sub-Group introduced the report to revise the SPI in accordance with the IRCC CL01/2021 including the focus of the group, informing that there would be a repeat of the gap analysis to support SPI baselines.

The SWPHC Hydrographic Leaders programme aimed to create a network of leaders in the region, was presented, explaining the selection process and the content of the program and how it will develop further.

The Meeting received a presentation on the "impact of S-100 on all nations", about the value of data being shared and how data can be structured to enabling sharing. It enhanced the fact that S-100 products will have several layers with a multitude of products for mariners and other stakeholders. Focused on the implementation of UNGGIM Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) & Open Data – a presentation informed on how information is a fundamental part of a national infrastructure. The IGIF methodology was explained and some examples of usage and resources were provided. A presentation was also provided about the Operational Framework for Integrated Marine Geospatial Information Management



which supplements the IGIF, with examples of where value proposition could lie and about the importance of a national geospatial leadership board to support interagency collaboration. It was enhanced that National policy and legal considerations need to be given to enable the concept 'collect once, use many times'. The Meeting also received a presentation on the benefits of open data being free and available for society, the economy and the environment.

With the intention to start a regional discussion on the value and benefits of geospatial information, the framework and sharing data, a panel session discussed the following questions:

- What can we do to advance adoption/implementation of the IGIF and Open Data in our region?
- How do we collectively work in the region to share data leading to Open Data - open by default, a reality?

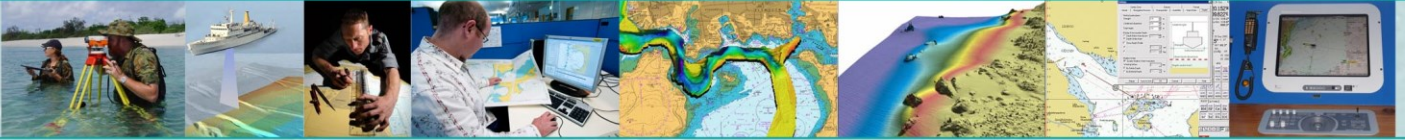
With regards to SWP Disaster Response an overview of SPC's Pacific Resilience Project, including acquisition of LiDAR data and training in its use, was provided. An update on the Disaster Response Framework was provided. The Meeting was also informed that there is an approved CB activity to run an emergency exercise to test the framework, planned to be held in conjunction with SWPHC21 in 2024.

The Meeting also received an overview and update on the Seabed 2030 Project that still aims for 100% sea floor mapped by 2030. Five Project Work Packages are in progress covering data; systems & tools; technology innovation; mapping activities; and management. The GEBCO 2021 grid released for WHD 2021 have now 20.6% of the ocean floor mapped. The Seabed 2030, South and West Pacific Ocean Regional Centre also presented an update on Seabed2030, reporting that in the region 13% of area has data collected. The Centre has been engaged with countries to discover and exchange data and working with vessels to plan transits to maximise 'mapping the gaps' and ensuring private vessels provide data back to the data's sovereign nation.

Related with the New Zealand's response to the UN Decade of the Oceans presentation, the composition of the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and its approach was included. The Commission provides advice to the NZ Government on UNESCO matters and is the conduit between international and domestic activities in relation to the Decade. UNESCO and International Oceanographic Commission as well as the NZ and Pacific projects submitted to the Decade were enhanced.

In the session dedicated to the Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB) and the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB) an update on activities, including how to contribute with data to the Centre and how to access the viewer of the Data Centre, were provided. The SWPHC CSB/Seabed 2030 Coordinator provided an update on the activities specific to the SWPHC, including data trackers and the webinar series. Members were also encouraged to respond to IHO CL 21/2020 and IRCC CL 01/2020 to release their data.

The meeting had a session dedicated to the industry with presentations from Fugro, IIC Technologies, EOMAP, iXblue Pty Ltd, P&O Cruises Australia and SevenCs.



An update on the Highlights of the CBSC19 and CBSC19 Intersessional Meetings was received from the SWPHC CB Coordinator. CBSC worked to align the CB Strategy to the IHO Strategic Plan, and due to the Pandemic situation decided to allow that the activities not executed in 2021 be moved to 2022. Members were encouraged to view the CB calendar for VTC activities on the IHO website. An overview of SWPHC future funded activities and activities undertaken during the last year was also provided as well as those that will be moved to 2022 and the SWPHC 3-year Capacity Building Plan.

The meeting received an update on the work of the Commonwealth Marine Economies (CME) in the region provided by the UK. The Pacific Regional Navigation Initiative (PRNI) also informed on the work in the region, including recent charting and the focus on the 3 programmes in progress.

The meeting re-elected Mr Adam Greenland (NZ) to continue as Chair of the SWPHC and Fiji to continue in the Vice-Chair position. New Zealand offered to host the SWPHC20 meeting in February 2023.