

46TH MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO/ICA INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS AND NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHERS (IBSC)

Tokyo, Japan, 15 - 26 May

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023

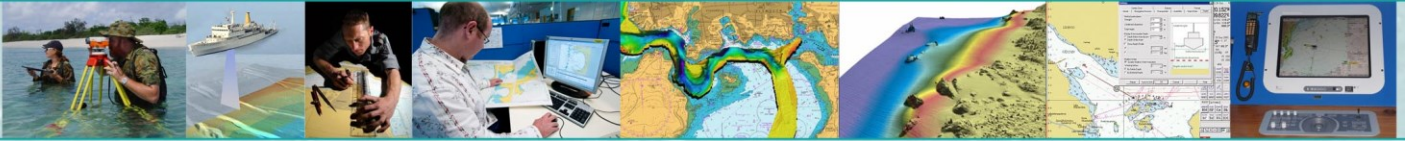
Task 3.8.1	Organize, prepare and report annual meetings of the International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC)
------------	---

The FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) is a joint Board of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Cartographic Association (ICA).

The 46th meeting of the IBSC was held in the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard (JHOD) in Tokyo, Japan, from 15 to 26 May 2023. It was chaired by Capt (R) Nickolas Roscher (Brazil, IHO) and attended by ten Members of the Board (one Member attended some sessions by VTC), a future Member and one intern. IHO Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas (IBSC Secretary) represented the IHO Secretariat.

In the Opening Session JHOD Director General, Dr Masayuki Fujita, welcomed the participants enhancing the importance of this Board shared by three organizations. The IBSC Chair expressed the appreciation for JHOD to host this meeting mentioning the heritage of JHOD in Japan and that the Board is honoured to have as Member, a former member of JHOD.

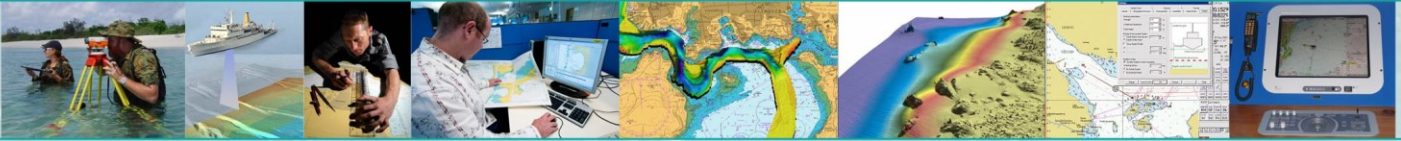
IHO Director Luigi Sinapi delivered a welcome speech on the second day of the meeting enhancing the challenges related with the IHO Strategic Plan and the need to align the standards considering S-100 and MSDI



IBSC Members with JHOD Director General, Dr Masayuki Fujita.



IHO Director Luigi Sinapi addressing the IBSC by VTC during the IBSC46.



Ms Cecilia Cortina (Mexico), attending the University of New Hampshire - Nippon Foundation/ GEBCO program alumna, joined the Meeting as an intern supported by Nippon Foundation/GEBCO. During her internship, tutored by Professor Lysandros Tsoulos she made a revision of the Standards and Guidelines from an external perspective providing some recommendations of improvement that were appreciated by the Members of the Board. She expressed her gratitude for having had this great opportunity to present her work.

On the afternoon of 24 May, the Board visited the Tokyo University of marine Science and Technology.

During the meeting the Board assessed 11 submissions for recognition of nine hydrographic and two cartographic programmes received from 10 Countries. Four of the programmes received were new. Among the 11 submissions, one was "Recognized", seven "Could be recognized" receiving conditions to meet and three were "Not recognized". However, in the effort to allow more programs recognized, in addition to the seven submissions with conditions to be recognized, the Board offered to one non-recognized submission the possibility to submit a new version intersessionally.

In addition to the review of the submissions, it was also necessary to discuss and approve other important working items such as the Board Work Programme, establish a list of priority Institutions to do an On-site visit, the financial situation of the IBSC fund, the programmes that have withdrawn or lost their recognitions and those that asked for the extension of the recognition. The Board also discussed the involvement with the IHO e-Learning Center and the preparation of the Report to IRCC15. Due to the need to increase the number of members of the Board, the IBSC continues to seek to have all four members from ICA.

The Board discussed the need to update the Standards and create a new standard related with Marine Spatial Data Professionals. In the course of the discussion the need to liaise with other stakeholders and in particular with the IHO MSDIWG to make an informed decision on the way to proceed further on this subject at the next intersessional meeting.

Additionally, the Board after a lengthy discussion, decided that it would be necessary to work on the recognition of Subjects of the S-5 Standards related with the Subjects in the existent standards in addition to the recognition of full programmes - for instance the S-5A Ed1.0.2 contains 17 Subjects "H3: LiDAR and Remote Sensing", being one of them. Once the IBSC process is concluded on this matter it is expected that an Institution may have modules on this or other Subjects recognized by the Board. The objective of the recognition of Subjects is to widen the availability of high quality end validated hydrographic training for S-5 A and B.

Due to the need to work on the process to revise the Standards and discuss the possibility to develop a new Standard after the inputs received from the identified stakeholders, to establish the changes on the Guidelines to allow the recognition of Subjects and conclude the revision of eight intersessional submissions, it was decided to plan an intersessional workshop on the week of 30 October to 3 November 2023 in London or Athens.

The 47th annual meeting of the IBSC is planned to be held in Hamburg, Germany, from 8 to 19 April 2024.