



North Sea Hydrographic Commission, NSHC

Report presented on behalf of the Commission by
Magnus Wallhagen, NSHC Chair

Meetings of the NSHC between A2 and A3

34th NSHC Meeting: VTC 27 – 28 April 2021, hosted by Belgium

35th NSHC Meeting: Reykjavik Iceland, 5 – 6 April 2022

36th NSHC Meeting: VTC 29 – 30 March 2023, hosted by Sweden

Full Member States:

Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and United Kingdom participated in all meetings.

Additionally, the IHO Secretariat, represented by IHO Secretary General Dr Mathias Jonas, participated in all meetings as observer

Highlights of regional collaboration and follow up achievements

Broadened scope of the North Sea ICC WG

- *NSHC 36, March 2023, took a decision to change focus on the ICC WG to also include overall coordination of S-100 implementation in the North Sea*

S-100 Questionnaire

- *NSHC 35, April 2022, decided to ask NSHC MS about their respective plans to implement S-100 products.*
- *Belgium prepared a questionnaire to get a compilation of the NSHC MS plans for the implementation of the prioritized S-100 products. The questionnaire was appreciated as an easy way to gather all MS plans and was the basis for the NSHC WENDWG IGIF matrix response.*

Establishment of a new North Sea Maritime Safety Information (MSI) WG

- *NSHC 35, April 2022, decided to establish a NS MSI WG with the objectives to coordinate MSI messages in the North Sea region and to facilitate harmonization of new and existing methods to provide MSI to the shipping industry.*
- *The MSI WG will work in cooperation with the similar Baltic Sea MSI WG, established by BSHC, and together these two working groups cover NAVAREA I.*

Activities contributing to the strategic goals and targets of the IHO

- *Changed scope of the North Sea ICC WG to also coordinate the overall S-100 implementation in the North Sea and in addition coordinate and harmonize implementation of S-101 ENC and S-102 Bathymetry.*
- *The Tidal and Water Level WG has been tasked to coordinate and harmonize the implementation of S-104 Water Level and S-111 Surface Currents.*
- *The newly established North Sea MSI WG has been tasked to coordinate and harmonize the implementation of S-124 Navigation Warnings.*
- *The NSHC MS are active contributors to the EMODNet Bathymetry portal, which is an initiative by the EU Commission to make bathymetry data available in European waters. The EMODNet bathymetry data is subsequently used in the IHO-IOC GEBCO global grid.*



Assembly is invited to:

- a) take note of the full report
(NSHC Report, A3_2023_G_06.9_EN)**
- b) consider the reported highlights of regional
activities and the activities contributed to the
strategic Goals and targets in their further
deliberations**