



1ST AFRICAN HARBOUR MASTERS COMMITTEE SEMINAR Tangier, Morocco 2 - 3 March

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023

Task 1.1.15	Maintain relationships with other international and observer organizations when their agendas have relevance to the programme of the IHO
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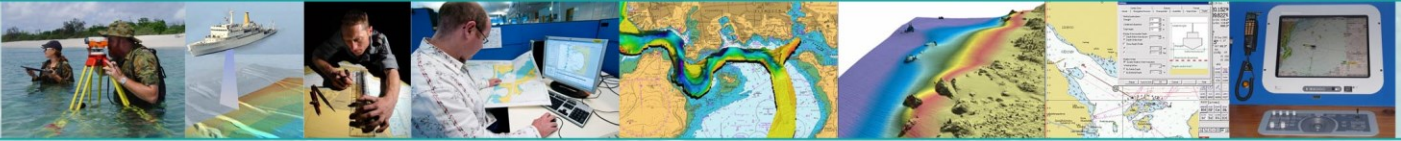
Under the aegis of the Ministry of Equipment and Water of Kingdom of Morocco, the 1st edition of the African Harbour Masters Committee Seminar (1st AHMC Seminar), organized by the AHMC, as the regional committee of the IHMA (International Harbour Masters Association), in partnership with ACOPM (Moroccan Association of Port Officers) and Tangier City Port, was held in Tangier, Morocco from 2 to 3 March 2023, in the Barcelo' Hotel Tangier.

The main theme of the Seminar was “*The crucial role of human factors for a better future for African ports*”. The seminar concluded on 3rd March with the visit to the new Tangier Med Port. Director Luigi Sinapi represented the IHO with the objective to present the tasks and mission of the IHO and the role of Hydrography today, highlighting the new Universal Hydrographic Data Model S-100 and its derived products and services, for improving safety of navigation.



1st edition of African Harbour Masters Committee (AHMC) – Barcelo' Hotel Tangier, Morocco

During the official opening, the Port Commander and Director of Operations of the Port of Tangier, Mohamed Maghazi, Chairman of the AHMC, emphasised that the seminar is part of the activities of the IHMA and its African regional committee. The seminar aimed at



promoting the safe, efficient and environmentally friendly management of maritime operations at port level, noting that the event brings together experts, port officials and port and maritime professionals representing more than 25 countries. Mr Maghazi, also President of ACOPM, said that at a time when 90% of international trade is carried out by sea, ports are proving to be particularly sensitive platforms, in a context that is highly exposed to the challenges of safety, security and environmental protection, not forgetting the challenges of sustainable development and operational and technological intelligence. For his part, IHMA President, Paul O'Regan, indicated that the seminar is an opportunity to present the professional perspectives of port commanders and officers at the international, regional and national levels, emphasising the importance of the human factor in promoting port performance and to maintain connection with International Organizations, such as IHO and IALA, both present at the seminar. For his part, the Director of Ports and Maritime State Property at the Ministry of Equipment and Water, Sanae El Amrani, emphasised the importance of the theme chosen for this event, noting that the resource "Humanity" is at the heart of all development in all sectors, including ports. As for the Director General of the Tangier Med Port Authority (TMPA), Hassan Abkari, he emphasised that the topics that will be discussed during the seminar are of paramount importance for African ports, which are called upon to make a strong commitment to innovation and efficiency, but also to believe, more than ever, in their potential to achieve top performance as world-class ports.



1st edition of AHMC Seminar official opening

The seminar then developed into the following four thematic panels:

- **1st Panel - Navigation.** The objective of the panel was to share experiences and solutions for improving ship manoeuvring and port operational limits, challenging safety and optimization in ports and knowing more on the future of port approach navigational charts and port authority responsibility.
- **2nd Panel – Maritime Women, oceanography & AtoN.** The objective of this panel was to present on the role of women in the maritime industry, the importance of oceanography and atmospheric impact on safety of navigation, the future of IALA and the importance of aids to navigation in the ports.



- **3rd Panel – Dangerous Cargo.** The objective of the panel was focused on dangerous cargo and hazard studies of ports and terminals, highlighting the importance of management of dangerous cargo in container terminal and the port management programmes.
- **4th Panel – Sustainability and performance.** The objective of the panel was to highlight how nowadays the ports are operating in intense international competition in their pursuit of safety, security, efficiency and competitiveness, responding to these pressure by embracing leading-edge technologies and digitalization, and moving towards “smart” and optimized solutions.



1st edition of AHMC Seminar 1st Panel on Navigation - Presentation by IHO Director Luigi Sinapi

IHO Director Luigi Sinapi participated in the 1st Panel on “*Port approach navigational charts and port authority responsibility*”, highlighting the implementation of a new and universally recognized way of representing the marine environment: the Universal Hydrographic Data Model S-100. The S-100 development concept allows interoperability with a wide range of marine geo-data, and overcomes deficiencies for future digital nautical chart data products. With the approval of the new IMO ECDIS Performance Standards (Resolution MSC.530(106)) the S-100 ECDIS will be legal to use after 1 January 2026 and from 1 January 2029 new systems must comply with the new IMO Resolution on ECDIS Performance Standards (MSC.530(106)).

Given the multitude and diversity of products and services available to mariners in both route monitoring and route planning, one product that will play a key role in the S-100 product landscape is the *S-128 - Catalogue of Nautical Products*. The S-128 service will be an essential part of Port State Control, in order to check that the vessel conforms to carriage requirements.

The role of Ports and Port Authorities in providing end users with the necessary information for everything that complements mooring, unloading, loading and manoeuvring within ports



was highlighted. The S-131 - *Marine Harbour Infrastructure* product is designed for end users to know all the services they will need while in port are available and accessible. It will be in line with IMO Resolutions A.893(21) and A.862(20), respectively the “Guidelines for voyage planning” and “Code of practice for the safe loading and unloading bulk carriers” and will improve the information exchange between harbours and hydrographic offices by acting as a neutral repository of harbour information. In developing this product, the ports will play a key role, to provide the bulk of S-131 data.

The AHMC’s president closed the seminar highlighting the importance of networking and sharing experiences for a new integrated approach to port management, where the human factor remains an absolute priority in view of the challenges to which the African ports are exposed and the needs of the port community stakeholders.

The 2nd edition of the AHMC Seminar is planned to be held in 2025 in a venue to be defined.