

LIAISON VISIT TO THE 15TH COURSE OF THE IHO-NIPPON FOUNDATION GEOMAC PROJECT

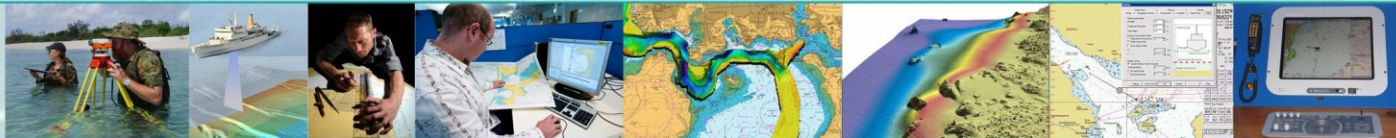
United Kingdom Hydrographic Office, Taunton, UK, 21 September

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023	
CBWP P-03	Attendance of GEOMAC Liaison visit

IHO Director Luigi Sinapi, Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas and Project Officer Kazufumi Matsumoto visited the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) on 21 September 2023 to meet and brief the seven trainees attending the 15th course of the IHO - Nippon Foundation GEOMAC (Geospatial Marine Analysis and Cartography) project. The project, funded by the Nippon Foundation of Japan, provides training in marine cartography and data assessment, which is recognized by the FIG-IHO-ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) as Cartography Category "B" programme. The course is delivered by the UKHO and is composed of eight modules and final project, each module varying from one to three weeks in length. The 15th course ran from 17 July 2023 to 15 December 2023 and was attended by trainees from IHO Member States, namely Chile, Ecuador, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Romania and Uruguay.

The Team from the IHO Secretariat discussed various topics with the trainees. In response, the trainees described their experiences and thanked the Nippon Foundation, UKHO and IHO for the opportunity to develop their knowledge and expertise in the field of nautical cartography and other relevant fields. Director Sinapi delivered a presentation highlighting the roles of IHO, importance of hydrography, the recent relevant topics for the Organization and capacity building activities. Assistant Director Manteigas delivered a presentation on the objectives, activities and partnerships of the IHO Capacity Building. The impact of the CHART/GEOMAC project was also described and presented in detail by Project Officer Matsumoto. The trainees were encouraged to keep in touch with each other and to maintain the alumni network and relationships after returning to their home countries.

To strengthen the IHO-Nippon Foundation Alumni network, encourage the cooperation among the fellows, improve the global friendship and allow an assessment of the impact of these relevant courses in the global capacity, an Alumni Seminar is also planned for every three years with the next one to be held in October 2023 in London.



The trainers and trainees of the 15th GEOMAC Course with the IHO visiting Team.