

13TH CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SAIHC)

Cape Town, South Africa, 30 - 31 August

The 13th Conference of the Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC) was held from 30 to 31 August 2016 in Cape Town, South Africa. Six Member States: France, Mauritius, Mozambique, Norway, South Africa and the United Kingdom were represented at the meeting. India also participated as an invited member. Comoros, Malawi, Namibia and Portugal, attended as Associate Members and delegates from the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) and the two Regional Electronic Nautical Chart (RENC) organizations: IC-ENC and PRIMAR also participated in the meeting. Industry participants from C-MAP Norway, Fugro Survey Africa, Kongsberg Maritime, Oceaneering South Africa, Teledyne CARIS and Underwater Surveys also attended the meeting. President Robert Ward and Assistant Director Anthony Pharaoh represented the IHB. The meeting was chaired by Captain Abri Kampfer (national Hydrographer of South Africa).

The 13th Conference was preceded by a meeting of the regional International Charting Coordination Working Group (ICCWG) during which the status of INT chart production in the region was discussed. A presentation on the INTogis online catalogue application was provided, followed by an “IALA Safety of Navigation Conference”. These events took place on 29 August.



Participants of the 13th SAIHC Conference



Each of the participating Member and Associate Member States presented at the Conference a briefing on the status of hydrography and charting priorities in their areas of responsibility. There were reports, presentations and discussions on Satellite Derived Bathymetry, GEBCO activities, the IHO capacity building programme for the region, the status of IHO publication C-55, procedures for marine disasters, maritime safety information for NAVAREA VII and the Norwegian Mareano Project (<http://www.mareano.no/>). The two RENC organizations provided feedback on the status of ENC distribution in the region. Presentations were also delivered by each of the industry participants.

The report provided by Mauritius highlighted the significant progress that has been made with the development of the Mauritian hydrographic infrastructure and capabilities. This has been achieved through the very successful capacity building efforts from both the IHO Capacity Building Programme and the continuing support from the Government of India through the Indian National Hydrographic Office which is deploying its ships regularly to conduct surveys in Mauritius, providing training and compiling nautical charts on behalf of the country. Associate Members Angola, Kenya, Madagascar, Seychelles and Tanzania were not able to attend the meeting and did not submit national reports.

South Africa (Captain Abri Kampfer) was re-elected as Chair for the next term and UK was elected to hold the position of Vice Chair. The next conference is proposed to take place in late September 2017 in Mauritius, subject to confirmation.

All papers and presentation for the Working Group meeting and the Conference are available on the SAIHC13 document page on the IHO website (<http://www.ihc.int>).



SCAR BIENNIAL MEETINGS Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 20 - 30 August



The 34th biennial meetings of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and an associated Open Science Conference took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 20 to 30 August. The event brought together the world's leading Antarctic scientists. SCAR is a body of the International Council for Science (ICSU), and is charged with the initiation, promotion and coordination of scientific research in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. SCAR also provides international, independent scientific advice to the Antarctic

Treaty System and other bodies. SCAR is affiliated to the IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA).

President Robert Ward, who is Chair of the HCA, attended the following side meetings related to hydrography that were organised as part of the SCAR Conference: the Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SC-ADM), the Standing Committee on Antarctic Geographic Information (SC-AGI), the Antarctic Sea-ice Processes and Climate Expert Group (ASPeCt), and the International Bathymetric Chart of the Southern Ocean (IBCSO) Expert Group.

The President provided a status report on the bathymetry of the Southern Ocean and the need to obtain significantly more data than presently existed. He reminded the participants of Resolution 5/2014 of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) that encourages States to ensure that all vessels operating in Antarctica collect hydrographic and bathymetric data on all voyages. He pointed out that all ships operating in the region are capable of obtaining depth measurements in coastal waters using their standard navigational sensors and that all suitably equipped ships should be taking measurement in deeper waters as well. He described the long-standing IHO-IOC General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean (GEBCO) project and the supporting IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry as the only comprehensive global bathymetric database. He appealed to all those present to consider ways to make archived depth data already collected as part of scientific research discoverable and therefore more widely available as part of the global bathymetric data set.



6TH SESSION OF THE UN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

3 - 6 August, New York, USA



The sixth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) took place at the UN Headquarters in New York, USA from 3 to 6 August.

The UN-GGIM reports to the UN Assembly via the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The principal purpose of the UN-GGIM is to play a leading role in setting the agenda for the development of global geospatial information management and to promote the use of geospatial information in addressing key global challenges, particularly taking in to account the role of geospatial data in monitoring and achieving the Sustainable Development goals agreed under the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Mr Wu Hongbo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs opened the meeting, highlighting that ECOSOC had recently adopted a draft resolution (E/2016/L.28) entitled "*Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management*". The adopted Resolution, in effect, confirms the UN-GGIM as a permanent UN subordinate body and enables greater institutional support to be provided to the UN-GGIM.

Nearly 300 participants representing more than 80 UN Member States and Observer Organizations, including the IHO, participated in the Session. A representative of the US Hydrographic Office (Office of Coast Survey) was present in the US delegation. The Hydrographic Offices of Cuba, New Zealand, Oman and the Philippines were, in effect, represented since their national delegations were led by their parent organizations. President Robert Ward represented the IHO.

The sixth Session was preceded by 28 associated side meetings covering regional GGIM meetings and discussions in support of several working groups supporting the GGIM.

A number of the items on the agenda of UN-GGIM6 were of direct relevance to IHO Member States, particularly in relation to the contribution of hydrographic data and services to national and regional spatial data infrastructures.





Progress in the development and maintenance of relevant IHO standards was presented to the Committee as part of a combined report of the IHO, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC). The Committee expressed its thanks for the continuing work of the IHO, ISO and OGC with respect to standards, harmonization and implementation, and the usefulness of the two reference documents produced by the three organizations. Several Member States indicated that the reference documents are now being used as a means of highlighting the fundamental importance of the adoption and use of geospatial standards in order to enhance data inter-operability and access in their countries.

The Committee reviewed the progress being made by its working group (WG) on global fundamental geospatial data themes. There was some discussion on the usefulness of a minimum list of fundamental geospatial data themes rather than data sets. The WG was invited to report its progress to the next session.

The Committee reconfirmed its acknowledgment that open data, data sharing policies, and the use of volunteered geographic information are critical to advancing the use of geospatial information. These are all subjects currently under the purview of the Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (MSDIWG) and the Crowd-Sourced Bathymetry Working Group of the IHO.



Chair of ISO Technical Committee 211 on Geographic information/Geomatics, Mr Olaf Østensen and President Ward

The Committee's Expert Group on the *Application of Geospatial Information related to Land Administration and Management*, provided its report and observations. President Ward drew the Committee's attention to the fact that the subjects under consideration of this expert group applied equally to the coastal areas, seas and oceans. He drew attention to the ongoing work in the IHO of assisting Member States to contribute to national and regional spatial data infrastructures and invited the Committee to consider whether the scope of study should be widened beyond the terrestrial domain to specifically include coastal waters, the seas and the oceans. As a result, the Committee:

... recognized the need to consider the

marine environment – shorelines, coastal waters, seas and oceans – as a key component of the spatial data infrastructure that underpins the administration and management of land, marine spaces, and the national geospatial resources of many littoral Member States.



This statement reinforces the role of the MSDIWG and the priority that is placed on MSDI in the IHO Work Programme.

Copies of all the papers and report of the meeting are available on the GGIM website at:
<http://ggim.un.org>

The seventh Session of UN-GGIM will take place at the UN Headquarters during the first week of August 2017.



GRADUATION RECOGNITION CEREMONY FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN HYDROGRAPHIC SCIENCE University of Southern Mississippi, USA, 04 August

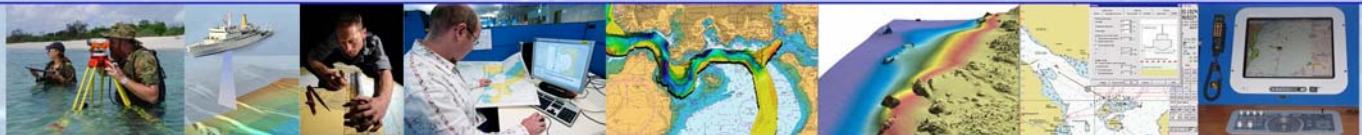
Four students sponsored by the Republic of Korea (ROK) through the IHO Capacity Building programme successfully completed a Master's Degree in hydrographic science at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), USA, in August. The four successful students were from the national hydrographic services of Bahrain, Mauritius, Nigeria and Romania. They were part of the 17th graduating class and all obtained high marks on the course. Formal graduation will take place at the end of the year; however, a recognition ceremony was held shortly after the completion of the course to mark the achievements of all the graduates before they return to their host organizations to take up operational roles in hydrography.

The Master's Degree meets the Category A recognition requirements of the International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) operated jointly by the Fédération Internationale des Géomètres (FIG), the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Cartographic Association (ICA).

The recognition ceremony was held at the Gulf Park Campus of the USM on Tuesday, 04 August. Dr. Rodney D Bennett, President of the University of Southern Mississippi also attended the ceremony which was declared open by Dr Steve Miller, Vice President for Gulf Park Campus of the USM. This was followed by a brief speech from IHB Director Mustafa Iptes and Dr Chaeho Lim (Representative of the donor state, ROK). A keynote address was delivered by Captain Brian D. Connan (US Navy), Director of the Maritime Safety Division, US National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. The ceremony closed with the presentation of certificates and prizes by Dr Karen S. Coats, Dean of the Graduate School of the USM and Captain Raymond "Rich" Delgado III (US Navy), Chief of Staff, Meteorology and Oceanography Command and Hydrographer of the US Navy.

As well as the four IHO Capacity Building programme alumni, there were nine other successful students from the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, USA, and from the commercial hydrographic surveying sector.

It is expected that the Republic of Korea and the IHO will be able to offer further sponsored places on the course in future years. Prospective applicants should make early preparations to ensure that they have the necessary qualifying credentials, particularly English language proficiency and academic recognition well in advance of the next call for application, which is likely to occur in September.



Graduands receive their certificates of recognition

Left to Right:

- Mr Maxim van Norden (Coordinator of the USM CAT A Programme)
- Mr Devendra Ragoonath Madhow (Ministry of Housing & Lands, Mauritius)
- Lt Cdr Babatunde Luqman Akanbi (Nigerian Navy)
- Dr Chaeho Lim (Director of Nautical Chart Division, KHOA, ROK)
- Mr Mustafa Iptes (Director, IHO)
- Mr Jasim Butaiba (Survey & Lands Bureau, Bahrain)
- Lt Lucian Dutu (Romanian Navy)



THE NEW HYDROGRAPHER OF PORTUGAL



Born in Lisbon in 1961, **Rear Admiral António Manuel de Carvalho Coelho Cândido** graduated at the Portuguese Naval Academy in 1984. He holds the Generals and Flag Officers Promotion Course from the Portuguese Joint Command and Staff College and from the National Defense Institute, the National Defense Course and the Emergency and Disaster Management Course.

His first assignment was as the Executive Officer in the Patrol Boat NRP CUANZA. He completed the Electronics Specialization Course in 1987 and then was appointed to the frigate NRP ROBERTO IVENS, as the Head of Weapons Engineering Department.

After a year of weapons courses in the US, António Cândido served more than 6 years in the MEKO Class Frigates as Deputy of Weapons Engineering Department, NRP ALVARES CABRAL, and as Head of Department, NRP VASCO DA GAMA serving in home waters and STANAVFORLANT after taking the RN OST in 1992 and 1996, and deploying to Guine-Bissau during the 1998 crises. In 1999 he assumed command of NRP JOÃO ROBY.

Ashore, Rear Admiral Cândido served as Head of Weapons and Engineering Department in the Frigates Squadron, as Head of C3I Division and Detection and Navigation Systems Division in the Directorate of Fleet Maintenance. Promoted to Captain in 2006, he was appointed Commander of Madeira Maritime Zone and at the same time Director of MRCC Funchal, Captain of the Port of Funchal and Commander of the Regional Maritime Police. In 2011 he served as Captain of the Port of Lisbon and Commander of the Regional Maritime Police.



Following promotion to Rear Admiral he moved to Azores, where he took command of the Azores Maritime Zone and at the same time Director of MRCC Delgada and Commander of the Regional Maritime Police.

He joined the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute as the National Hydrographer in November 2015.

His awards include among others the Distinguished Services Medal (3), Military Merit Medal (2nd class) and the “Cruz Merito Naval con Distintivo Blanco”.

Rear Admiral Cândido is married to Filomena and has one son.