

VISIT OF DELEGATION OF VIET NAM TO THE IHO SECRETARIAT

Monaco, 16 May

A delegation from Viet Nam led by Rear Admiral Pham Manh Hung, Vice Chairman and Director General of Viet Nam Hydrographic Office (VHO) visited the IHO Secretariat on 16 May, and was received by IHO Director Mustafa Iptes, accompanied by Assistant Directors Alberto Costa Neves and Yves Guillam.

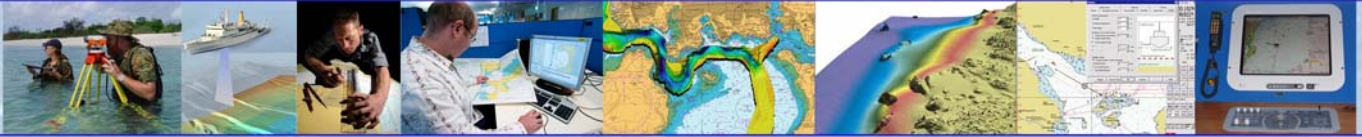


Viet Nam became a Member State of the IHO in 2015 and the visit aimed at familiarizing the VHO Staff with the overall IHO work programme, improving the ties between the VHO and the IHO Secretariat and identifying opportunities for Viet Nam to contribute to the work and objectives of the IHO.

The visit included a thorough presentation of the IHO, highlighting the various opportunities for the active engagement of Viet Nam, including corporate affairs, technical work, cooperation with other Member States and participation in Capacity Building.

During the visit the Hydrographer of Viet Nam highlighted the interest of his country in pursuing a fast development in Hydrography and Nautical Cartography to support safety of navigation and economic development in the more than 3,000 islands and 3,200 km of coastline. He also briefed the IHO Secretariat on the current status of surveying and charting and the bilateral agreements with France, India, Norway and United Kingdom.

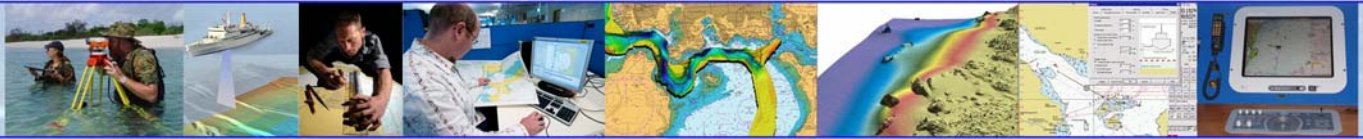
It was reported that Viet Nam is aiming to become a more active Member by hosting IHO meetings and Capacity Building activities. By developing the country's Marine Spatial Data



Infrastructure, it will improve the quality of the national chart portfolio and the national economic infrastructure. Viet Nam, as a Member of the IHO, also expressed their desire to become a full Member of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC).



Rear Admiral Pham Manh Hung and IHO Director Mustafa Iptes during the Visit of Viet Nam del



11TH MEETING OF THE HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (HSSC-II)

Cape Town - South Africa, 6-9 May

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2019

Task 2.1.1	Organize, prepare, and report annual meetings of HSSC
------------	---

The 11th meeting of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) took place in Cape Town, South Africa from 6 to 9 May 2019. The meeting was hosted by the South African Navy Hydrographic Office (SANHO). The HSSC Chair, RAdm Luigi Sinapi (Italy) opened the meeting and invited Captain Theo Stokes, National Hydrographer of South Africa to provide the opening address. After welcoming delegates to the Mother City in all eleven official languages spoken in South Africa, Captain Stokes emphasized South Africa’s commitment to providing standards based on hydrographic products and services. He reported on the new rejuvenation programme being undertaken by the SANHO which will include the acquisition of a new hydrographic survey vessel, 3 organic survey motor boats and major upgrades to the production and training facilities within SANHO.

Sixty-three participants representing twenty-four IHO Member States and eleven stakeholder organizations participated in the meeting. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Director Abri Kampfer, Assistant Directors Yves Guillam and Anthony Pharaoh.



The participants of the 11th Hydrographic Services and Standards Meeting.

Following the resignation of the HSSC Vice-Chair, Mr. Michael Prince (Australia), the Committee elected Mr. Magnus Wallhagen (Sweden) as his replacement. The HSSC Chair congratulated Mr Wallhagen and expressed his appreciation to Mr. Prince for the significant contribution he had made during his term in office.



The Chair of the Strategic Plan Review Working Group (SPRWG) of the IHO Council, Ingénieur général Bruno Frachon (France), reported on the draft Revised IHO Strategic Plan currently under development and the links to be established with the IHO Work Programme of the HSSC through Performance Indicators. Subsequent suggestions were made by the HSSC Chair. The meeting also discussed the format and content of a showcase presentation on S-100 based products and test bed systems to be presented at the 3rd session of the IHO Council.

Reports were provided by the Chairs of the HSSC Working Groups and Project Teams. The S-100WG Chair reported on new documents under development which include a guidebook for product specification developers (S-97), the “Interoperability Specification” for S-100 based navigation systems (S-98) and a proposal to implement an “S-100 Technical Readiness Levels” concept for controlling and monitoring the development of S-100 based products. Reports were also provided on the status of the S-101, S-102, S-121 and S-129 Product Specifications. PRIMAR reported on their implementation of the S-100 based security system for the distribution of S-102 and other product data.

The Chair of the ENCWG reported on the S-58 test datasets (available on Github), progress with developing guidance on producing high density bathymetric ENC's and extensions to the S-63 (IHO Data Protection Scheme) required to address cyber security concerns.

The NIPWG Chair reported on the product specifications that have recently been completed, and those still under development. He reported on the outcomes of the joint IMO/IHO Harmonization Group on Data Modelling (HGDM) meeting (IMO, London – October 2018) and the discussions on the IMO e-Navigation Maritime Service descriptions that fall under the IHO responsibility.

The NCWG Chair reported on the status of IHO publications under its remit, and highlighted issues and options reported in a paper entitled “Future of the Paper Chart”. A survey is proposed to Member States and its outcome will be incorporated into the final version of the report on the future of the paper chart.

The Chair of the DQWG reported on the new data quality indicators under development and highlighted a data quality “decision tree” that is intended to provide guidance on achieving a harmonized implementation of quality parameters for hydrographic data under the S-100 framework. The DQWG was also commended for the development of a new conditional visualization methodology of quality of bathymetric data which now needs to be experimented.

Canada reported on an “S-100 cloud distribution pilot project” which has demonstrated the ability to store S-102 data on a cloud repository, combine it with S-57 data and make it available for use as a web services.

Following a proposal made by the USA, the meeting had fruitful discussions on the possible implementation of MARPOL regulations into a new S-100 based product, still to be developed. A two-step process was agreed to speed up the service to mariners, firstly a revision of the S-57 catalogue of objects and then to consider at a later stage, whether it is appropriate to move forward with a new S-100 based products covering IMO-type regulations.

