

REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION

SEPRHC report to IRCC 9

1. Chair

Captain Humberto Gómez Proaño, Ecuador, from July 2015

2. Membership

Members: Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Perú

Observers: Panamá

3. Meetings:

Last Meeting: SEPRHC 13 was held in Guayaquil, Ecuador 13 – 16, July 2015.

Next Meeting: SEPRHC 14 to be held in Cartagena, Colombia 21–25, August 2017.

4. Current Working Groups:

The Region has not established permanent working groups.

5. Status of IRCC actions (relevant for the SEPRHC)

No.	List of Actions	Responsible	Deadline	Status
6	Encourage the attendance of Member States and Observers at WWNWS-SC meetings (7b)	RHC Chairs	Permanent	PENDING; Chile and Perú are expected to attend, in their condition of NAVAREA coordinators (XV and XVI)
8	Encourage closer engagement of the National MSI Coordinators of Member States with the relevant NAVAREA Coordinator (7b)	RHC Chairs	Permanent	DONE; NAVAREA and MSI coordination is carried out by
9	Encourage closer coordination between NAVAREA and Capacity Building Coordinators in planning	RHC Chairs	Permanent	national hydrographic services

	and student selection for the CB MSI training courses (7b)			
21	Invite Member States to provide following information in the National Reports to RHC meetings: the status of MSDI; plans for involvement in MSDI; and challenges facing the HO (7e)	RHC Chairs	Permanent	DONE ; included in the Agenda of the next SEPRHC meeting
32	Invite Member States to send updated information to the Secretariat with respect to the IHO Publications C-55 and P-5 on an annual basis (10)	RHC Chairs	31 Jul 2016	PENDING ; to be discussed at the next SEPRHC meeting

6. Agenda Items:

Next meeting in August 2017. New agenda items to be reported during IRCC 16th.

7. SEPRHC cooperation with other RHC and organizations:

Active cooperation in capacity building is in place with SWAtHC and MACHC. Projects submitted to the CBSC always consider the participation of delegates from both regions. Delegates from the SEPRHC have as well been invited to capacity building activities that these RHCs organize.

Member states are also actively involved with other intergovernmental organizations related to maritime and navigation safety like IOC, IALA and IMO, either by simultaneously being the national representative to these organizations, or by providing technical advice to the institution that carry out this representation.

Since the national hydrographic services of the region are under naval administration, the annual meetings between Naval Chiefs of Staff and agreements resulting from these meetings, have contributed to organize and carry out joint hydrographic capacity building (training course and internships) and technical activities (joint hydrographic surveys).

8. Achievements and lessons learned:

- Regional and inter regional cooperation has proven to be an effective way to improve technical competences and capabilities of national hydrographic services. However, besides the products generated for these services, for navigation and maritime safety purposes, there is currently an increasing demand of a more diverse a complex set of hydrographic products, required by the maritime community and governmental

agencies to support the effective and sustainable use of maritime spaces and their natural resources.

- Direct and indirect participation of national hydrographic services in other intergovernmental organizations related to maritime and navigation safety like IOC, IALA and IMO, has proven to be an effective way to achieve many technical goals of the IHO-IRCC subcommittees and working groups.
- The constant rotation of capacity building coordinators in the SEPRHC has proven to generate complications in the process of preparing and submitting projects to the CBSC, reducing the possibilities of obtaining a good review and in consequence, the resources required for their implementation.

9. Conclusions

- IOH capacity building Strategy, should incorporate the increasing requirements made by maritime community and governmental agencies to national hydrographic services, to support the effective and sustainable use of maritime spaces and their natural resources. These requirements should not be considered as topics transversally related to the existing capacity building Phases of this strategy, but as an independent and new phase, to be accomplished when projects and activities are planned and carried out.
- IOH should encourage the active participation of hydrographic services in other intergovernmental organizations related to maritime and navigation safety like IOC, IALA and IMO.
- SEPRHC must establish a more permanent representation of its capacity building coordinator in the CBSC.

10. Actions required from the IRCC:

The IRCC is invited to:

- a. note this report
- b. make any required observation

Captain Humberto Gómez Proaño
SEPRHC Chair