



**9th MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL
COORDINATING COMMITTEE
IHO-IRCC9**

Paramaribo, Suriname, 12-14 June 2017

South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (SWAtHC) Report



In 2006, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay signed the cooperation agreement that result in the South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (SWAtHC). Main achievements have been the development of a regional Cartographic Plan, establishment of a Planning Commission to coordinate INT Charts and ENC production and the acceptance of Bolivia and Paraguay as Observer and Associate Members.

Last Meeting:

11th SWAtHC took place at Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation (DHN) Niteroi, Brazil (6-7 March, 2017)



Photo on board the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Vessel Vital de Oliveira



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Key achievements

A contingency plan was celebrated between NAVAREA V (Brazil) and NAVAREA VI (Argentina) to ensure that broadcast and monitoring Maritime Safety Information (MSI) are not interrupted in case of failure of one of these systems.

SWAtHC created a Geoportal with spatial data with ENCs published by the Member States, whose the main propose is to facilitate the work of harmonization of boundaries and risk assessment.

In terms of Capacity Building, the Hydrographic School of DHN, Brazil, received a new hydrographic boat (Captain Miguens), equipped with MBES and able to operate sub bottom profiler and side scan sonar.



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This boat will be used exclusively for education activities.



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Main items under consideration:

SWAtHC INT Chart scheme has a total of 47 charts. From these, 36 charts (76.5%) have already been published.

Country	INT Charts Scheme	INT Charts available	%
ARGENTINA	12	5	41%
BRASIL	32	31	96%
URUGUAY	1	0	0%
ARG/UY	2	0	0%
TOTAL	47	36	76,5%



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Main items under consideration:

SWAtHC ENC scheme has a total of 226 cells. From these, 180 cells (78.7 %) have already been released.

Country	Cells Scheme	Cells Available	%
BRASIL	115	97	84,3%
ARGENTINA	65	55	84,6%
URUGUAY	50	27	54,0%
TOTAL	230	179	77,8%

The end result is that the region has no significant overlaps, no unassessed CATZOCs and gaps are being addressed.



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Conclusions

SWAtHC is committed to carrying out forward hydrographic, cartographic and capacity building activities in a straight alignment with IHO objectives and goals. In addition, SWAtHC join efforts to coordinate nautical charts and ENCs production, harmonizing boundaries.

Action Required of IRCC9

Note this report.