

22nd MEETING OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING SUB COMMITTEE (CBSC22)

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Santa Cruz - Galapagos, Ecuador

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Introduction / Background

- Due to its importance in global oil transportation, The Persian Gulf is one of the most strategic waterways in the world .
- This region produces nearly 1/3 of the world's oil
- Holds over half of the world's crude oil reserves
- As well as more than 25% of world's natural gas reserves.

That's why the Persian Gulf known as the *world Oil Reservoir.*

Member States

- **RSAHC Region comprises of 12 Coastal States, which nine of them are the Member States:**
- **Bahrain, IR of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates,**
- **Associate Members: France, UK and the USA**
- **Observers:**
 - **Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME),**
 - **Middle East Navigation Service (MENAS),**
 - **International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), now known as the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation.**
 - **Arabian Maritime and Navigation Aids Services (AMNAS).**
- **At present, the Chair of the RSAHC is Mr. Saud Hamoud Alruways (Saudi Arabia).**



Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States

No.	Coastal State/Territory	NHC or NHCC	CB Phase 1	CB Phase 2	CB Phase 3	Last TV
1	Bahrain	-1	4	4	4	2008
2	Iran	2	4	4	4	2007
3	Iraq	-1	1	1	3	
4	Kuwait	-1	1	2	3	
5	Oman	2	4	4	4	2007
6	Pakistan	2	4	4	4	N/R
7	Qatar	-1	1	4	3	2007
8	Saudi Arabia	1	4	4	4	2007
9	United Arab Emirates	1	1	2	3	2013

Capacity Building Activities for RSAHC (Year 2024)

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries/ Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs
Technical Visit	I.R. of Iran	RSAHC CB Coordinator	Sep./Oct. 2024	IHO Technical Visit
High Level Technical Visit	Iraq	RSAHC CB Coordinator	2024	New Member of IHO in RSAHC Region
MSI Course	NIOHC & RSAHC Member States	NIOHC CB Coordinator+ RSAHC CB Coordinator	2024	Joint Activity Between RSAHC NIOHC and SAIHC
Raising awareness workshop on S- 100/S-101 (from 2021 P-11 and 2022 P-33)	NIOHC & RSAHC Member States	NIOHC CB Coordinator+ RSAHC CB Coordinator	2024	Joint Activity Between RSAHC and NIOHC (Required for Development of S-100)
Free Training courses offered by PRIMAR through its Training Portal for RENC Nations	I.R. of Iran	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2024	Courses on PRIMAR's Training Portal

Capacity Building Activities for RSAHC (Year 2025)

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries/ Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs
Technical Visit	Kuwait	RSAHCCB Coordinator	1st. Half of 2025	According to Annex A to CB Plan, had no visit
Basic S100/S101 Production Course-10 days	RSAHCMS	RSAHC CB Coordinator	2025	
MSDI and Database Management (5 days)	NIOHC & RSAHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2025	To collaborate and Combine this proposal for RSAHC and NIOHC.
MBES Processing Course	RSAHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	Second half of 2025	

Capacity Building Activities for RSAHC (Year 2026)

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries/ Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs
S101 Production Course (S-57 to S-100)	RSAHCMS + NIOHC MS	RSAHCCB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	2026	Joint Activity Required for Development of S-100
Basic ENC Production Training	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2026	UKHO has offered to provide 2 Training staff and training material (approx. Contribution €13,000)
Port and Shallow Water Survey Course (5 days)	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2026	To collaborate and Combine this proposal for RSAHC and NIOHC
Tides and Water Level Workshop	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2026	To collaborate and Combine this proposal for RSAHC and NIOHC.

Activities completed since CBSC21

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries	Responsible	Period	Held in
MSI Course	NIOHC/RSAHC	NIOHC CB Coordinator	October 2023	Oman
	5 participants from Oman, 1 participant from I.R. of Iran and 1 participant from Saudi Arabia took part in MSI Course in October 2023 in Oman.			
CAT-B course in Hydrographic Survey	I.R. of Iran	Republic of Korea	17 June to 1 November	KHOA
	Mr. Ghasem Dalir (I.R. of Iran) will participate from RSAHC region in the “CAT-B” Hydrographic Survey Program.			
Hydrographic Survey Course	I.R. of Iran	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2023	I.R. of Iran
	Conducting 2 courses on ‘Hydrographic Survey’ in national level for Iranian experts in 2023, for which Mr. Seyed Mojtaba Zarei was invited as the instructor. Mr. Zarei had attended the (Category ‘B’ Hydrographic Survey Program-in 2022), sponsored by the Republic of Korea.			

Views/Comments for additional funding

- Referring to the Action List of 9th RSAHC Meeting, held from 15-17 November 2022 in Oman, concerning views/comments for additional funding, some RSAHC MS including I.R. of Iran , Pakistan and Oman had some comments/views concerning this matter as follows:
- I.R. of Iran: Iran is ready to conduct courses for RSAHC MS under CB training programs such as:
 - Tides and Sea Level Data Collection, Analysis and Prediction (5days)
 - MSDI and Database Management (5 days)
- Pakistan: Additional funding by RSA countries is supported for willing MS. Moreover, IHO may be approaches to enhance the CB funding of RSAHC.
- Oman: Oman can provide courses such as:
 - An introductory course in charting, using PCC software (5 days)
 - Levelling course (5 days)

Activities planned for 2024

- **Technical IHO Visit to I.R. of Iran, which is planned to be executed by Nov. 2024.**
- **High Level Technical Visit to Iraq, which is planned to be executed by the end of 2024.**
- **MSI Course, as a joint activity between RSAHC and NIOHC regions**
- **Raising awareness workshop on S100/S101, as a joint activity between RSAHC and NIOHC regions**

Challenges faced in the region

- As you are all aware, political issues leave a direct impact on the outcome of RSAHC activities and decisions.
- In this region, usually some Member States are active in IHO programs, and a few of them do not participate actively in any programs at all, while some others prefer to work with adjacent regions (some Member States of RSAHC are members of NIOHC as well).
- For this reason, it is almost impossible to have integrated and up-to-date information of true capacity-building needs from all RSAHC Member States in our region.
- Now, under the chairmanship of Saudi Arabia as the RSAHC Chair, we achieve better cooperation among all the regional Member States, especially for CB training activities.

Achievements and lessons learned

- A number of the Member States have announced their training needs for the next three years through the CB Coordinator for this region,
- All Member States of RSAHC could be trained at various levels, in order to ensure a much-needed capability on hydrography and nautical cartography, promote familiarity with the methods of conducting hydrographic surveys, and improve safety of navigation through enhanced navigational products. Therefore, in most cases, we could ignore our political differences, and consider safety of navigation in our regional waters as the region's first priority.
- In line with the efforts of IHO to economize costs for the CBSC programs, the RSAHC has negotiated and planned a number of activities and trainings, to be conducted jointly with the NIOHC as the adjacent region.
- It is hoped that the planned activities, as mentioned in the RSAHC 3-Year Work Plan for CBSC (2024-26), will be conducted successfully with good results.

Conclusions

- We hope that under the chairmanship of Saudi Arabia, we can encourage the followings:
- Involvement of all Member States in the RSAHC region, and better achievement in CB programs, because it is necessary to have suitable and effective means of communication among all Member States.
- Moreover, the IHO Secretariat strongly supports the joint CB submissions in the favor of promoted cooperation between the neighbor RHCs and cost-effective use of the limited CB funds;
- For this reason, we are also keen on having joint CB programs for at least the next 3 years between RSAHC and NIOHC.

Actions required of RSAHC

- **The Capacity-Building Sub-Committee is invited to:**
 - A. note of this update of RSAHC CB 3-Year Work Plan, and**
 - B. take any actions considered appropriate.**

Thank you for your attention

