



World Hydrography Day

Tuesday, 26 June 2018

Homa Hotel, Tehran, I.R. of Iran

The Ceremony for the World Hydrography Day, following the theme "*Bathymetry; the Foundation for Sustainable Seas, Oceans and Waterways*", was held in Homa Hotel, Tehran, on 26 June 2018, hosted by the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) and attended by some 200 officials, executives, and experts active and involved in regard with hydrography.



Participants of World Hydrographic Day Ceremony in Tehran, Iran

In addition to senior executives of the member organizations of Iranian National Hydrographic Committee (responsible for producing navigational charts), the event were also attended by the Director of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), Rear Admiral (R) *Mustafa Iptes*, as well as the representative of the Norwegian Hydrographic Service and Director of PRIMAR, *Mr. Hans Christoffer Lauritzen*.



Dr. Hadi Haghshenas (PMO's Deputy Managing Director for Maritime Affairs)

The ceremony was opened by PMO's Deputy Managing Director for Maritime Affairs & Secretary of National Hydrographic Committee, *Dr. Hadi Haghshenas*, who welcomed the participants and elaborated on the measures taken by the mentioned committee and secretariat. The message of the IHO Secretary-General, *Dr. Mathias Jonas*, on the World Hydrography Day, 2018 was then recited.



Rear Admiral Mustafa Iptes (IHO Director)

As the next speaker, the IHO's Director spoke about the *Roles and Activities of the IHO and Importance of Hydrography in Line with the WHD-2018 Theme “Bathymetry; the Foundation for Sustainable Seas, Oceans and Waterways”*, and considered hydrography to be the backbone of marine sciences and maritime activities, negligence for which would result in the loss of coasts and islands, marine environment and shipping activities. He highlighted the importance of promoting awareness regarding hydrography as one of the missions of the IHO in almost 100 years of activity, as well as the capacity-building program for enabling members in hydrographic matters through visits, technical assessment and training courses. Rear Admiral Iptes then commended the role of the Iranian Ports and Maritime Organization as an active and critical IHO member in the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman, and called for higher participation of member states in hydrographic activities.



Mr. Hans Christoffer Lauritzen (PRIMAR Director)

The event continued by the speeches delivered by the Director of RPIMAR on *Regional Centers for ENC and S-100 Standards*, the Iranian National Cartographic Center (NCC) on *National Cartographic Center and Its Role in Development of Iranian Maritime Industry*, and the Head of the Iranian National Geographic Organization (NGO) on *Hydrography and Its Role in Development of Strategic Depth in I.R. of Iran*. Moreover, a number of performance reports and scientific articles were presented by members of the Iranian National Hydrographic Committee and experts of hydrography industry on the following topics:

- Standards for Hydrographic Charts of Ports;
- Introduction of the Capacity Developed in Hydrography and Oceanography Center;
- Hydrography, Producing Nautical Charts and Monitoring National Water Level Network;
- Satellite Bathymetry: Possibilities and Applications;
- Determination of depth of seabed using satellite altimeter observation and black box theory;
- Position of I.R. of Iran in International Communities and Role of PMO in Providing Regional Maritime Safety;



Mr. Rastad (Managing Director of PMO)

As the final speaker of the ceremony, *Mr. Mohammad Rastad*, the Deputy Minister of Roads and Urban Development, PMO's Managing Director and Head of the National Hydrographic Committee pointed to the importance of updating navigational charts, and the need for any changes to be communicated through notices to mariners. He noted that basic marine information had been significantly addressed at domestic and regional levels by his organization, and regional and international charts also needed to be promoted in hydrographic terms. He then called for complete coverage of appropriate charts over all the waters under the Iranian jurisdiction, as a prerequisite for facilitating navigation and promoting safety at sea as vital objectives. Mr. Rastad concluded by considering maritime transport as indispensable to global trades, and commended the efforts of responsible authorities in guaranteeing its continuity through promoted safety of navigation, marine pollution prevention and response, and reliable maritime security.



Group photo with Active Hydrographers

The ceremony for World Hydrography Day, 2018 was concluded by granting certificates of appreciation to outstanding experts and companies involved in hydrography and cartography in the Islamic Republic of Iran.



Group photo, participants of WHD 2018 in Iran



Mr Iptes during an interview with Iranian Media