

14th Steering Committee of the International Centre for ENC Distribution (IC-ENC) Bali, Indonesia 16 – 18 July 2024

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2024

Task 3.4.2 Maintain liaison with RENCs

High level summary (can be used for posting on social media. Please provide concise lists in bullet point format):

The IC-ENC Steering Committee was hosted in Bali, Indonesia from July 16-18. IC-ENC Members attended both in person and virtually. The IHO attended as an Observer and was represented by Dr. John Nyberg. There were 44 Member States in attendance, both virtually and in person.

Details:

The Chair, Captain Burak Inan (Türkiye) welcomed the participants, presented the meeting protocols, and adopted the agenda. The Chair's remarks were followed by a welcome address from VADM Budi Purwanto. VADM Purwanto welcomed the meeting participants to Indonesia and noted that they are the newest member of IC-ENC and are eager to work with the other members to improve global cooperation with regard to navigation services collectively. Admiral Angus Essenheigh then addressed the meeting, thanking the hosts and the Chair. He also expressed his appreciation for the Chair team, IC-ENC Staff, and noted the extensive agenda. Admiral Essenheigh also expressed the UKHO's continued commitment to supporting the IC-ENC and its members to address shared challenges.

The Chair presented an extensive introduction to the IC-ENC meeting, acknowledging the importance of the "opt-in" fund toward achieving the objectives for 2026. He hoped for active contribution from all Members during the SC25 meeting, noting this was an important time to shape future strategies and priorities. He stated that he believes, "those who are left behind are more important than those at the front." and commented that the SC25 discussion group format is being used to allow all voices to be heard.

New members Dubai and Thailand were welcomed to the IC-ENC, making the full membership of the IC-ENC 52. Both new members gave brief introductions and stated their enthusiasm for being new members of the IC-ENC.

James Harper (IC-ENC General Manager) reviewed the most recent status of IC-ENC actions from the last IC-ENC Steering Committee meeting. Notably, the IC-ENC Funding Project Team has made substantial progress. He then followed with a high-level overview of IC-ENC in order to set the scene regarding IC-ENC's current status, including finance and resources. The current IC-ENC folio stands at 12,650, and the number in the non-ECDIS is now about two thirds of this. A healthy IC-ENC budget was presented, including a significant midyear forecast for the "Activity Fund" budget to be used for Member benefits, e.g. standards development, and global capacity improvement. Mr. Harper emphasized the importance of the IC-ENC community and the importance of learning together. He introduced the concept

of the net promoter score, which is meant to indicate the overall success of the IC-ENC. The score has improved over the past year and was seen as an indicator of an indicator of IC-ENC membership value.

An overview of the ENC, S-100 and WENDWG environment was presented by Su Marks (IC-ENC). Ms. Marks gave an excellent overview of the work of the IHO ENCWG particularly as it relates to IC-ENC interests. The IC-ENC conversion training was highlighted as an important support opportunity for IC-ENC members. The training has taken place both in person and online. With regard to the S-100 environment and IC-ENC Services, the S-100 roadmap was presented, and the 2026 deadline was emphasized. IC-ENC recognized the importance of being able to “feed” the market with S-100 products and services as they become available. S-101, 102, 104 and 111 have been developed and built into the IC-ENC workflow tool. S-122 is in scope but currently remains outside the automated workflow. Challenges include product specifications that are at different levels of maturity, support for dual fuel production, insufficient validation tools, and a lack of test datasets. IC-ENC intends to work on all of these.

Excellent questions were presented to the IHO regarding the level of detail presented to the IC-ENC membership and the focus of their work. The IHO representative indicated that distribution has been a key concern of the future customers of S-100, including security. There was also an interest in seeing the S-100 roadmap updated on a more regular basis. The IHO representative was pleased to note the importance of the IC-ENC contribution to standards development and stated that it was a critical component of achieving S-100 progress to date.

IC-ENC presented their achievements regarding S-101 conversion training around the world through its two workshops in 2024. The IC-ENC learning cloud has also been launched and includes different types of production software training to enhance the learning experience.

The IC-ENC members broke into groups to share challenges regarding S-100 implementation with the idea that results would be included in the next iteration of the IC-ENC Strategic Plan. Challenges included everything resource limitations, need for additional training, software accessibility and readiness, and more.

Presentations from various breakout groups which discussed IC-ENC’s ENC and S-100 future services were presented. Challenges included availability of resources, advocacy information around S-100, training, and understanding of cost-benefit-advocacy strategies to name a few. Gridding and the use of production software was highlighted as an important training need. The future of distribution, particularly with regard to different product types, was discussed.

The IC-ENC agreed to support a proposal from the US to explore the possibility of supporting automated paper chart production. It also agreed to support a proposal from Türkiye to support production training for IC-ENC Members.

IC-ENC distribution and revenue management was then discussed in plenary with an overview of its current status including the current VARs. The discussion also included details about the IC-ENCs expanding ECD service for the sub-ECDIS market, indicating positive developments for distributing ENCs to markets other than ECDIS.

Belgium presented their plans for an ECD service for Belgian leisure crafts. Current Belgian law requires a paper chart or a “digital alternative” but many are using unofficial apps. A survey is underway which intends to raise awareness regarding mandatory requirements and how to access official products. It was recognized that regulatory adjustments need to be made in many places around the world in order to realize the true value of electronic charting services for the sub-ECDIS market.

IC-ENC agreed on key messages around S-100 that were aimed at IC-ENC adaptability with respect to offering new services and how they will be distributed. They then discussed a series of “Guiding Principles” which aim to put a focus on supporting a wide number of potential users, financial transparency and auditing/assurance, acting as a group, prioritizing S-100, and general IC-ENC service improvements.

The final day was reserved for decisions around operations, governance, finance, and community. The IC-ENC spent the morning discussing internal finance matters.

Türkiye gave a presentation on the results of the S-101 conversion workshop held in Istanbul earlier this year. The workshop resulted in very positive feedback and was the first training of its kind, a regional approach funded by a RENC. The need for more Phase 3 training was firmly supported by Türkiye. There was support for replicating the workshop’s approach in the future. The IC-ENC also agreed to develop proposals to support future unfunded IHO capacity building events.

IC-ENC presented their progress on secondment opportunities and future opportunities. Secondment applications for hosting secondees are welcome anytime.

The IC-ENC broke into groups to discuss potential uses of money for technical and capacity building opportunities. Some suggestions include purchasing production software for member states, Cat B cartographic training, support for IHO standards and infrastructure, and potential alternative means for distributing Member funds for the benefit of Members. There was general support for the IC-ENC to take a whole contribution approach for the “Activity Fund” and that the IC-ENC will continue its existing process for Fund proposals.

An IC-ENC Strategic Plan and priorities were discussed, and the new plan will be drafted following the meeting.

Photo



Upcoming meetings:

The next IC-ENC SC will be held in Istanbul in 2025.