

20th Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission Kisumu, Kenya September 17-20, 2024

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2024

Task 3.2.1.11

SAIHC - Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission

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

- What was discussed?
 - Priorities for the upcoming Council
 - Updates from the IHO
 - Hydrographic survey progress in the region
 - The future S-100 landscape
 - Industry opportunities and availability
 - Alternative methods for gathering hydrographic information
 - Training and capacity building
- What were the main outcomes / what was decided?
 - Mauritius was confirmed as the SAIHC S-100 Coordinator
 - Opportunities for training and capacity building were highlighted
 - The SAIHC MSDIWG was suspended and an MSDI ambassador (UK) was agreed
 - Renewed interest in crowdsourced bathymetry
 - Increased awareness of the future S-100 landscape
 - Chair and Vice-Chair were re-elected

Details:

The meeting was attended by Angola, France, Kenya, Mauritius, Norway, South Africa, Seychelles, United Kingdom, Comoros, India, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, and Tanzania. Portugal and Mozambique attended via VTC.

Admiral Angus Essenhigh (Chair) opened the meeting with a warm welcome to the SAIHC. He introduced many of the accomplishments and challenges facing the commission, received approval for the agenda, and reviewed the actions arising from SAIHC 19.

Admiral Essenhigh was followed by her Excellency, Ambassador Nancy Karigithu (Kenya) who provided the keynote address. Ambassador Karigithu welcomed all representatives to the conference, celebrating regional collaboration and successes while addressing challenges. She noted that the UKHO has provided long-standing support as Kenya's PCA, and that the IHO brings together member states to enhance safety through hydrographic collaboration. She stated that Kenya's blue economy, including oceans, rivers, and lakes, plays a vital role in national development by contributing to job creation and food security and noted that the SAHC has fostered cooperation and data sharing among member states. Looking ahead, key priorities include continued advocacy, legislative support, financial backing, and leveraging new technologies to advance hydrography in the region.



The International Chart Coordination Working Group presented an overview of the charting situation in the region, including INT and ENC development, chart overlaps and an introduction to the S-100 implementation roadmap.

The Commission's MSDI Working Group presented an updated which included a ToR refresh, a portal project. The regional MSDI WG was suspended, but the SAIHC agreed to maintain an ambassador role which will be represented by the UK.

The Capacity Building Coordinator updated the Commission on CB opportunities and progress. She highlighted the EWH project, upcoming funded training opportunities, and the capacity building work-plan.

The African Great Lakes SubWG reported on initiatives in the region, including a comprehensive IALA Lake Victoria technical mission in September 2024, a World Bank Multi phase programme in the Lake Victoria basin to include hydrographic surveys, and the submission of an IHR Technical Report.

A CSB update was delivered that focused on current activities and initiatives in the region and around the world.

National Reports were given by MS. Angola, France, Kenya, Mauritius, Norway, South Africa, UK, Seychelles, Comoros, India, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Portugal, Uganda, and Zambia. Many success stories were shared, including the completion of several hydrographic surveys in the region, new products for navigation being produced, and an increased awareness of the future S-100 landscape, to name a few.

Some of the challenges highlighted by the membership include the need for increased training in hydrography and charting, lack of equipment, the need for increased ministry level hydrographic awareness, and resources for the implementation of S-100.

The SAIHC presented a disaster response plan that started with a form for collecting contact information to respond to disasters. They also received an update regarding WWNWS, including significant events and challenges including the current broadcasting of warnings and countries which are not submitting warnings for a variety of reasons, including trouble with transmissions, lack of training, and lack of transmission stations. SANHO is planning an MSI eLearning package and SAIHC MS were encouraged to participate.

Relevant International Organizations, including IALA, the South African Hydrographic Society, GEBCO, KMFIR, and the Maritime Organization for Eastern, Southern, and Northern Africa (MOESNA) presented updates. A few highlights included, IALA's transformation to an Intergovernmental Organization. Of special note, data was contributed to KMFIR as part of their data mining exercise, and MOESNA was supportive regarding their members becoming IHO members. MOESNA and IHO agreed to investigate an MOU similar to the MOWCA/IHO arrangement.

Industry presentations were provided which highlighted the availability of industry led opportunities and technology.

The Commission discussed their priorities for the IRCC and Council, noting the importance of capacity building and increased hydrographic data collection, including satellite derived and crowdsourced bathymetry. The Commission's visit to the Uhuru II during the meeting was highlighted as an important awareness building activity for the commission. It expanded the group's understanding of the importance and status of hydrography on the African Great Lakes.

A presentation from the SAIHC S-100 Coordinator was given with a recommended pathway for implementation. Specific importance was given to the need for national implementation plans and S-100 capacity building in the region.

Both IC-ENC and Primar presented their current status and capabilities, including training and membership opportunities.

The Commission held an election for Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The UK was re-elected as Chair and Mauritius was re-elected as Vice-Chair.





Sibonelo Dlamini (South Africa), Victoria Obura (Kenya), Ambassador Nancy Karigithu (Kenya), Dr John Nyberg (IHO)

Upcoming meetings:

The next meeting will be from 15-18 September 2025 in Reunion, France.