

15th Meeting of East Asia Hydrographic Commission Conference Jakarta, Indonesia 17 – 18 September 2025

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2025

Task 3.2.1.3

Prepare for and report meetings of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions:
EAHC - East Asia Hydrographic Commission

High Level Summary:

The 15th Conference of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC-C15) was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 17 to 18 September 2025, in a hybrid format. The meeting aimed to review past activities, plan future initiatives, strengthen collaboration, and enhance capacity among EAHC Member States.

Key outcomes included updates from the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), the approval of most amendments to the EAHC Statutes, endorsement of the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) for the EAHC Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (MSDIWG), and decisions regarding future leadership. The meeting also discussed ongoing membership matters and set the stage for continued discussions at the next conference.

The EAHC Chair was officially handed over to China, with the Republic of Korea elected as Vice-Chair. Both positions will serve a three-year term.

Details:

On behalf of the IHO Secretariat, Assistant Director Yong BAEK provided updates on current IHO activities and strategic priorities.

- The S-100 Phase 1 Product Specifications (S-101, S-102, S-104, S-111, S-124, S-128, and S-129) have reached operational edition.
- Regional S-100 Coordinators were encouraged to submit their Phase 1 coverage plans via INTO-GIS III, if available.
- Upcoming key IHO events were noted:
 - 9th IHO Council Meeting: 14–16 October 2025
 - 4th IHO Assembly: 19–23 April 2026, Auditorium Rainier III, Monaco
- The IHO requested updates to EAHC P-5 and C-55 data.

The Commission reviewed the proposed amendments to the EAHC Statutes. All articles, except two, were approved unanimously.

- Articles are under discussion:
 - Article 1, Paragraph 1: Definition of the EAHC Hydrographic Commission
 - Article 2, Paragraph 2: Procedure for new Member State admission

For Article 1, four options were presented for consideration; *Opt1) Maintain the current wording, Opt2) Add INT Chart region number, Opt3) Use only INT Chart region number, and Opt4) Include all sea area names*. Further deliberation on these two articles will continue at the next EAHC Conference in 2026.

The Commission noted that the EAHC membership application of Viet Nam is still under review by China, which has already been endorsed by other EAHC Member States, and agreed to continue deliberations with the aim of finalizing the decision at the next conference where China will be the Chair.

The Commission approved the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) of the EAHC Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Working Group (MSDIWG). Key updates include the incorporation of virtual meeting options to enhance operational efficiency, the clarification of the Chair and Vice-Chair election process, and the inclusion of the Chair's ambassadorial role within the Working Group.

The Chair of the EAHC was officially handed over to China, and the Republic of Korea was elected as Vice-Chair. The new leadership will serve for a three-year term.

Photo



Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting of the EAHC Conference (EAHC-C16) will be held from 3th to 5th February 2026 in Tokyo, Japan.