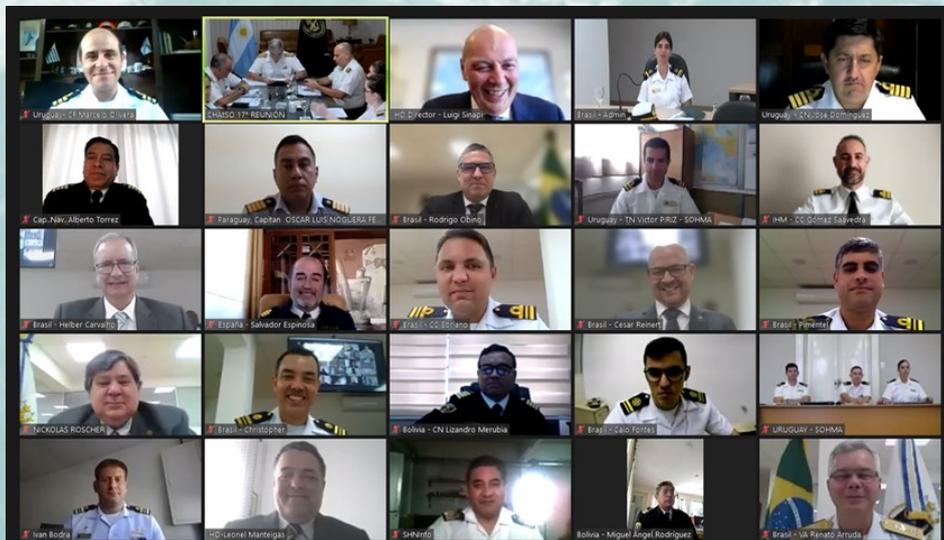


17TH MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST ATLANTIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SWATHC17) VTC, 14-15 March

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023	
Task 3.2.1.13	Prepare for and report meetings of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC): SWAtHC

The 17th meeting of the South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (SWAtHC-17) was held in virtual format from 14 to 15 March 2023. The meeting was chaired by Commodore Valentín Alejandro Sanz Rodríguez (Argentina) and attended by 39 registered participants. All IHO Member States of the Commission (Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay) were represented, as well as the Associate Member State, Paraguay and the Observer State, Bolivia. In addition, Spain and Portugal participated at the meeting as invited States. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Director Luigi Sinapi and Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas.



Some participants at SWAtHC17

The SWAtHC-17 meeting was opened by the Chair, Commodore Valentín Alejandro Sanz Rodríguez (Argentina), who welcomed the participants, highlighting the good participation from all the States of the SWAtHC (Members, Associate and Observer) and the invited States (Spain and Portugal).

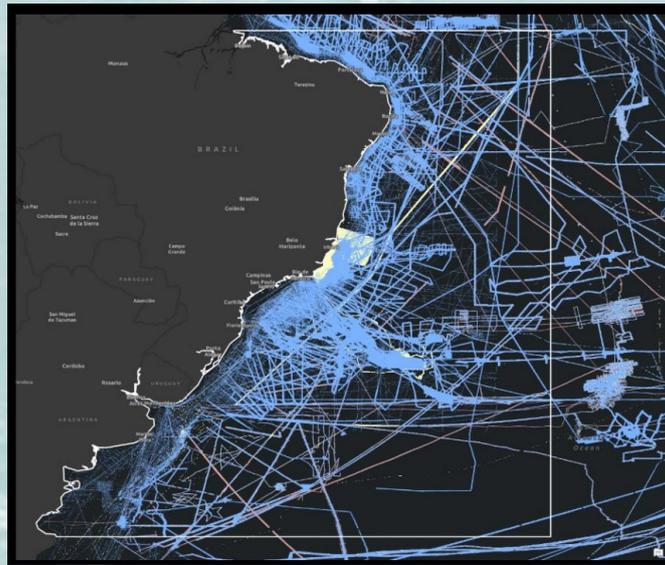
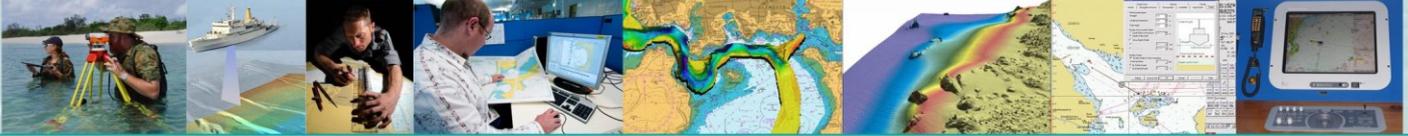


IHO Director Luigi Sinapi expressed his gratitude to Argentina for chairing the meeting, mentioning that the SWAtHC-17 meeting represents a unique opportunity before the all-important appointment of the 3rd Session of the IHO Assembly planned in May 2023. The results of the meeting could serve the SWAtHC's Chair to refine and better calibrate the positions of the Regional Commission to be brought to the Assembly, as an example of strong internal cohesion and joint vision on very important issues, first and foremost the S-100 Implementation Roadmap. Director Sinapi provided also the IHO Secretariat Report, mentioning the most important achievements in IHO outreach, the new IHO projects and how the preparations of the 3rd Session of the IHO Assembly are proceeding. With reference to the Assembly, the Commission will soon formalize Brazil as its representative to the next IHO Council 2023-2025, in accordance with the IHO CL 43Rev1/2022.

The meeting proceeded with the update on the outcomes of the 6th Council, the Capacity Building activities carried out and planned in the Regional Commission and the last meeting of WWNWS subcommittee. With reference to Capacity Building, the focus was on the planning for the years 2023 and 2024 and the results of the activities conducted in 2022, with particular reference to the high-level visit and the technical visit to Bolivia, carried out respectively by the IHO Secretariat and the SWAtHC Chair. From the visits, the Plurinational State of Bolivia confirmed that it has a well-developed Hydrographic Service ready to officially join the IHO. In this regard, Bolivia's representative confirmed that it has initiated all internal steps for formal membership of the IHO. With reference to the WWNWS, the Chair of the SWAtHC expressed the Commission's reservations about the mandatory use of the new satellite communication system recognised by IMO for the provision of GMDSS services, highlighting not only problems related to the costs of the new system, but also to possible errors in the transmission of MSI information.

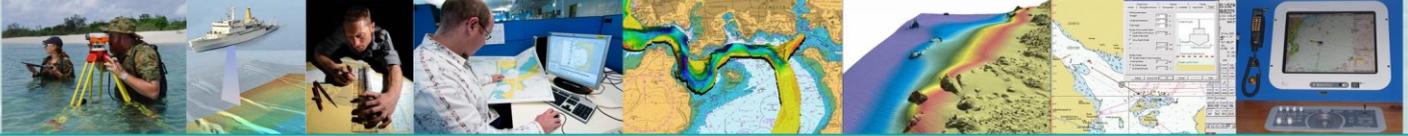
The national Reports of the five SWAtHC States present (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia) and the invited States (Spain and Portugal), highlighted the excellent collaboration and mutual support in the hydrographic and cartographic sectors within the Region, the very high level of attention to South America's inland waters and the necessary lines of communication required to improve the ports and their operation.

During the meeting an update on the activities of GEBCO, Crowd Source Bathymetry (CSB) and Seabed2030 was provided by the CSB/GEBCO/Seabed2030 Regional Coordinator, highlighting that the coastal States of the Region actively contribute to the GEBCO programme, through the regular submission of existing bathymetric data in national databases and new data from hydrographic campaigns.



SWAtHC's GEBCO 2022 plus newly contributed data

Following the recommendations of the Worldwide ENC Database Working Group (WENDWG), the Planning Committee of SWAtHC (a Committee established during the second meeting of the Commission in 2008 and composed of one representative of each SWAtHC Member's Hydrographic Office) assumed the role of S-1xx Coordinator and will report to the next WENDWG about the implementation of S-100 Products implementation Roadmap at regional level. The need to generate a regional implementation plan for the S-100 products was raised with the premise of RHC's members giving support to each other. The Committee developed a questionnaire to assess the main strengths and weaknesses of the HOs, in order to develop the respective national implementation plan. The questionnaire was based on three main axis: existence of implementation plans at the HO's level, technological needs and training needs. According to the answers provided by the HOs, it was concluded that none of the SWAtHC's HOs have an agency-wide implementation plan for S100 products, 66% of the HOs will start working with S-102 in the short term, 66% of the HOs have already tested the transformation from S-57 to S-101 products, and 100% of the HOs estimate the probable year of implementation of S-101 (generate S-57 and S-101 products) from 2026/2027, considering that one of the main obstacles is not having specialised personnel. In order to find solutions to the latter, an initial regional Implementation Plan was approved by the Commission to start production of the S-101 in the period 2026/2027.





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**COMISIÓN HIDROGRÁFICA DEL ATLÁNTICO
SUDOCCIDENTAL (CHAtSO)**
17ª Reunión (14 y 15 de marzo de 2023)



ANEXO F – PLAN DE IMPLEMENTACIÓN DE PRODUCTOS S-100

AÑO	TAREA	OBSERVACIONES
2023	Reuniones de coordinación entre SSHH y gestión de capacitación ante OHI e IC-ENC.	En forma remota
	Obtención de herramientas software.	SSHH
2024	Capacitación S-101	Apoyado por OHI e IC-ENC
2025	Prácticas en producción o conversión a S-101 Intercambio de pasantías entre SSHH sobre producción de S-101.	Apoyado por OHI e IC-ENC
2026/2027	Iniciar producción de S-101	Inicio de "Dual Fuel"

Cabe destacar que el carácter de este plan es inicial y se continuará trabajando en el desarrollo del mismo, de acuerdo a los avances que se obtengan en esta primera etapa.

Initial regional S-100 implementation plan

The Commission agreed that Brazil will assume the chair of the SWAtHC at the end of April 2023, in accordance with the Commission's statutes. The next SWAtHC18 meeting will take place in Buenos Aires (Argentina) between 10 and 24 March 2024 (exact dates to be defined).