

**3<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY****Monaco, 2-5 May 2023****REPORT OF THE****IHO HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION ON ANTARCTICA**

1. **Chair:** Dr. Mathias Jonas, IHO Secretariat  
**Vice-Chair:** Patrick Dorr, USA  
**Secretary:** Yves Guillam, IHO Secretariat  
**Region M ENC/INT Chart Coordinator:** Lee Truscott, UK
2. **Membership of full Members:**  
  
Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Korea (Rep. of), New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA, Venezuela
3. **Meetings:**  
  
HCA17: Video Conference 14 June 2021  
HCA18: Hybrid event, 24 - 26 May 2022, Berlin, Germany, in conjunction with the XLIV Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM).  
HCA-19: Planned in Italy, 27-29 March 2024 (*dates to be confirmed*).
4. **Agenda Items:**
  - a) Revision of HCA Statutes
  - b) Assessment of the adequacy of INT Chart and ENC coverage on the Maritime Shipping Routes around the Antarctic Peninsula
  - c) Presentation of respective National Polar Strategic Plans
  - d) Bathymetric data sharing
  - e) S-100 Implementation Roadmap for the region
  - f) Recognition of the Southern Ocean
  - g) Contribution to the management of effects of climate change in the region
5. **Difficulties encountered and challenges yet to be addressed:**
  - a) Set up of regular data service provisions for the Priority 1 S1xx data products to meet the timelines of the S-100 Implementation Roadmap (PRO 1.1 refers) and the introduction of S-100 Dual Fuel ECDIS based on IMO requirements (PRO 2.1 refers).
  - b) Involvement of the IHO in general, and HCA in particular, on scientific matters in relation to climate change.
  - c) Practical and coordinated implementation of the good will and statements collected in ATCM Resolutions focused on hydrography.

## 6. Achievements/outputs/conclusions:

- a) HCA Statutes are now fully aligned with the IHO Resolution 2/1997 - Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC), the Antarctic Treaty System<sup>1</sup>, the last ATCM Resolutions and the IHO Strategic Plan 2021-2026.
- b) Proposed change of Art. 8.e of the General Regulations of the IHO (A3 PRO 3.3 refers).
- c) Establishment an HCA S-100 Implementation Working Group. Distribution of work among HCA member on the governance and production strategies for the top priority S-100 based products (S-101, S-102, S-104, S-111, S-122, S-124, S-128, and S-411).
- d) New straightforward procedure to submit survey coverage metadata for being displayed in HCA GIS maintained by the IHO Secretariat.
- e) Proposal of an IHO Resolution addressing the recognition of the Southern Ocean (PRO 3.3 refers).
- f) Analysis of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) **Recommendations for Action** available in their recent report: *Antarctic Climate and the Environment: A Decadal Synopsis and Recommendations for Action*.
- g) Call towards to all remaining IHO Member States, who are Parties to the Antarctic Treaty (Consultative or Non-Consultative Status) to join the HCA (in progress at the date of this report).
- h) Significant increase of new assets (Polar research vessels) for collecting data in Antarctica.
- i) Close relationship with the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat (in charge of ATCM meetings).

## 7. **Actions required of the Assembly:**

- a) **Note** the report of the IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica;
- b) **Commend** Mr Lee Truscott, Chair of the HCA Hydrographic Priority Working Group and ENC / INT Chart Coordinator for his outstanding achievements and sustainable support;
- c) **take any other action** considered appropriate.

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<sup>1</sup> Antarctic Treaty, Article III 1.(c) states that “*scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available*”.