

18th MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
IHO-CBSC18
Virtual meeting, 2 - 3 June 2020

Paper for Consideration by CBSC18

[Chairman Report]

<i>Submitted by:</i>	CSBC Chair
<i>Executive Summary:</i>	Chairman report
<i>Related Documents:</i>	
<i>Related Projects:</i>	

1. Introduction / Background

First, I would like to highlight that Capacity Building is still and probably even more in focus of the IHO Secretariat and the Member States. The work of the CBSC progresses steadily. At the same time new demands and unsolved issues are on our list of work items. The report will concentrate on the main topics since the last meeting in Genoa, Italy.

2. Analysis/Discussion

a. Strategy

The revised Capacity Building Strategy still proves to be very efficient and the implementation of the regulations layed down there are very helpful in the progress of our CB work. The revision of the IHO Strategic Plan and the progress in S-100 place some demands on our strategic focus, but in my view the CB Strategy already reflects these aspects.

b. Council 3

At the third council meeting in October 2019 in Monaco CB played as always an important role and it is obvious that our work is being particularly appreciated and seen as one of the major strategic endeavors of the IHO. Nevertheless some discussions where initiated by the approach from CBSC via IRCC to increase CB funds. Some scenarios for fund raising where discussed and forwarded to Assembly 2. Although the CBSC approach raised some questions on the current way of allocation the CB funds, it also caused a fruitful discussion that raised the awareness of our limitations.

c. CB Funds

Capacity Building in Hydrography is an issue for almost all countries. The CB fund itself becomes important especially for the countries that can not do this capacity development without support. The direct funds are limited and less than needed. To deal with that deficit we have to stick strictly to our strategy and regulations. Some submissions will be on a waiting list as usual until further funds are possibly available. In addition we will have to consider the following years as well when deciding on the allocation of the funds, especially in regard to the impact of Covid-19.

d. Impact of Covid-19 to CB

The pandemic situation disturbs the CB work programme heavily. Some trainings will have to be adapted, postponed or even cancelled. I expect a higher demand of funds in the following years to catch up again. This situation will put a lot of pressure on the remote learning techniques. New methods have to be developed. This doesn't have to be e-learning as such, but can comprise all different uses of digital communication from provision of documents to virtual classrooms and webinars. Maybe we can attract designated funds for these developments.

e. ROK's proposal on the IHO e-learning center

Much more related to the former paragraph than surely expected is the proposal on the IHO e-learning center from ROK. The Pro 3.3 to Assembly 2 was made by the Republic of Korea in December 2019. With the postponement of A-2 we will have the opportunity to discuss this proposal at CBSC-18 and provide our input to Council 4 via IRCC.

f. Contribution from the Republic of Korea and Nippon Foundation to the Capacity Building

The extraordinary generous ongoing contribution from Nippon Foundation and ROK have been one major factor in the success of CB. I am very confident to sustain the fruitful cooperation with both.

3. Conclusions

CB is operative and developing with room for further improvement.

4. Recommendations

Adjust CB to the new impact of the pandemic situation and regarding the implementation of the revised IHO Strategic Plan.

5. Action Required of CBSC

The CBSC is invited to note the report.

Thomas Dehling
CBSC Chair