

**20<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE**  
**IHO-CBSC20**  
**Online meeting, 1-3 June 2022**

**Paper for the Consideration by CBSC20**

**SWPHC Report**

|                           |                                                                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Submitted by:</b>      | SWPHC CB Coordinator                                                   |
| <b>Executive Summary:</b> | This document provides a summary report of the CB activities at SWPHC. |
| <b>Related Documents:</b> | SWPHC CB Plan 2022-2024                                                |
| <b>Related Projects:</b>  | Hydrographic Leaders Programme                                         |

### **1. Introduction / Background**

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) are geographically remote and fragmented; they face a major development challenge in achieving safe, reliable, and efficient connectivity within the region and with the rest of the world. The maritime sector plays a key role in supporting economic growth and development in PICTs by facilitating trade and commerce and by improving people's ability to travel for health, education, employment, and to interact with other communities.

### **2. Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States**

The table in Annex A provides an assessment of Capacity Building for the Pacific Islands and Territories in the region, in accordance with the CB Procedure 11.

### **3. Activities completed since CBSC19**

- Australia – Naval Officer graduated University of Southern Mississippi CAT A program; Aug 2021
- Indonesia – Naval Officer graduated U.S. Navy IHMEP CAT B; Aug 2021
- Fiji – Republic of Fiji Navy completed HM Common Time Course at HMS DRAKE
- USA – Facilitated a virtual Extratropical Surge and Tide Operational Forecast System (ESTOFS) Webinar; Oct 2021
- SWPHC – Facilitated an S-100 workshop; Oct 2021; Commenced the Hydrographic Leaders Programme; Feb 2022

### **4. Activities planned for 2022 & 2023**

- (CBSC18 P-06) MSI Regional Workshop – Planning underway to hold a virtual event in late 2022
- (CBSC18 P-07) Technical Workshop on Hydrographic Governance. Planned to be held in conjunction with SWPHC20, February 2023.
- Indonesia – February 2022; Naval Officer commenced U.S. Navy International Hydrographic Management and Engineering Program (IHMEP CAT B)
- Hydrographic Leaders Programme continuation

### **5. Challenges faced in the region**

- Regional COVID-19 travel restrictions
- Large geographical extent of SWPHC region; expensive travel and limited opportunities to meet.
- Capacity of the Capacity Builders; More is being asked of the RHC Office holders, which

impacts delivery of their own HO and RHC based activities.

- Encouraging PICTs to assume leadership roles and engage with broader RHC issues

## **6. Achievements and lessons learned**

In February 2022, SWPHC commenced its inaugural Hydrographic Leaders Programme. This programme, fully funded by SWPHC MS contributions, is designed to identify potential future leaders from within the region; expose them to senior mentors and international hydrographic officials; teach them communication and executive “soft” skills; and prepare them for leadership roles within their governments, the SWPHC, and IHO. This initial programme runs February through August 2022 with future year options, including IHO sponsorship, under consideration.

Virtual events, while sufficient to carry on routine RHC business, are not effective in communicating complex capacity building efforts, many of which rely on the forging and growth of lasting personal and professional relationships. The SWPHC strategy of preceding its annual meeting with a CB workshop has proved very beneficial and is planned to be used for the next two annual meetings.

## **7. Conclusions:**

SWPHC, in collaboration with other international, regional and bi-lateral partners, is committed to carrying forward hydrographic, nautical cartographic and capacity building activities in close alignment with IHO objectives and goals.

## **8. Actions required of CBSC:**

The CBSC is invited to:

- a. Consider a SWPHC request to defer and carry over previously approved (CBSC18 P-07) Technical Workshop on Hydrographic Governance until 2023 (icw SWPHC20) and (CBSC19 P-05) Workshop on Disaster Response until 2024 (icw SWPHC21).
- b. note the report
- c. note SWPHC’s commitment in carrying forward hydrographic, nautical cartographic and capacity building activities in close alignment with IHO objectives and goals
- d. take any action consider appropriate.

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Annex A: Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States (Excel file)