

21st MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
IHO-CBSC21
June 2023

Paper for the Consideration by CBSC21

North Indian Ocean HC Report

Submitted by:	NIOHC CB Coordinator
Executive Summary:	This document provides a summary report of the CB activities at NIOHC.
Related Documents:	NIOHC CB Plan 2022-2024 NIOHC CB Plan 2023-2025
Related Projects:	

1. Introduction / Background

A three-year plan for CB activity in the NIOHC region was approved by the membership in August 2022 and updated and approved in February 2023. This plan covers the period 2023-2025 and is reviewed annually (during NIOHC meetings) to ensure it meets regional requirements. The plan is based on assessing the phase of development of each of the coastal states within the NIOHC region (as determined by the IHO's four phases of CB) and arranging training activity to build the necessary capability to meet SOLAS treaty obligations. There is a great deal of 'SOLAS awareness' required in this region.

The 2023-2025 workplan looks to develop the coastal states in the region as new challenges and opportunities are faced by the RHC such as emerging standards and technologies. Capacity Building support is critical for the region following the long term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic which has seen national funding diverted.

2. Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States

NIOHC Counties/Territories Capacity Building Phase Stage

Reference: http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/CB/CBA_TechnicalVisits.htm

	Country / Territory	NHC or NHCC	CB Phase 1	CB Phase 2	CB Phase 3	Last TV
1	Bangladesh	-1	4	4	4	2012
2	British Indian Ocean Territories	-1	4	4	4	N/R
3	Djibouti	-1	-1	3	3	N/R
4	Egypt	-1	4	4	3/4	
5	Eritrea	-1	0	0	3	
6	India	-1	4	4	4	N/R
7	Israel	-1	4	4	4	2014
8	Jordan	-1	1	1	3	
9	Maldives	-1	-1	3	3	2008*
10	Mauritius	-1	3	3	3	2012
11	Myanmar	-1	4	4	3/4	2008*
12	Oman	2	4	4	3/4	2007

13	Pakistan	-1	4	4	4	N/R
14	Saudi Arabia	-1	4	4	3/4	2007
15	Seychelles	2	4	3	3	2012
16	Somalia	-1	-1	0	3	
17	Sri Lanka	-1	4	4	3/4	2014
18	Sudan	-1	1	1	3	2007
19	Thailand	-1	4	4	4	2008*
20	Yemen	-1	-1	1	3	2007

* IOC/IHO (IO COAST-MAP Joint project) consolidated report

KEY

1. The numerical grid below describes the status of the National Hydrographic Committee (NHC)/National Hydrographic Coordination Committee (NHCC):

Value	Assessment
-1	No information available
0	The country does not have a NHC/NHCC
1	The country is in the process of establishing a NHC/NHCC
2	The country has established a NHC/NHCC

2. The numerical grid below applies to the Phases:

Value	Assessment
-1	No information available
0	The country is unaware of its national obligations
1	The country is aware of its national obligations but does not have the means to do it
2	The country has the ability to fulfil national obligations
3	The country fulfils its national obligations through a third party
4	The country fulfils its national obligations in a sustainable manner

Note: the assessment represented by 3 is an alternative to 4 as explained in the IHO's Capacity Building Strategy

3. Those coastal states with a mature hydrographic service and consequently don't require a technical visit are marked as N/R (not required)

3. Activities completed since CBSC20

- Seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography - Bali, Indonesia August 2022

Attended by representatives from: Maldives, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka.

The Seminar focused on S-100 and was supported by the IHO, IMO and IALA as part of the UN goal 'three delivered as one' as well as a number of Subject Matter Experts from IHO Member States. The Seminar enabled a discussion around the challenges and opportunities that the implementation of S-100 will bring. The funded attendees not only delivered strong contributions during the Seminar, they also greatly enriched the discussions during plenary. The Seminar was held as a hybrid event for the region. This robust VTC capability enabled global S-100 experts to present and Member States unable to attend in person to contribute to the discussions.

- Technical Visit – Maldives (Cancelled)

Activity was cancelled and the funds reallocated via the IHO CB Workplan.

4. Activities planned for 2023

- MSI Course - Scheduled for October and hosted by Oman. Due to the delay in the completion of important MSI Courses within the region due to the impact of COVID this will be a combined MSI Course that will be attended by participants from the neighbouring RHCs.
- Seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography (request to be carried over to 2024WP) – To precede the next NIOHC plenary meeting.
- Regional CB Analysis work and CB Workshop – A review of current regional capability and identification of opportunities for collaboration will be conducted. Analysis will be supported by a workshop to develop the ongoing Regional Workplan.

5. Challenges faced in the region

The Indian Ocean provides major sea routes connecting the Middle East, Africa, and East Asia with Europe and the Americas. It carries a particularly heavy traffic of petroleum and petroleum products from the oilfields of the Persian Gulf and Indonesia. Every year some 100,000 cargo ships pass through the Indian Ocean, as well as 66% of the world's oil shipments. Large reserves of hydrocarbons are being tapped in the offshore areas of Saudi Arabia, Iran and India. An estimated 40% of the world's offshore oil production comes from the Indian Ocean. Beach sands rich in heavy minerals and offshore placer deposits are actively exploited by bordering countries, particularly India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. For these reasons, it is crucial that SOLAS contracting Governments undertake hydrographic surveys as and when required, that they arrange for the compilation and publication of hydrographic data, the dissemination and keeping up to date of all nautical information necessary for safe navigation.

The Indian Ocean continues to face significant environmental challenges such as cyclones causing devastation and disruption. Having a comprehensively trained community in phase I activity supports robust reporting in the lead up to, and after these environmental impacts. The IHO funded MSI courses will support development in this area and aim to encourage participating countries to develop robust procedures and succession plans to provide long term security.

One of the most significant challenges the NIOHC faces is engaging with some of the Red Sea maritime states, some of whom remain out of communication. Much work is required in building and developing sustainable Hydrographic Services in these states. IHO CB Support such as the Hydrographic Awareness Seminars promote engagement. Very few of these Red Sea states are IHO members so do not qualify for the higher-level training opportunities.

6. Achievements and lessons learned

There is close coordination between the NIOHC CB Coordinator and their counterpart in the RSAHC, with CB activities being conducted regionally where possible. This coordination will allow greater benefits to be realized from the CB fund and allow for a wider exchange of knowledge.

The PCA nations have been very active within the region, helping to build capability.

7. Conclusions:

Regional activities are important to enable greater engagement in the region and a sharing of information and experience.

The Indian and UK Government's contribution to regional capacity building has augmented the IHO's efforts and undoubtedly improved both the education and data gathering regionally.

A CB Plan for 2023-2025 has been drafted and looks to develop the coastal states in the region as new challenges and opportunities are faced by the RHC. The plan will be reviewed regularly in consideration of the New standards that will be implemented that will call for a review of the products and services coastal states provide and new technologies that will begin to change the maritime industry but will require different technical skills to utilise.

8. Actions required of CBSC:

The CBSC is invited to:

- a. note the report
- c. take any action considered appropriate.

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