

21st MEETING OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING SUB COMMITTEE (CBSC21)

7-9 June 2023, Tokyo, Japan

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Introduction / Background

- Due to its importance in global oil transportation, The Persian Gulf is one of the most strategic waterways in the world .
- This region produces nearly 1/3 of the world's oil
- Holds over half of the world's crude oil reserves
- As well as more than 25% of world's natural gas reserves.

That's why the Persian Gulf known as the *world Oil Reservoir.*

Member States

- RSAHC Region comprises of 12 Coastal States, which nine of them are the Member States:
- Bahrain, IR of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates,
- Associate Members: France, UK and the USA
- Observers:
 - Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME),
 - Middle East Navigation Service (MENAS),
 - International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), now known as the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation.
 - Arabian Maritime and Navigation Aids Services (AMNAS).
- At present, the Chair of the RSAHC is Captain Yahya Mohammed AL BALUSHI (Oman) and the Vice-Chair of RSAHC is from Saudi Arabia.

Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States (Year 2023)

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries/ Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs
Technical Visit	I.R. of Iran	RSAHCCB Coordinator	Nov. 2023	Joint Visit Between IHO & IALA
S-101 Production Course	RSAHC & NIOHC Member States	NIOHC CB Coordinator	2023	Joint Activity Between RSAHC And NIOHC
MSI Course	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	Nov. 2023	Joint Activity Between RSAHC NIOHC and SAIHC

Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States (Year 2024)

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries/Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs
Technical Implementation Visit	Iraq	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2024	New member of IHO in RSAHC Region
MSI Course	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	2024	Joint Activity Between RSAHC And NIOHC
Raising awareness workshop on S-100/S-101 (from 2021 P-11 and 2022 P-33)	RSAHC + (NIOHC)	RSAHC CB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	2024	Joint Activity Required for Development of S-100
S101 Production Course (S-57- to S-100)	RSAHCMS+ NIOHCMS	RSAHCCB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	2024	Joint Activity Required for Development of S-100
MSDI and Database Management (5days)	RSAHC (& NIOHC) Member and Associate Members	RSAHC/NIOHC CB Coordinator	2024	In conjunction with NIOHC. To build on virtual MSDI Training delivered on Jan.2020
MBES Processing Course	RSAHC & NIOHC Member States	RSAHCCB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	Second Half of 2024	In conjunction With NIOHC

Assessment of Capacity Building Phase Stage of Coastal States (Year 2025)

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries/ Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs
Technical Visit	Kuwait	RSAHCCB Coordinator	1st. Half of 2025	According to Annex A to CB Plan, had no visit
S-57 to S-100 Conversion Course	RSAHCMS+ NIOHCMS	RSAHC CB Coordinator + NIOHC Coordinator	2025	Joint Activity Required for Development of S-100
Basic ENC Production Training	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2025	UKHO has offered To provide 2 Training staff and training material (approx. Contribution €13,000)
Port and Shallow Water Survey Course (5 days)	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2025	To collaborate and Combine this proposal for RSAHC and NIOHC.
Tides and Water Level Workshop	RSAHC & NIOHC Members	RSAHCCB Coordinator	2025	To collaborate and Combine this proposal for RSAHC and NIOHC.

Activities completed since CBSC20

Activity	Beneficiaries Countries	Responsible	Period	Held in
GEOMAC CAT B course	Bahrain	IHO- Nippon Foundation	At present	Taunton, UK.
Online learning materials (“Fundamentals of Chart Production” and “MSDI Fundamentals”), etc...	I.R. of Iran, Oman and Saudi Arabia	IHO e-Learning Center	Since CBSC20	KHOA
CAT-B course in Cartography	Oman	RSAHCCB Coordinator	Aug. till Dec. 2022	UKHO
Master Degree Program in GIS	Oman	-	September 2023	Malaysia
CAT-A course in Hydrography	Oman	RSAHCCB Coordinator	have completed in Oct. 2022	UK
Online ENC technical conference	Bahrain			IC ENC
CAT-B course in Nautical Cartography	Oman, Saudi Arabia	Republic of Korea	19 Jun. to 03 Nov. 2023	Republic of Korea

Note: Mr. Abdullah Ali Saleh Al Balushi from Oman and Mr. Ali Farhan S Alzahrani from Saudi Arabia will participate from RSAHC region in the “CAT-B” course in Nautical Cartography

Views/Comments for additional funding

- Referring to the Action List of 9th RSAHC Meeting, held from 15-17 November 2022 in Oman, concerning views/comments for additional funding, some RSAHC MS including I.R. of Iran , Pakistan and Oman had some comments/views concerning this matter as follows:
- I.R. of Iran: Iran is ready to conduct courses for RSAHC MS under CB training programs such as:
 - Tides and Sea Level Data Collection, Analysis and Prediction (5days)
 - MSDI and Database Management (5 days)
- Pakistan: Additional funding by RSA countries is supported for willing MS. Moreover, IHO may be approaches to enhance the CB funding of RSAHC.
- Oman: Oman can provide courses such as:
 - An introductory course in charting, using PCC software (5 days)
 - Levelling course (5 days)

Activities planned for 2023

- **Technical Joint IHO/IALA Visit from I.R. of Iran, which is planned to be done by Nov.2023.**
- **S-101 Production Course, as a joint activity between RSAHC and NIOHC regions**
- **MSI Course, as a joint activity between RSAHC and NIOHC regions in November 2023. (In Oman)**

Challenges faced in the region

- As you are all aware, political issues leave a direct impact on the outcome of RSAHC activities and decisions.
- In this region, usually three or four Member States are highly active in IHO programs, and some do not participate actively in any programs at all, while some others prefer to work with adjacent regions (some Member States of RSAHC are members of NIOHC as well).
- For this reason, it is almost impossible to have integrated and up-to-date information of true capacity-building needs from all RSAHC Member States in our region.
- I hope that under the chairmanship of Oman as the RSAHC Chair, and Saudi Arabia as the RSAHC Vice Chair, we would achieve better cooperation between all the regional Member States, specially for CB training activities.

Achievements and lessons learned

- A number of the Member States have announced their training needs for the next three years
- Through the CB Coordinator for this region, all Member States of RSAHC could be trained at various levels, in order to ensure a much needed capability on hydrography and nautical cartography, promote familiarity with the methods of conducting hydrographic surveys, and improve safety of navigation through enhanced navigational products. Therefore, in most cases, we could ignore our political differences, and consider safety of navigation in our regional waters as the region's first priority.
- In line with the efforts of IHO to economize costs for the CBSC programs, the RSAHC has negotiated and planned a number of activities and trainings, to be conducted jointly with the NIOHC as the adjacent region.
- It is hoped that the planned activities, as mentioned in the RSAHC 3-Year Work Plan for CBSC (2023-25), will be conducted successfully, and result in the projected outcomes.

Conclusions

- **With the election of Oman as the RSAHC Chair and Saudi Arabia as the Vice Chair at present, we hope to encourage the followings:**
- **Involvement of all Member States in the RSA region, and have better achievement in CB programs, because it is necessary to have excellent and effective means of communication between all Member States.**
- **Moreover, the IHO Secretariat strongly supports joint CB submissions in the favor of promoted cooperation between the neighbor RHCs and cost-effective use of the limited CB funds.**
- **For this reason, I am also keen to have joint CB programs for at least the next 3 years between RSAHC and NIOHC.**

Actions required of RSAHC

- The Capacity-Building Sub-Committee is invited to:
 - A. take note of this update of RSAHC CB 3-Year Work Plan, and
 - B. take any actions considered appropriate.

Thank you for your attention

