

**22nd MEETING OF THE IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE
IHO-CBSC22
Santa Cruz Island - Galapagos, Ecuador, 5-7 June 2024**

Paper for Consideration by CBSC22

**Addressing Challenges in MBSHC Activities and Supporting IHO Strategic Plan
Objective 1**

Submitted by:	MBSHC CB Coordinator
Executive Summary:	<p>The MBSHC is making great strides in meeting the requirements of Phase 1, and we are excited to see it continue to grow and evolve. While there are still some challenges in meeting the requirements of Phase 2 and 3 activities, we are confident that with the right support, it will soon be fully equipped to meet these new demands.</p> <p>In addition, we recognize the importance of supporting IHO Strategic Plan Goal 1, which emphasizes enhancing hydrographic support to improve the safety and efficiency of maritime navigation in the midst of significant change. This paper addresses both concerns together and proposes solutions that will help the MBSHC continue to grow and thrive.</p>
Related Documents:	<p>IHO Capacity Building Strategy IHO Strategic Plan</p>
Related Projects:	-

1. Introduction / Background

Given the significant needs of Member States, coupled with budgetary constraints, the allocation of resources to Phase 2 and 3 activities within the CBSC work plans becomes a significant challenge. This results in a shortfall in meeting needs, particularly for Phase 2 and 3 activities of the MBSHC, which has largely met its Phase 1 needs.

2. Analysis/Discussion

We believe that the success of CB Coordinators is measured by the resources they receive from the CB Fund and the activities they plan and implement. As a result, there is a tendency for CB Coordinators to prioritize Phase 1 activities, which are easier to implement. However, the prolonged focus on Phase 1 activities over the years has led to the neglect of other needs. We think this is an important issue that needs to be thoroughly examined.

The MBSHC is one of the CB Fund's most generous financial contributors, especially given its impressive number of members. If the MBSHC decides to stop requesting Phase 1 activities, it might lose some of the benefits it currently enjoys from the CB Fund. The potential impact of such a scenario on member countries is a matter for further discussion.

3. Conclusions

We believe that the CB Work Plan is or should be consistent with the objectives outlined in the IHO Strategic Plan Goal 1, which focuses on advancing hydrographic support to enhance the safety and efficiency of maritime navigation in the midst of significant change. This underlines the need for a thorough review of existing CB procedures.

4. Recommendations

We propose that Regional Commissions be allocated a proportionate budget and that their requests be incorporated into the Work Plan irrespective of the phases they belong to. Furthermore, we advocate for the inclusion of activities in the Work Plan aimed at bolstering the capacity and readiness of Member States to fulfill the requirements and implementation phases outlined in the S100 plan for a minimum of two years.

We also propose that CBSC Meetings be held at the IHO headquarters for at least two years. This will cut down on the expenses associated with CB Activities, encompassing travel, accommodation, and per diems. The IHO should demonstrate its commitment to allocating resources in support of the CB Fund and fostering the transition towards S100 implementation. This modest contribution, albeit symbolic, will do just that.

5. Justification and Impacts

We believe that the recommended approach will help to ensure a more equitable distribution of resources and that critical activities across all phases will receive the attention and support they deserve. This should help to advance the overarching objectives of the IHO.

6. Action Required of CBSC

The CBSC is invited to consider the proposal.