

Work Item C

**Gather, prioritize & respond to HO-specific issues/
opportunities regarding national policy/regulations
related to CSB**

Report to CSBWG15

23 -25 April 2024

By Jennifer Jencks (Work Item Lead)

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Work Item Update (blue text = changes/updates)

International

Work Item	Title	Priority <i>H-high</i> <i>M-medium</i> <i>L-low</i>	Next milestone	Start Date	End Date	Status <i>P-planned</i> <i>O-ongoing</i> <i>C-completed</i> <i>S-Superseded</i>	Contact Person(s)	Related Pubs / Standard	Remarks
C-1	Capture issues (and propose solutions) regarding national policy/regulations /culture affecting the endorsement of CSB	H	Consolidate and draft proposed solutions to overcome them	2023	CSBWG15 & CSBWG16	O	C. Rathnayake	CSBWG10: Responses to IHO Circular Letters on CSB	First five issues investigated, solutions captured, activities underway.
C-2	Draft proposed rationale to the issuing of a new brief circular letter (and questionnaire) to MS explaining the purpose of IHO CL 21/2020 and encouraging a positive response	L	Present to CSBWG and determine whether to issue to MS	2023	CSBWG14	C	Chair	IHO CL 21/2020	Decision made at CSBWG15 that, at present, the rationale does not exist to draft a new CL. Will coordinate with Outreach Team on future messaging and engagement (includes for IRCC Workshop)
C-3	Request the policy framework(s) or guideline(s) adopted by selected coastal States who positively responded to IHO CL 21/2020 or IRCC CL 01/2020	M	Identify States who might be willing to share their experience and request their feedback and guidance. Draft and issue request to National Hydrographers. Consolidate and develop guidance for other coastal States	2023	CSBWG15 CSBWG16	O	Chair	IHO CL 21/2020, IRCC CL 01/2020	The chair has discussed the original milestone with the IHO and has been encouraged to reach out directly to a select States that could offer unique experiences that may be applicable to others.
C-4	Educate CSBWG members on International Law of the Sea as it pertains to passage sounding collection.	H	S Keating to provide presentation to CSBWG14; provide resource materials to CSBWG	2023	CSBWG14	C	S. Keating	CSBWG14-3.1: CSB and International Law	



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Key Activities

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C-1: Capture issues (and propose solutions) regarding national policy/regulations /culture affecting the endorsement of CSB

C-1 Activity 1: *Team to capture known or perceived issues and look into discovering possible "unknown" or untold issues regarding national policy/regulations/culture affecting the endorsement of CSB and present to CSBWG14 for feedback/input. [\(Completed\)](#)*

C-1 Activity 2: *Team to propose solutions to overcome concerns/issues - [deadline: CSBWG15](#)*

1. **National Policies and Regulations**
 - **CSB Data Collection Confused with Systematic Survey**
 - **Legal and Liability Issues**
2. **CSB Data is Unnecessary**
3. **Data Quality and Accuracy Concerns**
4. Standardization and Compatibility
5. Integration with Existing Data Sources
6. Public Awareness and Engagement
7. Resource Constraints
8. Addressing these challenges would require collaborative efforts from governments, stakeholders, and the public.



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Key Activities - C-1: Capture issues (and propose solutions)

National Policies and Regulations - *Identified two main barriers occurring within MS*

1. A focus continues to be on the rejection of systematic surveys (MSR, Hydrographic) within areas of jurisdiction taking place without permission.
2. Coastal State belief that they are taking on liability if they use CSB

Proposed Solution #1 = Direct comms/outreach focused on the two main barriers

There was much discussion around the need to repeat our messaging as often as we could, on any platform we are given.

To do this with an accurate and consistent message, we need ready-made materials that are both authoritative and concise.

These materials would allow CSBWG members to be prepared for a variety of interactions:

- from 1-on-1 conversations, conference presentations, RHC meetings, our own HO, etc.
- to better engage with industry experts, researchers, and policymakers to raise awareness and to advocate for CSB adoption.
- could also be used to support an HO effort for getting relevant (If required) clearance from concerned government agencies and policy makers.



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Proposed Solution #1 = Direct comms/outreach focused on the two main barriers

Planned Activities:

- S. Keating to draft a succinct briefing and 2-3 slides and make available for others to use if they so choose
- Publications: IHR 2024
- Presentations: CSB is a standing agenda item at most RHC meetings, IRCC CSB Workshop (aimed at National Hydrographers) scheduled for April 2024
- ***Other suggestions?***



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Proposed Solution #2 = Highlight the support of positive-position CS and the progress of global mapping

The Team discussed whether there was a way for the IHO and/or the Seabed 2030 Project to recognize States that champion open data, open contributions.

The team would like to discuss with the IHO and Seabed 2030 the feasibility of developing online platforms or dashboards to showcase progress towards meeting global objectives related to open data, data coverage, or CSB acceptance by individual States.

These platforms can provide real-time (or annual) updates, statistics, and case studies demonstrating the positive impact of data (including CSB) contributions from supportive coastal States.

Individual States and Trusted Nodes could also be included into the dashboard in order to give recognition and highlight their contribution.



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Proposed Solution #2 = Highlight the support of positive-position CS and the progress of global mapping objectives

Planned Activities:

- Discuss feasibility of developing a dashboard at CSBWG15 and follow up with the IHO, Seabed 2030 and possibly other organizations.
- ***Other suggestions?***



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Key Activities - C-1: Capture issues (and propose solutions)

CSB Data is Unnecessary - *Claims are made that areas within national jurisdiction are already fully surveyed to hydrographic standards, and therefore CSB data contributions are not needed.*

Proposed Solution #1 = Tailor specific uses cases to each audience

While there are several potential use cases that could be highlighted, we would be better to focus on actual success stories, with the intent that more will be achieved in the future.

For example:

- Position CSB as a complementary validation tool rather than a replacement.
- Highlight CSB's role in ensuring the continuous monitoring of bathymetric data, especially in areas surveyed some time ago (SBES data) or not surveyed at all.
- Showcase success stories where CSB has identified changes, serving as an early warning system for potential navigational hazards and tool for the next routine survey planning and prioritization.
- Highlight uses cases where CSB data has been utilized for ensuring maritime safety and navigation
- We should also encourage the acknowledgment that CSB is out there and the maritime community is already using it. If CSB data is embraced, then the HOs are in the driver's seat and are more helpful and useful to the users.



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Proposed Solution #1 = Tailor specific uses cases to each audience

Planned Activities:

- At annual RHC meetings:
 - Encourage coastal States to take ownership of CSB and their potential uses.
 - Challenge regions to look into potential data applications and see how they could further these investigations.
- Present the importance and impact of CSB in a variety of conferences/webinars for non-HO stakeholders (marine community, universities and academia, policy makers etc.) and capture/address their concerns/questions
- ***Other suggestions?***



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Key Activities - C-1: Capture issues (and propose solutions)

Data Quality and Accuracy Concerns - *One of the main challenges for CSB endorsement is ensuring the quality and accuracy of the bathymetric data collected through crowdsourcing. Traditional bathymetric data collection methods, such as hydrographic surveys, follow strict protocols to maintain data accuracy. Critics may argue that CSB lacks the same level of quality control, leading to concerns about the reliability of the data and its suitability for critical applications.*

Proposed Solution #1 = Publications and Presentations

We must continue to foster transparency and trust through publications in reputable hydrographic journals and presentations at conferences.

As methodologies and tools are developed, we should continue to strive to share them

We must highlight instances where CSB has successfully contributed to navigational safety and/or been used for other purposes.

We should collaborate with international bodies to establish best practices in handling ambiguous CSB data.



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Key Activities - C-1: Capture issues (and propose solutions)

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Proposed Solution #1 = Publications and Presentations

Planned Activities:

- Include presentations about CSB with at least one success story in all RHC meetings and conferences.
- Participate in other IHO working groups (DQWG, HSSC, Survey WG)
- Collaborate with CSBWG members to showcase their methodologies and tools as they continue to mature
- ***Other suggestions?***



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Key Activities - **NEXT UP**

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C-1: Capture issues (and propose solutions) regarding national policy/regulations /culture affecting the endorsement of CSB

C-1 Activity 2 continues:

Team to propose solutions to overcome concerns/issues - [deadline: CSBWG16](#)

1. National Policies and Regulations
 - CSB Data Collection Confused with Systematic Survey
 - Legal and Liability Issues
2. CSB Data is Unnecessary
3. Data Quality and Accuracy Concerns
4. **Standardization and Compatibility**
5. **Integration with Existing Data Sources**
6. **Public Awareness and Engagement**
7. **Resource Constraints**
8. **Addressing these challenges would require collaborative efforts from governments, stakeholders, and the public.**



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Key Activities

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C-3: Request the policy framework(s) or guideline(s) adopted by coastal States who positively responded to IHO CL 21/2020 or IRCC CL 01/2020

C-3 Activity 1 (original): *Draft proposed letter to National Hydrographers requesting the policy framework(s) or guideline(s) adopted by coastal States who positively responded to IHO CL 21/2020 or IRCC CL 01/2020; request CSBWG feedback - (deadline: Intersessional)*

After receiving and incorporating feedback from CSBWG14 and the Intersessional into the letter, the chair provided the letter to the IHO Secretariat and explained the work item's purpose and milestone.

The IHO would prefer the Team reach out directly to select States that could offer unique experiences that may be applicable to others instead.



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C-3: Request the policy framework(s) or guideline(s) adopted by coastal States who positively responded to IHO CL 21/2020 or IRCC CL 01/2020

C-3 Activity 1 (revised): *Identify coastal States who might be willing to share their experience and request their feedback and guidance - deadline: CSBWG16*

NEXT UP: *come up with a list of positive coastal States, reach out personally, and gather information. Present findings at CSBWG16*



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Issues/Risks/Concerns

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Description of any current or anticipated issues/risks/concerns

N/A



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Questions - Comments

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting interface with five participants in a grid view. The participants are:

- Chandana Rathnayake (top left): A man in a green shirt, smiling, sitting in a car.
- Denis Hains (top middle): A man with white hair and glasses, wearing a white t-shirt, resting his chin on his hand.
- Evert Flier (top right): A man with glasses and a pink shirt, wearing a headset and looking thoughtful.
- S Keating (bottom left): A man with glasses, wearing a suit and tie, in an office setting.
- Jennifer Jencks - NOAA Federal (bottom right): A woman with brown hair, wearing a green sweater and white earbuds, smiling.

The meeting controls at the bottom show the time as 8:03 AM and the title as "CSBWG Work Item C Mtg #4". The control bar includes icons for mute, video, chat, reactions, screen sharing, hand raise, a menu, and a red end call button. On the right side of the control bar, there are icons for info, participants (with a '5' notification), chat, screen sharing, and lock.