

CSBWG Work Item E***Support CSB/SB2030 Coordinators in their RHC engagement***

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SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides a description and progress on activities related to support the CSBWG WI E, CSB/SB2030 Coordinators in their RHC engagement.

Action to be taken: See below

Related documents:

[IRCC 14 \(2022\) Proposal to Stand Up a CSB Team;](#)

[IRCC 11 \(2019\) Paper on Inclusion of Seabed 2030 in RHC workplans](#)

[IRCC 12 \(2020\) Paper on raising the awareness of CSB](#)

[RHC Coordinators Spreadsheet](#)

[IHO RHC Website](#)

Work Item Background

Regional Hydrographic Commissions are a key point of contact to many hydrographic offices. This has been recognised by the CSBWG and the IHO since 2020, when the role of the CSB regional coordinator was added to the pre-existing Seabed2030 Coordinator – see related documents section.

During the creation of the CSBWG workplan, it was decided to dedicate a WI to the task, recognising the importance of coordinating the activities related to supporting the CSB/SB2030 Coordinators (abbreviated in this document to “Cos”) in their RHC engagement.

Acknowledging the diversity in the hydrographic commissions, it is deemed important to provide both global and custom regional support to Cos to facilitate the execution of their task and to maximise the impact of their role.

Since the Coordinator role was established, a lot of experience has been gained on what works and what does not, and it has been clear that in different regions, Cos have different needs and degrees of autonomy. Furthermore, many MSs have the challenge of frequently changing personnel and not always having resources available to attend CSBWG, this intensifies the need for support.

By better supporting the Cos, the impact of their engagement with the RHC’s can be maximised. Furthermore, it was acknowledged that the work done so far to support the

coordinators was mostly ad-hoc. Therefore the need to systematize the task making it less vulnerable to changes in human resources involved.

Current Work Item Purpose

The purpose of this work item is to provide support to the CSB/Seabed 2030 Coordinators, including but not limited to:

- Providing clarity around the role
- Ensuring there is a coordinator for each RHC
- Ensuring there is someone presenting about CSB/Seabed2030 at each RHC meeting
- Providing support and materials to Cos to present at the meetings and other activities
- Finding alternative ways to promote CSB within IHO members to increase the number of states who support CSB.

Work Item Update

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>
E-1	Revisit and update (if necessary) the original intent of the CSB/SB2030 Coordinator (Co) role.	H	Revisit current definition(s) of Co role & draft a simple & clear role description.	2023	December 2023	C
E-2	Work with each Co to develop a regional strategy to aim to achieve the goals of the CSBWG and SB2030	H	Organize a workshop for all Coordinators to discuss successes, barriers, needs, etc.	2023	Intersession	O
E-3	Raise awareness of CSB in IHO Capacity Building Subcommittee	M	Presentation at CBSC meeting	2024	June 2024	C

Progress Since Prior Meeting

E-2: Ongoing support to coordinators

- Successful presentations on CSB were given at the following RHC's:

NHC (Nordic)	11-12 Apr 2024	Evert Flier (Co)
HCA (HC on Antarctica)	16-18 April 2024	Evert Flier (Co)
EAHC (Eastern Atlantic)	1-3 May 2024	LCDR Telmo Geraldes Dias (Co)
NIOHC (N. Indian Ocean)	21-23 May 2024	Kuldeep Singh/Rahul Bhatt (Co); Vicki Ferrini (SB2030)
MBSHC (Mediterranean and Black Seas)	2-4 July 2024	Afif GHAIH and Joud Sayah (Co); Luigi Sinapi
ARHC (Arctic)	3-5 Sept 2024	Evert Flier (Co)
BSHC (Baltic Sea)	17-19 Sept 2024	Hans Öiås (Co)
SAIHC (Southern African and Islands)	17-19 Sept 2024	Captain Nicolette le Roux (Co)
RSAHC (ROPME Sea Area)	26-28 Nov 2024	No Coordinator; Luigi Sinapi
MACHC (Meso American & Caribbean Sea)	3-6 Dec 2024	Diego Billings (Co)
NIOHC (N. Indian Ocean)	11-13 Feb 2025	Kuldeep Singh/Rahul Bhatt (Co); Vicki Ferrini (SB2030)
EAHC (East Asia)	24-27 Feb 2025	Dr. YAJIMA Hiroki (Co); Kevin MacKay (SB2030)
SWPHC (South-West Pac)	3-5 March 2025	No Coordinator; Jennifer Jencks, Kevin Mackay (SB2030)

- Established a system to track progress. Still some level of ad-hoc and a lot of work, but more systematised and efficient.
- 1-1 meetings with several coordinators.

E3: Presenting at CBSC

- “How CSB can support Hydrographic Offices” was presented at CBSC as a way for HOs to have low cost access to data and capacity building.
- Presentation was well received

Reporting

The Work Item Team is monitoring progress by capturing ongoing support to RHCs in a Google Sheet. Success is measured by the identification of a coordinator to reach RHC. Currently there are 14 - a coordinator vacancy remains in the RSAHC (ROPME Sea Area), another has not been filled for the SWPHC (South West Pacific) after several years of

excellent representation by Stuart Caie. Another measurement of success is the number of new coastal States who have replied positively to the IHO and IRCC CL. There has been 1 (UKHO) since CSBWG15.

Planned Work & Timeline

Organize a CSB Coordinator Workshop that allows all coordinators to come together to discuss successes, challenges, needs, ideas, etc. This will be attempted before the CSBWG Intersession.

Issues/Risks/Concerns/Barriers

The process of supporting coordinators is still very time consuming, ad-hoc and dependent on the chair and vice chair. With the departure of the CSBWG vice chair at the end of 2024, interactions with Cos have been reduced.

Success is also very dependent and very vulnerable to changes in coordinators.

Proposed Changes to Work Item

No major changes are proposed.

Action to CSBWG

The CSBWG is requested to:

- A. **Note** the information provided;
- B. **Take** any other actions, as appropriate.