

## REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION MEETINGS

Submitted by GEBCO Secretary

### SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides details of forthcoming IHO Regional Hydrographic Commission meetings.

Action to be taken: See paragraph 4

Related documents: GGC ToRs and RoPs dated 9 November 2019; SCRUM ToRs and RoPs dated 9 November 2019; SCOPE ToRs and RoPs dated 9 November 2019

1. The current Terms of Reference (ToR) and Rules of Procedure (RoP) for the Joint IHO-IOC GEBCO Guiding Committee include, in the goals, the GGC is to:
  4. Encourage and facilitate ocean mapping cooperation leading to the exchange and preservation of bathymetric data and associated metadata;
  5. Foster collaboration among individuals and organizations with established and developing expertise so as to assist local and regional mapping efforts to attain a global standard of quality;
  6. Identify oceanic areas that are insufficiently mapped and recommend to appropriate ocean-going organizations and institutions that such areas are surveyed;
  7. Promote education and training in ocean mapping through high level courses in Ocean Bathymetry acknowledged by the IHO and IOC; and
  8. Bring together the ocean mapping community and users of bathymetry thereby leading to products that are more widely used.
2. The ToR also state, in articles, that the GGC shall:
  5. Stimulate the flow of data relevant to the GEBCO Project by actively identifying sources of new data and encouraging and promoting the release of data to appropriate data banks, with the objective of ensuring that maximum available data are provided to the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry (DCDB);
  11. Engage with regional mapping projects to encourage their compatibility with, and eventual inclusion in, GEBCO products; and
  14. Take all practical opportunities to advocate the scientific and societal benefits of mapping the seafloor.
3. The Secretariat of the IHO encourages targeted participation of appropriate GEBCO personnel in Regional Hydrographic Commission (RHC) meetings to achieve these goals and obligations. Details of recent and forthcoming RHC meetings are at Annex A.

4. The GGC is invited to:
  - a. **Note** the information provided;
  - b. **Identify and prioritise** RHC meetings at which participation is deemed advantageous;
  - c. **Identify** appropriate individuals and **allocate** the necessary resources to support their participation; and
  - d. Take any other **Action** deemed appropriate.

Annex:

- A. Table of recent and forthcoming RHC meetings.

Commission	2021			2022			2023		
	Location	Date	Attend	Location	Date	Attend	Location	Date	Attend
Arctic	Alaska, USA								
Baltic Sea	Stockholm, Sweden	21-23 Sep							
East Asia	Thailand	tbc Feb							
East Atlantic	Lisbon, Portugal	12-16 Apr		-	-				
Meso American and Caribbean									
Mediterranean and Black Sea	Ljubljana, Slovenia	1-3 Jun							
Nordic	Reykjavik, Iceland	tbc	No						
North Indian Ocean	Colombo, Sri Lanka	12-15 Jul	Yes						
North Sea	Reykjavik, Iceland	27-28 Apr	-	-	-				
ROPME Sea Area	tbc	tbc	Yes	-	-				
South Africa and Islands	Mauritius	tbc Jan							
South East Pacific	-	-		-	-		tbc, Chile	tbc	
South West Atlantic	Montevideo, Uruguay	13-14 Mar							
South West Pacific									
USA and Canada	USA	tbc Mar	No						
Antarctica	Monaco/Paris	tbc		-	-				

*Meetings in italics have already taken place.*