

**18<sup>th</sup> Conference of the  
IHO Hydrographic Commission of Antarctica (HCA)  
Berlin, Germany, 24-26 May 2022**

**Report**

**IHO Secretariat's work, Council matters  
and Work Programme items**

**Dr Mathias Jonas  
Secretary-General**



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# IHO Membership

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- Since the last HCA Conference Kenya, Iraq, Angola and Albania acceded to the IHO Convention and the IHO membership now stands at 98.
- Unfortunately, Serbia, Syria and Vanuatu remain suspended from Member States rights.
- Recommendation: *HCA is invited to further assist the Secretariat in promotion of HCA membership to those States who are IHO Member States and Parties to the Antarctica Treaty (Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, ...).*



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# IHO Council decisions

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## Recommendations:

- *Note the appropriate HSSC's governance document on the 'dual fuel' concept.*
- *HCA members are invited to participate at the EWB project and provide proposals via the specific webpage (<https://iho.int/en/basic-cbssc-ewb>). **(Consider nominations)***
- *HCA members are invited to provide contributions of online learning material to the Project Team established for the IHO e-Learning Center at KHOA.*
- *Invitation to continue on the implementation of the IHO Strategic Plan, elaborate on the gap analysis and support IRCC in identifying measures and values to measure those SPI of regional interest allocated to IRCC, in accordance with IRCC CL 01/2021, and attending at the forthcoming IRCC Workshop.*



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# Revised definition of Strategic Performance Indicators to measure against the Strategic Work Plan 2021 - 2026

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Two SPI-Workshops took place in 2022:

- The result will be submitted as consolidated proposal covering all three work programmes to IRCC and later approval by C-5



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## Liasion with ATCM – invitation for HCA to contribute to ATCM XLIV

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*HCA Chair wrote a letter to ITCM Secretariat dated 4th March 2022 to highlight:*

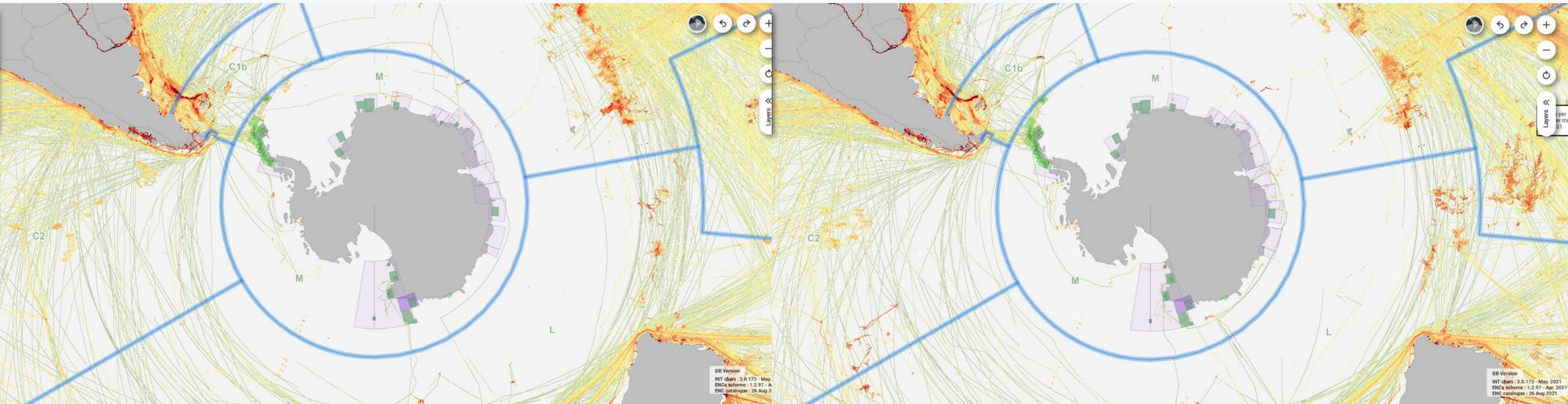
HCA-18 will deliberately take place in Berlin, Germany, from 24 to 26 May 2022, in conjunction with ATCM XLIV. The IHO, being the operator of HCA, has taken comparable opportunities in the past to report on their intermediate activities in relation to the joint aspirations as laid down in the above Resolutions.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, progression in HCA activities was fairly low since ATCM XLIII in 2021. HCA Chair therefore proposed to abstain from the reporting practice for this year's ATCM meeting. Instead, he suggested to intensify personal contacts in the margins of the meeting to build up bridges for future collaboration on the whole suite of common themes of the UN Ocean Decade.

*Recommendation: HCA Members registered in ATCM XLIV, are invited to participate in ATCM social events and side-discussion meetings. Agenda item 6.1C proposes a quick review of the existing ATCM Resolutions on hydrography to be prepared for.*



# Enhanced functionality of INTToGIS: AIS Layer



- Traffic Density in March 2019, UB3 to UB6 for INT and ENC

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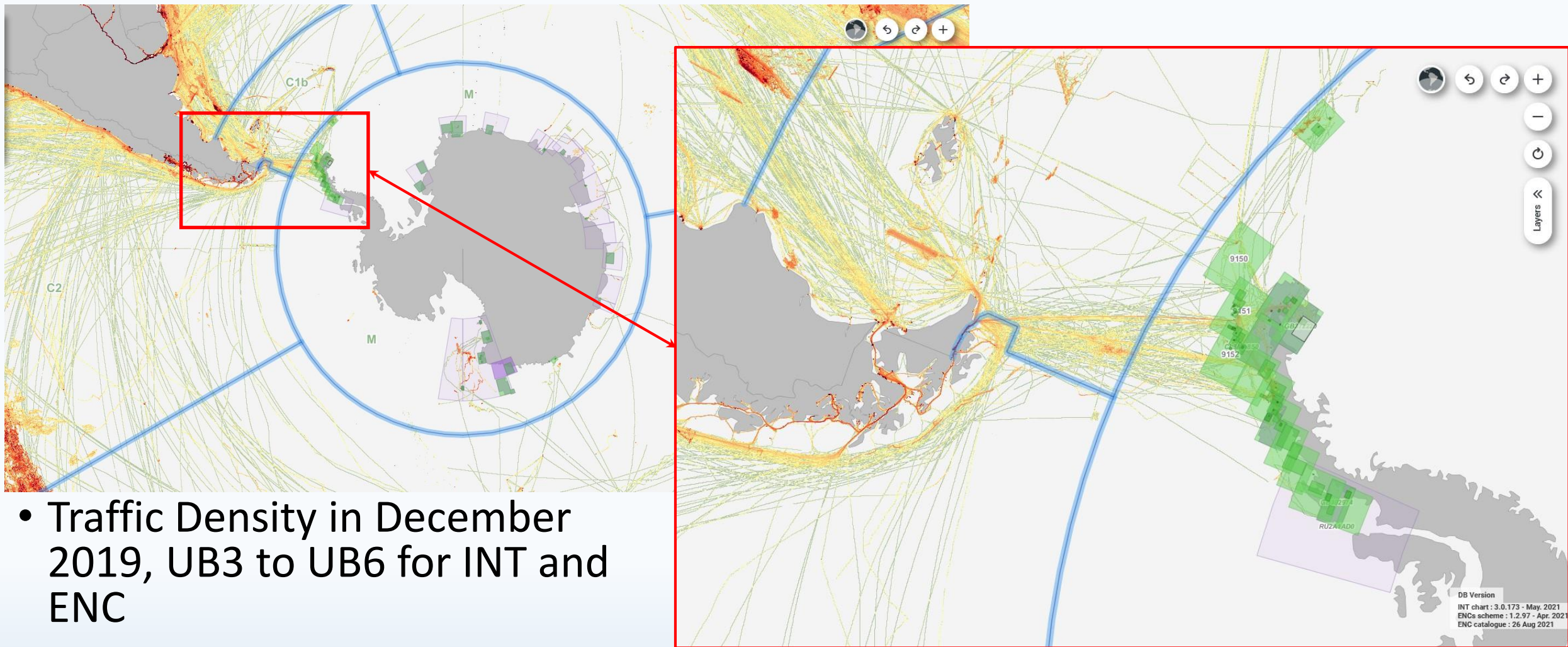
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# Enhanced functionality of INTToGIS: AIS Layer



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# GEBCO support through Crowdsourced Bathymetry and Seabed 2030

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## Recommendations:

- HCA members and associate members are encouraged to officialise and/or review their positions on the conduct of CSB in their waters of national jurisdiction (iaw IHO CL 21/2020 and IRCC CL 1/2020) and to identify further potential sources of bathymetric measurements and survey data providers to facilitate the further completion of the DCDB data holdings, as well as to make data openly available for inclusion in the DCDB and the widest possible use, in accordance with IHO Resolution 1/2017.*
- HCA members are encouraged to become actively involved in the GEBCO programme and its subordinate projects, to support the collection of data within their waters, and to make more detailed and comprehensive seabed data available, in particular deep ocean data from transit or commercial/scientific surveys. (IHO's main contribution under Strategic Goal No. 3)*



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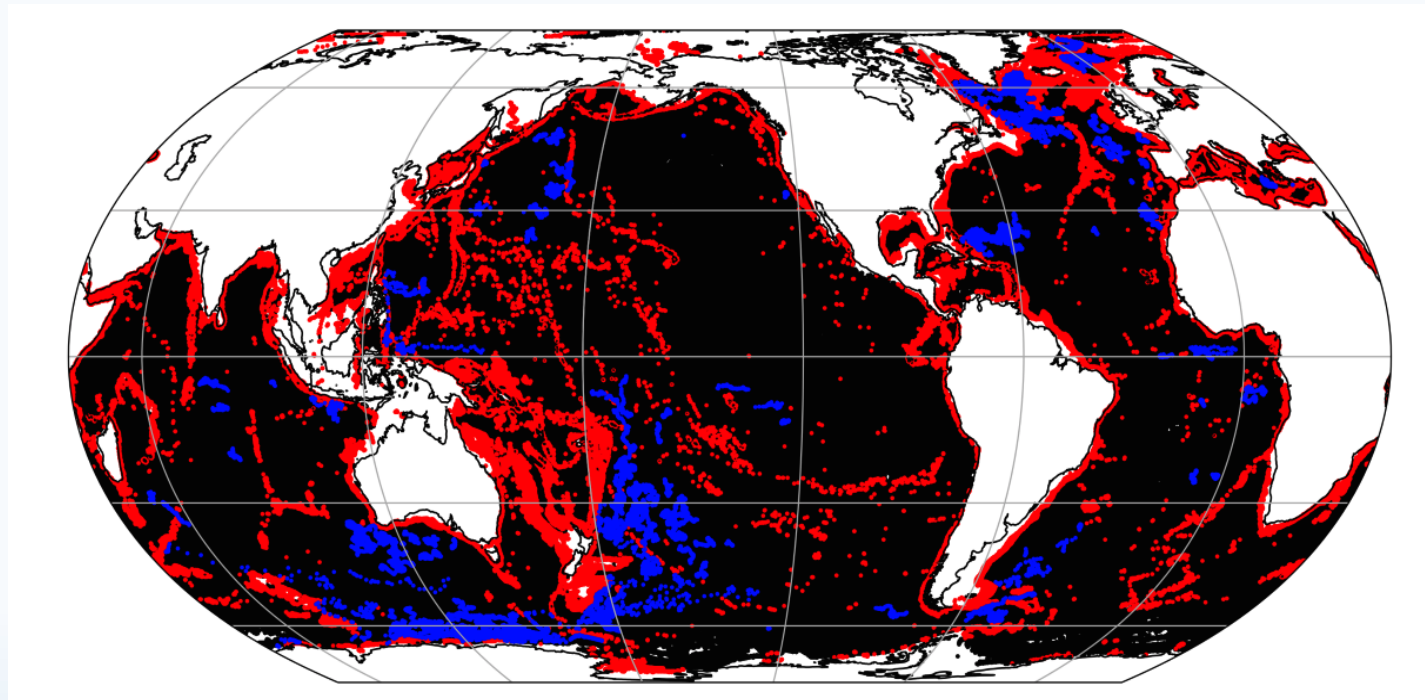
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# GEBCO support through ARGO floats

## Project Aims:

- Provide a validated Argo Bathymetry Data Product to contribute to GEBCO/Seabed 2030
- Validate Argo groundings and methodology
- Estimate vertical and horizontal uncertainties
  - vertical accuracy is promising
  - horizontal accuracy is challenging
- Provide routine updates as Argo array expands



## Distribution:

Global Argo > 2.7 million profiles

Core Argo (**red**) up to 8% (216,000 profiles) are potentially grounded

Deep Argo profiles (**blue**) 20,000 profiles

Argo may help fill gaps in the deep ocean and in sparsely sampled regions

**Red** = Core Argo (< 2000 m)

**Blue** = Deep Argo (4000 to 6000 m)

E. van Wijk, L. Wallace, B. Halley, N. Zilberman on behalf of the Argo Bathymetry Task Team and supported by:



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## Forthcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> IHO Assembly 2023

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- The forthcoming third IHO Assembly is scheduled as in person event to 24 – 28 April 2023. The Council is requested to discuss, endorse and finally forward the triennial Work Plan for 2024 – 2026.
- The HCA is invited to discuss and put forward its view for strategic directions on the portfolio of work items to be incorporated into the plan.
- *What more can we do*
- *for Goal 2: Increasing the use of hydrographic data for the benefit of society. and Goal 3: Participating actively in international initiatives related to the knowledge and the sustainable use of the Ocean.*

*Recommendation: Consider the two topics for discussion under AOB:*

- *Southern Ocean,*
- *Climate Change (Should the IHO be involved in monitoring and or preventive action)?*



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**HCA is requested  
to take note of this briefing,  
and to take action as considered  
appropriate**



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