

**18th Conference of the IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica (HCA)
Berlin, Germany (hybrid), 24 – 26 May 2022**

LIST OF DECISIONS and ACTIONS FROM HCA-18

(as of 2 Aug 2022)

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
	1.	Opening – Welcome Address		
HCA18/01		HCA agreed on the objectives of the conference presented by HCA Chair.		Decision
	2.	Approval of Agenda and Timetable		
HCA18/02		HCA Members approved the agenda and timetable.		Decision
	3.	HCA Membership Status and Statutes		
HCA18/03		HCA invited the HCA Secretariat to promote HCA Membership to those States who are IHO Member States and Parties to the Antarctica Treaty (Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Netherlands, Poland, Ukraine, ...). HCA Secretariat to contact these IHO Member States by HCA CL.	HCA-19 End of 2022	
HCA18/04		HCA Members and Observers to provide their updates on the HCA Membership List to the HCA Sec. as appropriate.	Permanent	
HCA18/05		HCA commended the HCA Vice-Chair for his active contribution in the development of the adopted amendments to the HCA Statutes. The new Statutes entered into force on 24 May 2022.		Decision HCA Letter 02/2022 refers.
HCA18/06		Following the adoption of the new HCA Statutes, HCA endorsed the proposed amendments to Art. 8.e of the General Regulations of the IHO. HCA Secretariat to submit these proposed amendments for Council's endorsement, then to A-3 for approval.	18 July (for C-6), 20 December (for A-3)	Decision

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
	4.	Election of Vice-Chair		
HCA18/07		Mr Patrick Dorr (NGA, USA) was re-elected as HCA Vice-Chair and will serve until the end of HCA-19 (2024).		Decision Art. 5.2 of HCA Statutes applies.
	5.	Review of Status of List of Actions resulting from HCA-17		
HCA18/08 (former HCA17/05, HCA16/06, HCA15/07)		HCA agreed that, as a matter of principle, the current producer nations in Antarctica should be encouraged to consider the future production and distribution of S-100 based products for Antarctica, in their areas of charting responsibility.		Decision
HCA18/09 (former HCA17/07, HCA16/07b)		HCA Members , binded by the Antarctic Treaty ¹ , are encouraged to ensure that bathymetric information contained in their surveys (survey coverage metadata as a minimum) is transmitted to the IHO DCDB (ATCM Resolution No 06/2019, as approved at ATCM XLII).	Permanent	Decision
HCA18/10 (former HCA17/11)		Noting the benefits that can be made from CATZOC values in HCA ENC's for risk assessment purposes, HCA agreed to keep the C-55 geographic segmentation in Antarctica as it is, for the time being.	Permanent	Decision
	6.	IHO and ATCM		
	6.1	IHO Liaison with ATCM, SCAR, IAATO		
HCA18/11 (former HCA17/08, HCA16/08, HCA15/11)		IAATO to check if the new approved guidance on crowd-sourced bathymetry (B-12) can be implemented technically – possibly by exporting from Voyage Data Recorder recordings (experimentation in progress). NO (as GGC Chair) to engage with IAATO Director of Operations on this matter.	HCA-19	

¹ Antarctic Treaty, Article II 1.(c) states “scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available.”

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/12 (former HCA17/14, HCA16/11)		Noting that pro-active actions are necessary to have "IHO activities" in their agenda meetings, HCA Chair (ideally represented by HCA Member according to the host country/region) to consider the possibility of participating regularly in ATCM, COMNAP, SCAR and IAATO meetings.	HCA-19 , and as appropriate	
HCA18/13		HCA noted that HCA Chair had some contacts with partners and met the Executive Secretary of the Antarctic Treaty at ATCM XLIV.		
HCA18/14		HCA to consider the report delivered by SCAR , in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendations in the SCAR publication: <i>Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment: A decadal synopsis and recommendations for action.</i> the Southern Ocean Action Plan in support for the UN Ocean Decade ...and events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN Oceans Conference 2022: <i>Polar Oceans: Engine to the Global Ocean</i> (26 June 2022). 	HCA-19	
HCA18/15		HCA noted the Olex issue and invited Members to contribute to the relevant IHO bodies (CSBWG, DQWG) on this matter.		
	7.	HCA activities in relation to the IHO Work Programme		
	7.1	Interaction with IHO-IOC GEBCO and IBCSO		
HCA18/16		HCA noted the progress report on the development of IBCSO 2.0 by the GEBCO representative (Doc. HCA18-07.1A refers).		
HCA18/17 (former HCA17/18, HCA16/15)		HCA to assess/monitor the effectiveness of the data flow processes between Seabed 2030 Data Centres (AWI) and the IHO DCDB.	HCA-19	US (J. Lowell to check with IHO DCDB Director whether this action is still needed).

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/18		HCA noted the update on GEBCO provided by the Chair of the GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC) and welcomed the establishment of their new GEBCO Strategy Drafting Working Group.		
HCA18/19		Following up on ATCM Resolution 6 (2019), HCA Chair to invite HCA Members to report at HCA-19, as part of their national reports, how they engage with their national marine research institutes to improve their contribution to GEBCO / Seabed 2030.	HCA-19	
	7.2A	National Reports		
HCA18/20		HCA noted the national reports delivered or provided by AU, BR, CL, CO, EC, ES, FR, GB, GE, IT, JP, KR, NO, NZ, PE, US, UY and ZA and commended the HOs for the high quality of the information provided.		Decision
HCA18/21		HCA noted the existence of some national Polar Strategic Plans (2021-2030) and invited HCA Members to consider the role that the HCA could and should play for a coordinated implementation if appropriate in application of the new amended HCA Statutes and the IHO Strategic Plan 2021-2026. Proposals to be considered at the next Conference.	HCA-19	
HCA18/22		HCA Members to consider participating in the OGC-IHO FMSDI ² Pilot Project.	HCA-19	
HCA18/23		HCA tasked the Region M ICCWG to monitor the ARHC (Region N) developments on ENC gridded schemes possible solutions in Polar regions.	HCA-19	

² The Federated Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (FMSDI) Pilot.

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/24		<p>HCA noted the information provided by the US (NGA) about the conversion process of their national DNCs into ENC.</p> <p>HCA invited the US (NGA) first to report at the next WENDWG meeting on this matter (impact on existing ENC schemes and coverage, ...).</p>	WENDWG-13 / HCA-19	
	7.3A&B	HCA Hydrography Priorities Working Group		
HCA18/25		<p>HCA approved the amendments to the Peninsula MSRs as proposed by the HPWG Chair.</p> <p>HPWG Chair to reformat the supporting plan and continue monitoring adequacy against AIS data in preparation of HCA-19</p> <p>HPWG Chair to keep IAATO (and COMNAP eventually) informed of the MSR changes.</p>	<p>HCA-19</p> <p>Permanent</p>	
HCA18/26		Beyond the Peninsula, HCA Members active in these regions are invited to collate relevant data and provide MSR information if any to the HPWG Chair for subsequent analysis against AIS data in preparation of the next Conference.	<p>May 2023</p> <p>HCA-19</p>	
HCA18/27		HCA Members to supply survey metadata to HCA GIS, through or cc HPWG chair, using the formstack online submission process.	Permanent	
HCA18/28		<p>HCA approved the recommendation to seek IAATO review of regional Aids to Navigation.</p> <p>HCA Members to keep the current list available on the IHO HCA webpage up-to-date.</p>	HCA-19	
	7.4A	Region M ICCWG		

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/29		<p>HCA noted the recommended options offered by GB (as Region M Chart Coordinator) (Doc. HCA18-07.4A refers) to address the Deception Island charting issues and allocate INT charts and ENC's production responsibilities in this area.</p> <p>AR, CL and ES to consider the proposed options and report to the HCA Secretariat and Region M Coordinator with either their agreement on the way forward or submission of alternative options.</p> <p>Final decision to be reported by the HCA Chair by correspondence and to be implemented in INTtoGIS (INT and ENC's schemes).</p>	<p>End of September 2022</p> <p>December 2022</p>	
HCA18/30 (former HCA17/22, HCA16/21)		<p>Meanwhile, and during this case study phase (see Action HCA18/.. above), HCA urges the different producers of charts covering Deception Island (AR, CL, ES, GB) to establish a robust technical procedure iaw S-4 and S-11, to exchange <u>data</u> that are relevant for safe navigation in this area, and report to the HCA Chair/Secretary on the progress made in the development of this procedure (Doc. HCA18-07.4A refers).</p>	HCA-19	In progress
HCA18/31		<p>HCA agreed that there is no need to keep INT 9136 in the Region M Charting Scheme.</p>		Decision
HCA18/32		<p>HCA tasked the Region M Coordinator to reconsider the need for INT 9110 in liaison with CL.</p>	HCA-19	
HCA18/33		<p>In liaison with the RENCs, FR / NZ to resolve the overlap between NZ11490E and FR275910 as appropriate and keep the Region M Coordinator informed.</p>	HCA-19	
HCA18/34		<p>CL in liaison with Region M Coordinator to consider options for improved coverage of Artigas regarding existing INT scheme.</p>	HCA-19	

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/35		If planned, UY to submit any larger scale ENC covering Artigas to the Region M Coordinator for approval process by HCA.	End of June 2022	
HCA18/36		CL, BR & PE in liaison with Region M Coordinator to resolve potential ENC overlap regarding Mackellar Inlet.		
HCA18/37		UY to submit any larger scale ENC proposal.		
HCA18/38		The HCA approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Region M ICCWG recommendations to change the INT scheme for INT9113 Lydstad Bay and Sally Cove. - proposal for Biscoe Wharf/ Rothera ENC first (possibly ENC only) similar to coverage INT 9113 coverage. 		
HCA18/39		The HCA reminded the Region M ICCWG recommendations on the general WEND principles/guidelines for the establishment of ENC Schemes in the region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - where not ENC first, the INT chart and ENC scheme is aligned; - where producing ENC only, proposal <u>must</u> be circulated to Region M Coordinator in advance for being considered than submitted to HCA for formal approval. - iaw standards in force, all proposals <u>must</u> be designed to avoid overlaps. 	Permanent	
HCA18/40		Anticipating the outcome of IRCC-14 on the recommendations from the WENDWG with regard to the S-100 Implementation Roadmap per region, HCA agreed to establish an HCA S-100 Implementation Working Group (HCA Secretariat leads).		Decision

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/41		<p>Following up on Action WENDWG12/33 (IGIF pathway matrix per S-1xx product, per RHC), HCA agreed on some guiding initial principles and leaders to fill the HCA S-100-IGIF Matrix:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - S-101: GB (as Region M Charting Coordinator, continuity by S-57 conversion) - S-102: GE (in liaison with AWI, as Seabed 2030 Data Centre/IBCSO) - S-104: US (in its global capacity in ocean modelling) - S-111: US/FR (in its global capacity in ocean modelling) - S-122: EC/GE (making benefits of experience gained in Ecuador and BSHC) - S-124: AR, AU, CL, ZA, NZ (as NAV Coordinators) - S-128: NO/GB (as Operators of PRIMAR/IC-ENC) - S-411 – Ice information: AR/CL/GE 	WENDWG-13/ HCA-19	
	7.5A	IHO HCA GIS		
HCA18/42		HCA agreed to launch the HCA online formstack for data submission.	HCA-19	Decision
HCA18/43		<p>All HCA Members to submit data and survey coverage metadata to IHO Secretariat using HCA submission formstack...</p> <p>... and HCA Secretariat to consider also harvesting-type solutions when these data are already available on national portals..</p>	<p>All, Periodic (once a year, June)</p> <p>HCA-19</p>	

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/44		HCA noted that the WENDWG endorsed the strategy, way forward and timelines proposed by KHOA for the subsequent development of INTOGIS III (incl. catalogue of S-1xx products/services S-128 compliant), as presented at the meeting) (Decision WENDWG12/23) and since the approval of Ed.1.0.0 of S-128 at HSSC-14 to monitor S-128.	HCA-19	
	8.	Any other business – Preparation of IRCC-14 and C-6		
HCA17/25		HCA Chair informed the participants that the recent publication of an article ³ in <i>National Geographic</i> recognizing the naming Southern Ocean was noted by the IHO Secretariat. Related requests by media were responded with explanations on how this name has been discussed in the course of the historic reviewing of S-23. By means of this statement it was also pointed out that IHO itself is not a naming authority and has no mandate to denominate the “Southern Ocean” to the area.		Background information only Discussed at HCA18, under agenda item 8.1.
HCA18/45		Noting the Status of S-23 Ed. 3, 1953 (Decision A2/24 refers), HCA agreed to submit a proposed IHO Resolution to A-3 for IHO Member States’ approval, by which “ <i>The IHO recognizes the Southern Ocean as the maritime area surrounding the Antarctic [with the Northern limit being...]</i> ” (wording still to be defined).	20 December 2022 (deadline for submission to A-2)	
	9.	Date and Venue of Next Conferences		
HCA18/46		HCA Members welcomed the offer from Italy to host HCA-19, from 27- 29 March 2024 (<i>dates to be confirmed</i>). HCA Chair to invite Chile to consider the possibility of hosting HCA-20 in Nov.-Dec. 2025 in Punta Arenas (dates and venue to be confirmed).	End of December 2022	
	10.	Closure – End of Conference		

³ <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/article/theres-a-new-ocean-now-can-you-name-all-five-southern-ocean>

Decision/Action	Agenda Item	Details	Target Date	Status (Aug 2022)
HCA18/47		<p>In conclusion, Dr Mathias Jonas, Secretary-General of the IHO and HCA Chair, on behalf of HCA Members, commended Mr Lee Truscott (UKHO), Chair of HPWG and Region M ICCWG Coordinator, for his exceptional investment and devotion in the preparation of HCA-18 and for the outstanding quality of his reports and recommendations.</p>		