

**45th Meeting of the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC)
VTC, 28 March - 8 April 2022**

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2022	
Task 3.8.1	Organize, prepare and report annual meetings of the International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC)

The FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) is a joint Board of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the International Cartographic Association (ICA).

The 45th meeting of the IBSC was held in the Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina (IHM), Cádiz, Spain, in a Hybrid Format due to the COVID-19 pandemic, from 28 March to 8 April 2022. It was chaired by Mr Ron Furness (Australia, ICA) and attended by all ten Members of the Board, five in-person and five by VTC. IHO Assistant Director Leonel Manteigas (IBSC Secretary) represented the IHO Secretariat. IHO Director Luigi Sinapi did an intervention on the second day of the meeting to welcome the Members, enhanced their commitment to proceed the work of the Board in these difficult times, highlighting the importance of the Board for the education of the Hydrographers and Nautical Cartographers.



IHO Director Luigi Sinapi, Board Members and the interns of the EWH project at the IBSC45.

In accordance with the Joint IHO-Canada Empowering Women in Hydrography Project (EWH), in the first week of the meeting, three interns of the EWH-IBSC internship participated in-person at the IBSC45 meeting. All the interns work in institutions with IBSC recognized programmes. During the Internship, they received some training in the submissions' review process and provided a presentation to the Board on the respective findings. The level of their participation in the discussions of the Board related with the submissions was intense, providing relevant contributions that proved the important impact of this project to an eventual collaboration in a future submission preparation from the respective institutions. The Board appreciated the presence and the collaboration of the interns and invited them to also provide comments on the Guidelines in order to have an opinion from an external perspective. They

provided a presentation on this topic, highlighting several recommendations and comments. After this successful project, the Members stated their interest in having other internships in the next meetings.



The IBSC Members with the Vice-Director of the IHM and the Director of the School and the interns of the EWH project at the IBSC45

On the afternoon of 6 April, the Board was invited to visit the Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina and was received by the Director and his staff.

The Hybrid format increased the level of challenge of the meeting, as normally the Board meets for more than 7 hours per day. Due to the Hybrid format and the different time zones of the participants (Board members and delegates of submitting institutions), the daily duration of the meeting and the related discussions were reduced to 5 hours of plenary meeting, with some additional hours of work done by the respective in-person and VTC groups.

During the meeting the Board assessed 13 applications for recognition of hydrographic (9) and cartographic (1) programmes and (3) schemes of individual competency recognition received from 9 Countries. Two of the submitted schemes were not recognized before. Out of the 13 submissions, 3 were "Recognized", 7 "Could be recognized" receiving conditions to meet and 3 were "Not recognized". However, in the effort to allow more programs to be recognized, in addition to the 7 submissions with conditions to be recognized, the Board offered to the 3 non-recognized submissions the possibility to submit new versions intersessionally.

During the meeting it was also necessary to discuss and approve other important working items such as the Board Work Programme and establish a list of priority Institutions to be visited when the situation allows. Due to the need to increase the number of members of the Board, the IBSC will propose to IRCC a new version of the Terms of Reference to include two additional members from ICA.



The IBSC Members present in Cádiz with the Director of the IHM and his staff

Due to the need to conclude the revision of 10 intersessional submissions as well as the current standards, it was decided to conduct an intersessional workshop. The workshop is planned to be held in a hybrid format, on the week of 7 to 11 November in Singapore.

The 46th meeting of the IBSC is planned to be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 15 to 26 May 2023.