

8. REPORT OF THE NORTH INDIAN OCEAN HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (NIOHC)

1. Chair

Rear Admiral Sisira Jayakody – Sri Lanka

Vice-Chair

Rear Admiral Harjo Susmoro – Indonesia

2. Membership

Members: Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Kingdom.

Associate Members: Australia, France, Oman, Mauritius, Seychelles, USA.

Observers: Malaysia, Russian Federation, Sudan

3. Meetings:

17th Meeting:	Cairo, Egypt	17 - 20 July 2017
18th Meeting:	Goa, India	09 - 12 April 2018
19th Meeting:	Muscat, Oman	25 - 28 March 2019

4. Agenda Items:

17th Meeting – Principal Agenda Items

- Indonesia was invited to become full member of NIOHC.
- Agreed to include details of observer international organizations to the NIOHC page of IHO website.
- India volunteered to nominate representative for the vacant position of IHR editorial Board.
- It was agreed to make updates to C55 and P5 by MS at least once a year.
- MS were encouraged to review local legislations in order to make available CSB publicly.
- MS were invited to consider nomination of MSDI ambassador.

18th Meeting – Principal Agenda Items

- Indonesia became full member of NIOHC
- Called for nominations of international bodies as observers.
- Investigate ways to encourage engagement with Jordan, Maldives and Sudan to progress towards their becoming members of NIOHC and IHO
- Nomination of Captain P. Pawsey, IN as NIOHC representative to IHR editorial board.
- Consider provision of shallow water data to the IHO DCDB for use in the GEBCO.
- Review published data and provide updates to C55 and P5 at least once per year.
- Improve provision of navigational warning information from national coordinators to NAVAREA VIII and NAVAREA IX Coordinators.

- Cross check C-55 and GMDSS Master Plan Annex 7 and 8 entries to ensure harmonization of information.
- Provide details of tide gauges and currents meters for inclusion in the Inventory of National Tide Gauges and Current Meters on the TWCWG page of the IHO website.

19th Meeting – Principal Agenda Items

- UK volunteered to be the NIOHC MSDI representative.
- Review published data and provide updates to C55 and P5 at least once per year.
- Improve provision of navigational warning information from national coordinators to NAVAREA VIII and NAVAREA IX Coordinators.
- Cross check C-55 and GMDSS Master Plan Annex 7 and 8 entries to ensure harmonization of information.
- Provide details of tide gauges and currents meters for inclusion in the Inventory of National Tide Gauges and Current Meters on the TWCWG page of the IHO website.
- MS were requested to investigate and articulate the challenges and dissemination of data to the mariner in the non-regulated SOLAS market and report at NIOHC 20.
- India- To raise S58 checks issue at the next ENC WG.
- It was agreed to arrange a dedicated agenda time on S100 development and product/service delivery by next NIOHC meeting.
- It was agreed to form a CB subcommittee for NIOHC to better inform capacity building activity within the NIOHC region by next NIOHC meeting.
- CB Coordinator/India- develop a paper to present to Council/IRCC/CBSC reflecting concerns regarding allocation of IHO Capacity Building resource/funds by June 2019.
- Establishment of Statutes WG with 6 MS to look into chair period & wider aspects of NIOHC statutes. The WG required to report its findings at the next NIOHC meeting.

5. Difficulties encountered and challenges yet to be addressed:

Difficulties encountered: other than meeting the pace of changing technological advancements in the industry, majority of MS are progressing on their hydrographic and charting activities in the region in complying with SOLAS.

Challenges: There have been significant challenges which were broadly discussed in consecutive meetings and are listed below:

- Poor attendance by MS at IHO WG meetings.
- Provision of survey data and reports of changes that may affect safety of navigation in national waters by coastal states to INT Chart producer nations.
- Timely provision of MSI to NAVAREA VIII coordinator by regional national coordinators.
- To meet varying Capacity Building requirements within the region and to prioritize them.
- Review national legislations in order to seek possibilities to publicly available CSB, tide and current information.

6. Achievements/outputs/conclusions:

- Conduct of CB programme on MSI in Fish Hook SA and Goa India.

- Provision of training and support towards building capacities of regional Hydrographic Offices besides IHO CB initiatives in the region.
- Establishment of Statutes WG
- Establishment of CBWG for NIOHC
- UK was assigned NIOHC MSDI ambassador
- NICCWG achievements include significant reduction in ENC overlaps and the approval of 9 INT charts from Bangladesh.

It can be concluded that all the three meetings were well attended by MS and engaged with fruitful discussions towards improving hydrographic and nautical cartographic affairs in the region.

7. Actions required of the Assembly:

- a) note the report of the North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission to the 2nd Assembly of IHO.
- b) take any other action considered appropriate.