



**13th MEETING OF
THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
IHO-IRCC13
Video Conference
23-25 June 2021**

**ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC)
Report**



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ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC)

The ROPME Sea Area Hydrographic Commission (RSAHC) was established in 2000 in Tehran, Iran, during a meeting attended by delegates from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, UAE, and IR Iran as Member States, as well as Pakistan, United Kingdom, Canada, Yemen, MENAS, and IHO representatives as observers. This commission was established in order to promote safety of navigation through technical and training cooperation, mutual studies and research on hydrography and cartography, preparing, publishing and updating navigational charts at the regional level.





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Organization:

Chair: Khalid Said Al Jabri Sultanate of Oman

Vice-Chair: ? ?

Full Members: Bahrain, IR of Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Associate Members: France, Iraq, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

Observers:

Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), Middle East Navigation Service (MENAS), International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), Arabian Maritime and Navigation Aids Services LLC (AMNAS)



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Last meeting: 8th Meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan 18-20 Feb. 2019

Next meeting: 9th meeting didn't take place in February 2021 because of special considerations for COVID-19 pandemic. Dates of the next meeting will be decided later. And the meeting will be this year by VTC with coordination of the other member states.

Current RSAHC Working Groups:

RSA INT Chart Coordination Working Group (RSAICCWG), Coordinator IR of Iran, last meeting held at Islamabad, Pakistan, during 8th RSAHC meeting on 19th February 2019.





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Capacity Building

Since 8th Meeting

Mr. PARIZI, the coordinator of RSAHC Capacity-Building (CB) activities, has developed a new 3-year CB Plan for 2021-2023 based on the correspondence between Mr. Parizi and Ms. Lucy Fieldhouse (the vice chair of CBSC) , which was reported to CBSC19, and the following table of the 3-year CB plan.

The following training programs for the year 2021 as follows:

No.	Event	Budget	Led by	Status
A-14	Technical Visit to Iran (former 2019 CBWP A-12)	3,000	IHO Sec.	Should be done by end of 2021
P-08	MSI (training on establishment of MSI structure and basic MSI procedure	22,120	UKHO	Joint activity with RSAHC using virtually/E-learning Methodology
P-11	Raising awareness workshop on S-100/S-101	14,940	IHO	Joint activity with NIOHC using E-learning Methodology



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The following training programs for the year 2022 as follows:

No.	Event	Budget	Led by	Status
P-24	MBES Processing Course	29,000	UKHO	Joint activity with RSAHC- Not yet funded. Will be resubmitted for 2022
P-29	Basic ENC and ENC production course	35,050	IHO Sec.	Not funded yet

The following training programs for the year 2023 as follows:

Activity	Phase	Beneficiaries Countries / Territories	Responsible	Period	Obs.
Port and Shallow Water Survey Course (5 days)	2.2	For identified coastal states In RSAHC Region	RSAHC CB Coordinator	First half of 2023	A joint program with NIOHC
Tides and Water Level Workshop (5 days)	2.5	For identified coastal states In RSAHC Region	RSAHC CB Coordinator	2 nd half of 2023	A joint program with NIOHC



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INT Charts Published by RSAHC Member States since RSAHC-8 (Updated Sep. 2020)

During the RSAHC8, Member States were reminded to:

- Review their C-55 and IHO Yearbook (P-5) entries annually;
- Submit information in non-meeting years;
- Express the Capacity-Building needs of their States
- Promote login for the INTOGIS services, required to manage the national information contained in the database; and
- Timely vote on related matters as circulated through IHO Circular Letters.

Member state	Since RSAHC 8 till IRCC 13	Total IRCC 12	Total IRCC 13
Bahrain	0	5	5
UKHO	18	73	82
IR of Iran	7	48	48
Kuwait	0	9	0
Sultanate of Oman	8	25	33
Pakistan	7	9	9
Qatar	-	-	-
UAE	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	-	-	-



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ENCs Released by RSAHC Member States Since RSAHC-8 (updated Sep. 2020)

RSAHC released 104 ENC cells since RSAHC-8, as follows:

Member state	Since RSAHC 8 till IRCC 13	Total IRCC 12	Total IRCC 13
Bahrain	0	8	8
UKHO	15	120	120
IR of Iran	52	90	93
Kuwait	0	0	0
Sultanate of Oman	7	16	20
Pakistan	8	7	9
Qatar	16	16	16
UAE	0	-	0
Saudi Arabia	6	6	6

Total ENCs released in RSAHC Region: 272 cells in different bands.

Note: Due to communication problem within RSAHC Member States, all information except for Sultanate of Oman and I.R. of Iran was extracted from IHO web chart Catalogue and the RSAHC Report to the IRCC12.



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Recommendations (cont.)

- In order to reach a unique list of contact points of RHC Member States, we are suggesting IRCC to prepare the updated list in all RHCs, and distribute it to all IHO Member States (through RHCs).
- It is necessary that Member States provide their information to the Regional Coordinator, so that this procedure could be under control and supervision of RHCs coordinators.
- Considering the pandemic spread of COVID-19 and the resulting complications in RSAHC, it is also necessary to amend the Statutes of RHCs in order to provide for the procedures for holding annual meetings and the required elections virtually.



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Action Requierid by IRCC13:

The IRCC13 is invited to consider this report and take action as appropriate.