



# IRCC Chair Report

Report to IRCC15

Tokyo, Japan  
12 – 14 June 2023

By Thomas Dehling

IRCC Chair



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# Activities since IRCC 14

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

- Report at Council 6 in October 2022
  - First face-to-face meeting since 2019
- Report at Assembly 3 in May 2023
  - Later as usual
  - Very successful, all proposals of IRCC via Council adopted/approved
  - New tasks for IRCC
- No IRCC Workshop since IRCC 14
- HSSC 15 meeting last week in Helsinki. Report given by DE.



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# IRCC Introduction

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The Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) is the steering committee of the IHO for inter-regional coordination and support.

Chair: Mr Thomas DEHLING (Germany)

Vice-Chair: Dr John Nyberg (USA)

Members:

Chairs of the 15 RHCs and of HCA

Chairs of 9 subordinate bodies

(WWNWS, CBSC, WENDWG, MSDIWG, IENWG, CSBWG, IBSC, DCDB, GGC)



- Excellent cooperation between IRCC and HSCC



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# Decisions of Assembly 3

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## Decision 8 of Assembly 3 (extract):

c) directed IRCC to provide guidance to MSDI Working Group on **implementation of Target 2.1** through supporting MSDIWG efforts via RHCs and the **continued provision of global thematic layers** by means of the existing IHO GIS infrastructure. Any proposed extension of the portfolio of global thematic layers by MSDIWG has to be brought forward to IRCC for endorsement and Council for approval.

d) agreed to task the Secretariat, assisted by HSSC and IRCC chairs, to continue to measure the effectiveness and the efficiency of the three Work Programmes implementation by means of the **Strategic Performance Indicators** as endorsed by the Council.



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# Decisions of Assembly 3

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## Decision 9b of Assembly 3: Gender-inclusive language

9 b) directed the IHO Secretariat to implement the gender-inclusive language in M-1 as a first step and invited all IHO Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, Project Teams and Regional Hydrographic Commissions to review their TORs and ROPs in application of the new IHO Resolution.

This affects the RHCs and the subordinate bodies, thus it should originate one recommendation and one action respectively.



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# Decisions of Assembly 3

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**Decision 16:** The Assembly endorsed the Report of Work Programme 3

**Decision 17:** A-3 approved changes to Art. 8 (e) of HCA and now offer the possibility to all IHO Member States by the revised HCA Statutes, to become more engaged in HCA activities.

In HCA full membership is reserved for MS whose governments have

- acceded to the Antarctic Treaty and
- contribute resources to the provision of hydrographic data, products and services supporting marine safety of navigation within, and/or the wider marine geospatial information of the Antarctic region.



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# Decisions of Assembly 3

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**Decision 18:** The Assembly approved and adopted the revised Capacity Building Strategy.

**Decision 19:** The Assembly:

- a) approved the proposed IHO Resolution on the recognition of the Southern Ocean.
- b) took note of the consequences on the limits of some global sea areas as a result of recognition of the Southern Ocean.
- c) endorsed the fact that this new Resolution is without prejudice to or limitation of the views of the IHO, any other international body or any IHO Member State regarding the subject matter addressed.

**Decision 20:** ad hoc PT for alternate fund generation (slide 10)



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# IHO Strategic Plan

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A-3 tasked Council to revise Strategic Plan for 2027-2032

- IRCC will be very much involved
- Review of Strategic Performance Indicators (SPI)

More Workshops of the IRCC to come on important topics







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# Strategic Performance Indicator (SPI)

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9 SPI are allocated to IRCC

- keep it simple, figures measuring the success,
- comparable, simple, digital means,
- find worldwide indicators that doesn't leave any MS behind.

Please provide figures annually for IHO Publication P7 (Annual Report)

See A-3 Decision 8 point d), “Status Report on Performance Monitoring related to the Strategic Plan 2021-2026”, via the approved SPI.

The IRCC, through their subordinated bodies and with the support of the RHCs, will be engaged in measuring those SPI annually, and provide the related figures to the IHO Secretariat by December each year for the period 2024-2026.

Please suggest amendments or changes for the revised Strategic Plan if appropriate



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# IHO e-learning Center



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## IHO e-learning Center established

- Guidelines in cooperation with the Republic of Korea.
- This very important development would not have been possible to achieve without the outstanding contribution and sustained support of ROK and especially KHOA.
- I gladly thank ROK and KHOA also for confirming the ongoing support to the Center financially, technically and with human resources.
- Planned approval of the Guidelines at this meeting



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# IHO e-learning Center

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## IHO e-learning Center established

- IHO CL formalizing the establishment and functionality of the Center
- Start the process to create the conditions for the next phase after the establishment of the e-learning Center (ELC)  
CBSC on the respective Report will recommend the creation of the ELC Steering Committee and will inform on the disband of the PT that concluded its task





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# Capacity Building

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## CB funding

### **Decision 20 of A-3: The Assembly:**

- a) Recognized the important global maritime issues facing the hydrographic community worldwide and that addressing these issues will require expanded global hydrographic capacity.
- b) Approved the proposal to establish an ad hoc Project Team under IRCC to explore the possible establishment of reliable alternative funding for activities including capacity building and GEBCO.
- c) Authorized Council via IRCC to review progress reports from the Project Team at least annually and provide guidance to the Project Team in preparation to report out to 4th Assembly (A4).



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# Preliminary important issues of IRCC15

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- Thank you all of you for providing your reports; Please be succinct when delivering your reports and proposals to the Committee
- Please limit oral report to issues important on IRCC level and for other bodies of IRCC.
- Details can be read in the written reports
- Allocate sufficient time for discussion and decisions



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Looking forward to a successful meeting



IRCC15  
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