

15th MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE IHO-IRCC15
Tokyo, Japan, 12-14 June 2023
REPORT OF THE SOUTH EAST PACIFIC REGIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SEPRHC)

1.- Chair:

- Rear Admiral Jorge PAZ (Perú) from September 2020
- 1.2 Rear Admiral Roberto JIMENEZ (Perú) 2021
- 1.3 Rear Admiral César ZELADA (Perú) 2022
- 1.4 Rear Admiral Carlos GUERRERO (Perú) from January 2023 on
- Vice Chair: non

2.- Membership:

- Members: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Perú
- Associate Member(s): none
- Observer: Panamá

3.- Meetings:

- Last SEPRHC meeting : SEPRHC14 (virtual meeting) 15th September 2020.
- Next SEPRHC meeting : SEPRHC15 meeting 27/29 November, Valparaíso, Chile

VTC Meetings since last IRCC (June 2022) :

- VTC October 25th 2022
- VTC April 5th 2023 (devoted to CB issues)

Other meetings:

- SEPRHC will held SeaBed 2030 meeting next July in Lima, on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation of the Peruvian Navy

4. Current SEPRHC Working Groups:

a) Capacity Building Coordination Group

CB activities are monitored within the SEPRHC by Chile that coordinates this activity.

Regarding the projects submitted by the Region and according to the 2022 CBWP, CBSC provided the financial support for the following projects:

P-07 “Bathymetric Database Management” 28-Nov to 02-Dec-2022.

INOCAR Guayaquil, Ecuador.

15 attendees: 11 SEPRHC, 2 SWAtHC, and 2 MACHC.

P-36 “Workshop on MSI”. 26 to 30-Sep-2023.

DIMAR-CIOH Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

21 attendees: 17 SEPRHC, 2 SWAtHC, and 2 MACHC.

Thanks to timely coordination and respective invitation the Region had 1 participant in SWAtHC project P-40 “Port and Shallow Water Survey Course”, 10 to 14-Oct-2022, hosted by DHN in Niteroi, Brazil.

Since CBSC20, the Region keeps developing its own capabilities with regular courses, internships and workshops. Thus, Region's States continue with their ICA-FIG-IHO Category "A" and "B" training programs, preparing and graduating hydrographers for their navies and foreign students.

Regarding CBSC 2023 CBWP, SEPRHC submitted 6 projects, all of them "Not yet funded":

Nr.	PROJECT	BUDGET
P-10	Workshop on MSDI implementation and development	26 655 €
P-15	Administration and production on bathymetric Data Bases	23 150 €
P-18	Workshop on QC and data processing	26 665 €
P-19	Workshop on AUV for Hydrographic and Topographic Surveys	46 800 €
P-22	S-101 and S-102 Workshop	30 247 €
P-23	Use of automated statistical filters for bathymetric data processing.	23 150 €

Nevertheless, the Region keeps regular courses like ICA-FIG-IHO Category "A" and "B" training programs. Likewise, the Region will keep developing its own capabilities organizing internships, cruises and workshops supported by each State Hydrographic Office budgets, especially in the three main areas considered relevant to follow the IHO SP, such as MSDI national efforts, incorporation of new survey technologies and S-1XX trainings.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Region's States have applicants to invitations received from IHO to UKHO, Korea, University of New Hampshire, University of Southern Mississippi training programs. Thereby, one technician was selected to attend IHO-Nippon Foundation GeoMAC Project Cat. "B" cartography training course, from July 17th to December 15th 2023.

b) International Hydrographic Review

The SEPRHC is committed to contribute to the IHR providing articles that reflects the hydrographic development in the region. In the last editions – VOL 29 – which was dedicated to IHR 100th anniversary, we contributed to the "Interviews" under - People and Institutions- section.

5. Status of IRCC actions and recommendations relevant to the SEPRHC

a) Status of Actions:

N°	Action	Status
1	IRCC invited RHCs and Subordinate bodies to provide comments and inputs on the governance document on Dual Fuel Concept for S-100 ECDIS, intersessionally. (Permanent)	Noted

b) Status of Recommendations:

N°	Recommendation	Status
1	RHC are encouraged to increase the collaboration with the Data Quality WG and to try to find candidates for the vacancy of the Chair and Secretary positions.	Noted
2	RHC to discuss how HO's can assume a geo-coordinating role to help ensure provision of data on a regional level.	Noted
4	RHC to start or proceed with the debate on how the climate change related activities can be further investigated and what can be the role of the IHO.	Noted
5	RHC to Encourage relevant Member States to report to the IMO Secretariat and the Chair of the EGC Coordinating Panel on the progress and status of implementation of newly recognized mobile satellite services by MSI providers.	Noted
6	RHCs to establish an S-100 Coordinator role.	Noted. To be discussed at the SEPRHC15
7	RHCs to apply Action WENDWG12/33 (WEND-100 Product Matrix will be made available on the WENDWG Repository webpage when finalized).	Noted. To be discussed at the SEPRHC15
8	RHC to encourage Member States and submitting institutions to engage with the IHO Secretariat early in the process of them preparing submissions for programme recognition.	Completed
9	RHC encourage Member States and submitting institutions to consult the Guidelines, the FAQs and the White Paper (IHR-Nov-2017 – Article: Maintaining the Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers) early in the process of preparing submissions for programme recognition.	Completed
10	RHC to encourage all Member States to respond to IHO CL 21/2020 and, if possible, offer a positive response, even if qualified, to enable provision of CSB data into the public domain collected from ships within waters subject to their national jurisdiction.	Completed
11	RHC Chairs to bring the IRCC CL 1/2020 to the attention of all coastal states within their respective RHC, encouraging them to offer a positive response, even if qualified, to enable provision of CSB data into the public domain collected from ships within waters subject to their national jurisdiction.	Completed
12	RHC to encourage Member States to release datasets or subsets	Completed

	into the public domain via the IHO DCDB.	
13	RHC to encourage Member States to support the CSB initiative with positive actions, such as requiring all research vessels to collect bathymetric data for late uploading, when on passage or when it does not interfere with other research activities.	Noted
14	Encourage RHCs to actively contribute with new data to GEBCO.	Completed
15	Encourage RHCs to discuss how nations can share existing data.	Noted
16	RHCs to encourage Member State and stakeholder bathymetric data contributions to the DCDB, regardless of origin.	Noted
17	RHC to reply to the WEND WG template SPI 1.3.1	Pending

6. Agenda Items:

VTC meetings October 25th 2022 and April 5th 2023, devoted to CB issues (Short Term Strategy).

7. SEPRHC cooperation with stakeholders (organizations, industry, etc.):

GEBCO / Seabed 2030 Progress:

The Chilean Hydrographic and Oceanographic Data Center (CENDHOC) made its last delivery in 2022. Data shared correspond from cruisers 2014 – 2015 and geofom bathymetry data from Seamount Piloto Pardo.

Data for the year 2023 will be delivered shortly, which correspond to the surveys 2016, 2017 and 2018, collected by the Oceanographic vessel Cabo de Hornos.

International meetings:

Ecuador will be an option to host next IRCC16 and CBSC, 2024.

8. Difficulties encountered and challenges yet to be addressed:

a) Difficulties:

- It has not been easy to allocate the necessary resources for the incorporation of new technologies and procedures associated to the implementation of new standards.
- Due to a general economic crisis there has been a decline in the provision of public funds to achieve the required level of activity.

b) Challenges:

- S-100 implementation and particularly and as a priority the future provision of ENC S-101. Migration of the current work structure to the IHO S-100 and S-1XX Universal Hydrographic Data Model is a mayor issue.

- The region needs to be able to demonstrate the need to access CB funds according to its development status. The Capacity Building Programme normally is not funded.

9. Achievements and lessons learned:

- The participation as guests on CB initiatives initiated by neighbouring Hydrographic Commissions are appreciated and recognized as an excellent practice.
- Frequent communications among the members at the technical level has contributed to enhance the sharing of experiences in the introduction of new technologies.

10. Conclusions:

- The region has maintained its level of development and provision of its products, in straight alignment to IHO goals and targets contained in its Strategic Plan.
- The close relationship among member states of the region allows permanent communication and sharing of experiences.

11. Actions required of IRCC:

The IRCC is invited to:

- a) Note the report of the South East Pacific Regional Hydrographic Commission
- b) Take any other action considered appropriate.