



# South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC)

Report to IRCC15

Tokyo, Japan  
12 – 14 June 2023

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SWPHC Chair

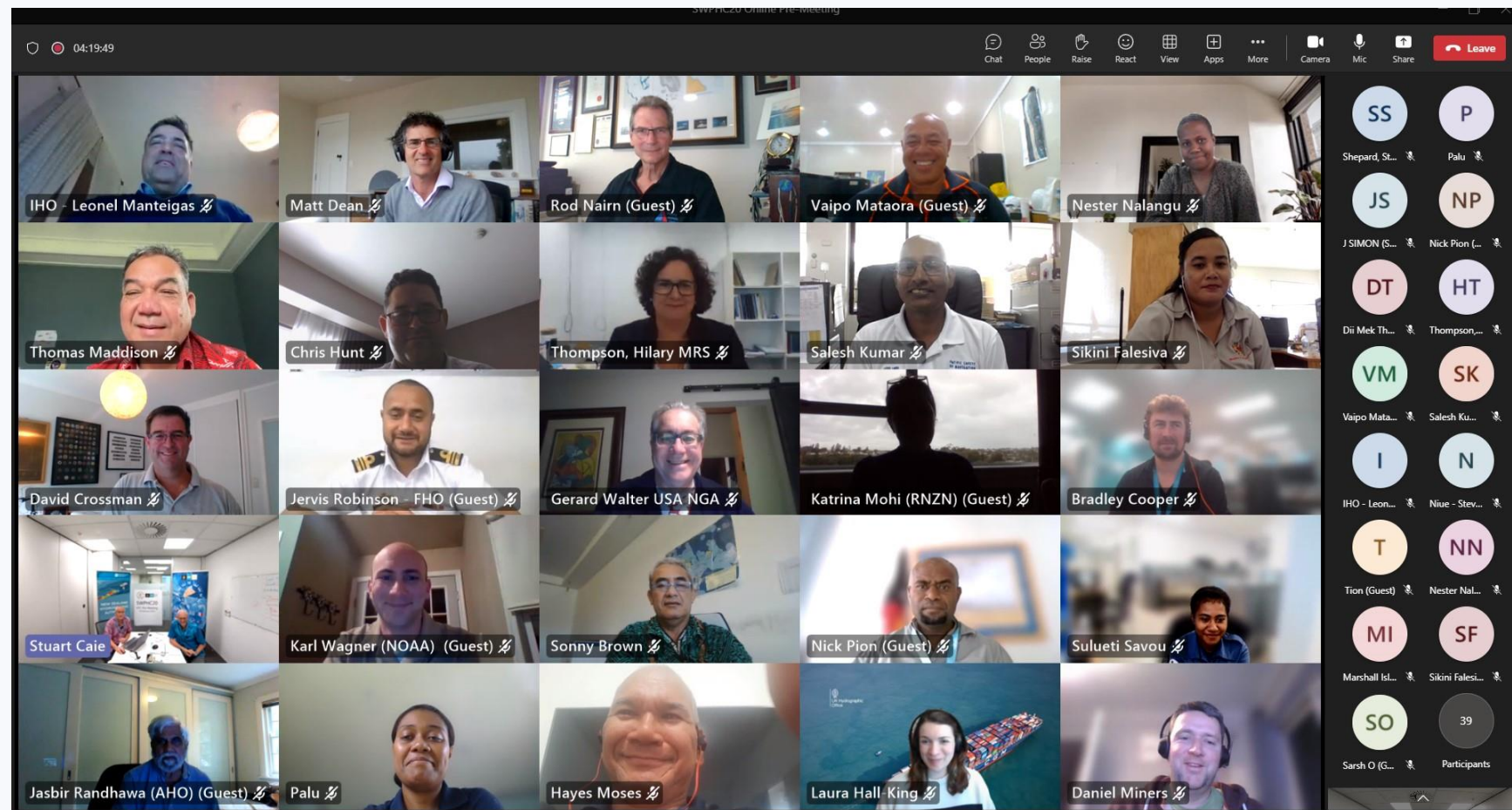


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# 1-Day SWPHC20 VTC Pre-Meeting

International Hydrographic Organization

- 14 Feb 2023
- 80 delegates
- Agenda items
  - Cybersecurity
  - UN-GGIM IGIF-H
  - Empowering Women in Hydrography





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# 20<sup>th</sup> SWPHC Meeting (hybrid)

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

- 22-24 Feb 2023, Wellington, NZ
- 70 delegates
- Agenda items
  - Hydrographic Leaders Programme
  - Empowering Women in Hydrography
  - UN-GGIM IGIF-H (WB Building Partnerships)
  - IHO, IMO, IALA - *Delivery as one*
- Preceded by a 2-day CB Workshop on Hydrographic Governance



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Tokyo, Japan, 12 – 14 June 2023



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# Key Achievements

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

- [SWPHC paper and presentation of IHO Strategic Plan and SWPHC Work Plan](#) to the Pacific Regional Maritime Transport Officials Meeting, November 2022. The paper requested the meeting to engage and collaborate with IHO, IMO, IALA and regional partners to *deliver as one* future Safety of Navigation services in the Pacific region.
- [Safety of Navigation: Delivering as one](#). SWPHC20 action for IHO, IMO and IALA to work together with the SWPHC and the Pacific Community (SPC) to address the capacity building needs of all Coastal States in the region.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Pacific Regional Energy & Transport Ministers Meeting (5th PRETMM) May 2023: SWPHC paper provided to the Transport Ministers for information and an intervention presented by the SWPHC Vice-Chair on behalf of the IHO.
  - [Information Paper TI 06](#): The IHO Strategic Plan 2021- 2026 and the SWPHC Workplan

## 5<sup>th</sup> Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting, May 2023



SWPHC (IHO), SPC, IMO and IALA



SWPHC Vice-Chair, Lt Cdr Jervis Robinson



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# Key Achievements

International  
Hydrographic  
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- A [SWPHC Empowering Women in Hydrography Pacific Network](#) was established in September 2022 to build relationships and support career growth through mentoring, opportunity, and awareness. Fifty-five women have joined the network to-date from around the region as well as from the UK and US; and work in national hydrographic offices, maritime safety authorities, navies, Government science organisations, industry and academia.
- The **Hydrographic Leaders Programme (HLP)**, launched in February 2022, was a priority activity of the SWPHC Work Plan. This initiative was a direct response to the **SWPHC Goal 1** *Increase SWP influence at IHO and other international/intergovernmental bodies*. The HLP comprised online workshops; mentoring; and culminated with the cohort supporting the delivery of a CB workshop on Hydrographic Governance and leading a session on the [challenges facing island nations](#) at SWPHC20 in February 2023.



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# Key Achievements

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- SWPHC MSDIWG focus areas; the development of a [data sharing proposition](#) (presented at SWPHC20); encouraging Coastal States to share data and adopt open data policies; and adopt and implement the UN-GGIM Integrated Geospatial Information Framework-Hydro (IGIF-H).
- SWPHC allocated two seats on IHO Council (CL 43/2022, 7 November 2022). Fiji and New Zealand are designated as the SWPHC Representatives to the Council. Fiji is the first Pacific Island Country to be designated a seat on Council.
- Delivery of IHO CB funded [Workshop on Hydrographic Governance, February 2023](#).

## Why should we share data?

Unlocking the value in hydrographic offices' data

Version 1.0 - February 2023



SWPHC supports the Sustainable Development Goals

IRCC15

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**Technical Workshop on Hydrographic Governance  
20-21 February 2023**





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# Important Findings (RHC top 3 challenges)

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- **Engaging and coordinating** with international and regional agencies, development partners and coastal states at a senior enough level, to **raise awareness** of the benefits of hydrography and adopting and giving effect to open data policies and mutually agreeable practices. (ref: IRCC14-06.1I: SWPHC substantive paper).  
See [DECISIONS OF THE 3rd SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY – Decision 20](#)
- **Supporting** hydrographic governance in Pacific Island Countries and Territories with the introduction of S-100 Next Generation Charting Products & Sunsetting of the Traditional Paper Chart.
- Provision of mechanisms to ensure **greater inclusion and participation** of SWPHC Member States at IHO meetings, in particular the IHO Assembly (SWPHC20 Action 21). Ref: 3-Day SWPHC20 Meeting, Agenda Item 7, Draft Minutes V1.0.  
See [DECISIONS OF THE 3rd SESSION OF THE IHO ASSEMBLY – Decision 21](#)



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# Lessons Learned

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- There is a need to be better connected with regional development partners to be aware of opportunities to cooperate and collaborate in the region to raise awareness of the importance of hydrography.
- There is an increasing need for closer engagement between IHO, IMO, IALA and SPC. This will need to be prioritized in the SWPHC Work Plan with appropriate resourcing and funding, yet to be identified.



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# Proposals

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- IRCC is invited to:
  - **Note** this report.
  - **Consider** if IRCC14 Item 9, Action 17 in whole or part is required in light of A3 PRO3.5, Decision 20.
  - **Consider** any further actions required.
  - **Note** the SWPHC Work Plan 2022-2023.