



# Meso-American & Caribbean RHC

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MACHC Chair



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# MACHC 23

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

- Arranged as in person meeting in St Louis, USA, 28 November - 2 December 2022 in a hybrid format
- Meeting convened with Brazil as Chair and UK as Vice-Chair
- Concluded with UK taking over the Chair position and Suriname becoming Vice-Chair
- MICCWG, MSDIWG, CBC and Seabed 2030 POCs all met prior to the main plenary session
- UK and US joint-chaired a Hydrographic Awareness Seminar which focussed on MSDI
- Good progress made on actions and recommendations
- [MACHC24](#) will take place 11 – 15 December 2023 in Suriname



IRCC15

Tokyo, Japan, 12 – 14 June 2023



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# Key Achievements

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## CBC

- Continued contributions to the International Hydrographic Review
- EWH opportunities
- Participants from MACHC attended the SWAtHC Ports and Shallow Water Survey course and the SEPRHC Hydrographic Databases Workshop and MSI workshop
- Successful completion of the 2022 Cat B Hydrographic Survey Programme by candidates from Guyana and Jamaica
- Guatemala selected for the 2022-2023 session of the Cat A MSC in Hydrographic Science at the University of Southern Mississippi
- IHO funded Technical Visit to Belize taking place in June 2023

**MICC** - MACHC agreed a Regular "Gridded" ENC Scheme for Usage Band 1 only

**MMSDIWG** – continued engagement with multiple stakeholders to advance the use and sharing of geospatial information to support improved decision making, particularly with regards to **MSI** and **Disaster Response**, as well as reaching out to other RHC's to share best practice and knowledge



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# Key Achievements

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**MSIWG** established in December 2022

## **Seabed 2030**

- Close coordination between MACHC Project Coordinator and the RDACC and with IHO DCDB to develop a gap analysis tool
- the IOC recognised the MACHC-IOCARIBE Seabed 2030 Strategy as an endorsed Decade Project of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)
- MACHC Seabed 2030/CSB Coordinator, in collaboration with IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry Working Group (CSBWG) Chair, prepared a MACHC proposal to IRCC for the establishment of a Seabed 2030/CSB Coordinator Collaboration Team

**IHO Council Representatives** for the MACHC region will be Jamaica and Netherlands



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# Important Findings (RHC top 3 challenges)

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- The active participation of some MACHC members in Committee / Working Groups
- Motivating and sustaining member engagement in Seabed 2030
- Securing alternative sources of funding for Capacity Building



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# Lessons Learned

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- The benefit of [IHO-funded training and opportunities](#) disseminated to MACHC members has benefited the selection of candidates from IHO Member States in the MACHC Region
- Concerted effort is required to [increase and sustain collaboration](#) across the region in order to benefit CB training, Seabed 2030 / CSB, and MSDI
- [Technical and High-Level Visits](#) to Associate Members are extremely important to leverage hydrographic and cartographic activities and to raise awareness
- [MACHC website](#) hosted by NOAA / USA is key to supporting the partnerships enjoyed by members of the region by providing a centralised resource and repository.



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# Proposals

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1. Take note of this report.
2. To note the importance of the need for IHO Capacity Building support within the region
3. Read the full report on the IRCC webpage ([IRCC15-06.1J](#))
4. Consider any appropriate action