



FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers

Report to IRCC15

IRCC15
Tokyo, Japan, 12 – 14 June 2023

IRCC15-07H



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IBSC Membership and its Role

Changes in Board membership during reporting period:

12 Board members: 4 FIG, 4 IHO, 4 ICA (+IHO Secretary Leonel Manteigas)

Chair: Capt. Nickolás Roscher (IHO);

Vice-Chair 1: Sobri Syawie (FIG)

Vice-Chair 2: Emeritus Prof. Dr. Lysandros Tsoulos (ICA)

IHO – Capt. Andrew Armstrong; CDRE Rod Nairn and Dr. Arata Sengoku

FIG – Gordon Johnston; Adam Greenland and Prof. Dr. Harald Sternberg

ICA – CDRE J Gurumani, 2 vacant, in the time being (ref. Succession plan).

No changes to the Role of the Board.

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IBSC46- Tokyo, Japan -



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Key Achievements

Meetings held during reporting period:

- IBSC 2022 Workshop – Singapore (7-11 November 2022)
- IBSC46 Meeting - Tokyo, Japan (15 - 26 May 2023)

IBSC worked on the following tasks (Work Program)

- Review the IBSC Standards and maintain IBSC Publications (Task 3.8.4, IHO 3-year Work Programme 2021-2023),
- Review of the IBSC45 Conditional Recognized submissions and those that had been offered an intersessional review (IBSC Work Plan Q2 2022 to Q2 2023, approved IRCC14, Decision 31).



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Result after the Interessional Revisions 2022

| 2022 | In the IBSC45 Meeting | | Interessional Revision | After Interessional Revisions | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| | Total | Standards | | Total | Standards |
| Recognized | 3 | 1 | | 13 | 3 |
| | | 1 | | | 6 |
| | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Could Be Recognized | 7 | 2 | 2 | | 3 |
| | | 3 | 3 | | |
| | | 2 | 2 | | |
| Not Recognized | 3 | 2 | 2 | | |
| | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Total | 13 | | 10 | | 13 |



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Result of submissions from IBSC46

| 2023 Status | In the IBSC46 Meeting | | | Intersessional Revision | After Intersessional Revision | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| | N Total | Standards | | | N Total | Standards | |
| Recognized | 1 | 1 | S-5A | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Could be Recognized | 7 | 2 | S-5A | 2 | | | |
| | | 3 | S-5B | 3 | | | |
| | | 1 | S-8A | 1 | | | |
| | | 1 | S-8B | 1 | | | |
| Not Recognized | 3 | 2 | S-5A | 0 | | | |
| | | 1 | S-5A | 1 | | | |
| Total | 11 | | | 8 | | | |



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The IBSC46 also reviewed the Annual Reports received from institutions holding recognized programmes as well as from the recognized Schemes.

Due to the need arising from IBSC46 to conduct an intersessional review of 8 submissions, as well as to work on the revision of Standards and to define further the process to recognize Subjects of the current Standards, it was decided to conduct a Workshop in Q4 2023.

- The Workshop is expected to be held in London, from 30 October to 03 November 2023.

Succession plan

The IBSC in each meeting has a standing agenda item “Succession Planning” to consider anticipated changes in the membership as some members approach retirement from service as Members of the IBSC. At the end of IBSC46, Dr Arata Sengoku informed the Board on his intention to retire as a Member.

Dr Pablo Sanchez (Spain) is waiting to complete the ICA process to become an IBSC Member. He also attended the meeting participating in the revision of the submissions. After IBSC46 an Italian Nautical Cartographer submitted her CV to be considered by the ICA as a member of the Board.



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EWH project.

Ms Cecilia Cortina (Mexico), currently attending the University of New Hampshire - Nippon Foundation/ GEBCO program alumna, joined the Meeting as an intern supported by Nippon Foundation/GEBCO. During her internship, tutored by Professor Lysandros Tsoulos, she reviewed the Standards and Guidelines as an external, providing some recommendations of improvement that were appreciated by the Members of the Board.



Revision of the ToR and RoP

During the 2022 Workshop, after a projection of the Financial situation of the IBSC Fund, considering that the fee was not increased in the last decade (2010) and that the costs associated with the attendance of the meetings have increased significantly, the Board decided to increase the fees from 450 to 600 euros/year with effect from January 2024. All three parent organizations (IHO, FIG and ICA) will be informed through a letter that will be sent to all institutions with recognized programmes or schemes.



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Recognition of Subjects

The Board decided that it would be appropriate to work on the recognition of Subjects of the S-5 Standards, i.e. the Subjects in the current S5A & S5B standards, in addition to the recognition of full programmes. For example, the S-5A Ed1.0.2 contains 17 Subjects “H3: LiDAR and Remote Sensing”, being one of them. Once the IBSC process is concluded on this matter it is expected that an Institution may offer modules on this or other Subjects recognized by the Board. The objective of the recognition of Subjects is to widen the availability of high-quality, IBSC recognized hydrographic training for S-5 A and B.

Revision of the Standards

The Board discussed the need to update the Standards and potentially, create a new standard for Marine Spatial Data Professionals. During the discussion the need to liaise with other stakeholders, in particular the IHO MSDIWG, to make an informed decision on the way forward on this subject was necessary. This is scheduled for the next intersessional meeting.



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Important Findings

- The increasing number of deficient submissions causing additional workload to the Board.
- Second annual meeting is required to finalize reviews of the deficient submissions.
- Interns from the Empowering Woman in Hydrography project shows positive results.
- The Board also discussed the engagement with the IHO e-Learning Center.



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The IRCC is invited to:

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- Note this report.
- Acknowledge the work done by the IBSC members, to review all 13 submissions received as well as offering intersessional revisions to 8.
- Encourage MS and submitting institutions to engage with the IHO Secretariat early in the process of preparing submissions for programme recognition.
- Consult the Guidelines, FAQs and the White Paper (IHR-Nov-2017 – Article: Maintaining the Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers)
- Approve the IBSC Proposed Work Plan – Q2 2023 to Q2 2024 (Annex A).
- Note the Revised Rules of Procedure with the increase in the annual fees from 450 to 600 € (Annex B).
- Note the intention of the Board to develop a pathway to recognize Subjects of the S-5 Standards S5A & S5B in addition to the recognition of full programmes.
- Take any other actions as considered appropriate.