

ARCTIC REGIONAL MARINE SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURES (MSDI) WORKING GROUP (ARMSDIWG)

TERMS OF REFERENCE (ToR)

References:

- 5th ARHC Meeting (Saint Petersburg, October 2015)
- 6th ARHC Meeting (Iqaluit, Nunavut, October 2016)
- ARHC 6 - Proposal for the Arctic Regional Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (ARMSDIWG)
- International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Strategic Plan for 2021-2026
- Joint Statement of Intent between the Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure and the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission 2020
- IHO Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (MSDIWG)
- Spatial Data Infrastructures: "The Marine Dimension" - Guidance for Hydrographic Offices, Ed. 2.0.0
- Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure (Arctic SDI)
- Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Marine Domain Working Group (Marine DWG)
- United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information (WG-MGI)

1. Background:

- The ARHC, during its 5th Meeting, discussed the benefits of a regional MSDI approach generated by a report on the ARMSDIWG. As an action from the 5th meeting, the United States and Denmark proposed the implementation of an Arctic Regional ARMSDIWG at the 6th ARHC Meeting.
- During the 6th ARHC Meeting, it was decided by the ARHC Member States (MS) present to establish the Arctic Regional Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group (ARMSDIWG) initially chaired by the United States.

2. The Working Group should:

- Identify and assess the statuses of individual MS MSDI implementation and operationalization in alignment with *IHO Strategic Plan* Goal 2, Target 2.1 to support and "promote regional and international cooperation in marine spatial data infrastructures (MSDI)".
- Seek opportunities to encourage and cooperate with other marine/maritime authorities to share their marine spatial information through relevant MSDI concepts when providing data in the Arctic.
- Cooperate with the National Mapping Agencies of the Arctic SDI in accordance with the *Joint Statement of Intent between the Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure Board and the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission 2020*.
- Monitor and actively participate in relevant activities within IHO MSDIWG, OGC Marine DWG, and UN-GGIM WG-MGI.
- Support the targets of UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #14 in the Arctic region through the goal of sharing core, marine/maritime, spatiotemporal data that is reusable.
- Present a yearly report to the ARHC at their meeting. This report should develop a format to include a description on the current status, recommendations on how to proceed with the MSDI implementation, and if deemed necessary, an action plan with specified time schedule for future ARMSDI actions.

3. Rules of Procedures:

- All ARHC Members and Associate Members are encouraged to participate to the ARMSDIWG and to contribute to the work of the ARMSDIWG.
- The ARMSDIWG should be chaired by one of the ARHC MS elected or reconfirmed by the ARHC MS present at the first ARHC meeting following the IHO Assembly.
- The ARMSDIWG should work as far as possible in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations issued by the IHO and IMO.
- The ARMSDIWG should consult Task Groups, Committees and Working Groups or other relevant bodies, as deemed necessary.
- The ARMSDIWG should inform relevant Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs) with the aim to coordinate within the other regions as far as possible.
- The work of the ARMSDIWG will be carried out primarily by correspondence (via e- mails). The members are encouraged to reply without unnecessary delay.
- The ARMSDIWG Chair can on request coordinate ARHC MS views on MSDI topics and present them at the IHO MSDIWG.