

23rd Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission Conference 27-29 August 2018 – Aalborg, Denmark

FINAL MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE (Draft)

A. Opening formalities

A1. Opening of the Conference

Docs: BSHC23_List_Participants; BSHC23_List_Documents

The Chair of the Conference *Mr. Thomas Dehling* opened the 23rd Baltic Sea Hydrographic Conference and welcomed the host, delegates, observers and especially IHO Secretary-General *Dr. Mathias Jonas*.

The Chair thanked the host for the excellent preparation and the unique ice-breaking reception at the premises of the Danish Geodata Agency. It was a great event in a warm atmosphere.

Chair informed delegates, that no representatives of the Russian Federation Department will take part in this conference. He had not received any reply to several e-mail messages.

The Chair noted that the current worldwide developments and the many issues in relation to hydrography provide an extraordinary chance for more visibility outside our community. Thus, the Chair invited all Member States to use the publicity e.g. by UN-GGIM, SDG 14 of the UN and project SEABED 2030 (funded by Nippon Foundation) and to transfer the broad view to the prototype region of the Baltic Sea.

Finally, all participants introduced themselves.

A2. Welcome from the host country

Docs: BSHC23_A2_Programmes

On behalf of the Director of the Danish Hydrographic Office - Denmark *Ms. Sophie Hohwü-Christensen* welcomed delegates to Aalborg. *Ms. Sophie Hohwü-Christensen* informed that Director-General of the Danish Geodata Agency *Ms. Pia Dahl Hojgard* cannot be here and she wishes an interesting and productive Conference and pleasant stay in Aalborg.

Mr. Jens-Peter Weiss Hartmann also welcomed delegates and provided information about practical and organizational issues of the conference.

A3. Adoption of the Agenda

Docs: BSHC23_A3_Agenda

The delegates reviewed the Draft Agenda. It was agreed to postpone the status report on validation Checks for S-58 and S101 (C.6) to the second day. In addition, decided to delete the Agenda item D.5 – eNavigation – development project Smart Maine Fairway. Head of Finish Delegation *Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi* informed Finland will report at the next Conference.

The proposed changes of the Agenda were adopted.

A4. Minutes and actions of the 22nd BSHC Conference

Docs: BSHC23_A4_BSHC22_Final_Minutes; BSHC23_A4_Status of BSHC22_Actions

Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) invited for comments on Final Minutes of the 21st BSHC Conference and, because there were no additional comments, announced the Final Minutes approved.

The status of the Actions of 22nd BSHC Conference has been reviewed:

- Action No. 1-9: in progress (permanent action)
- Action No. 10: no comments up to now - closed (no comments to Final Minutes of the 21st BSHC Conference)
- Action No. 11-12: done
- Action No. 13: done (Denmark reported and up to now is a permanent updating necessary.)
Action No. 1: Denmark and Germany to develop a procedure for updating Mariners' Routeing Guide Baltic Sea; DK/DE
- Action No. 14: done
- Action No. 15: no comments received
- Action No. 16: done
- Action No. 17: done (no comments to BSHC Statues)
- Action No. 18: done (Agenda Item E.1. Signing BSHC Statues)
- Action No. 19: done
- Action No. 20-21: done (please see Agenda Item C.1)
- Action No. 22: done (please see Agenda Item C.2)
- Action No. 23: in progress (please see Agenda Item C.3)
- Action No. 24: done
- Action No. 25: Lithuania: done; Russian Federation: in progress
- Action No. 26-28: done (please see under relevant Agenda Item)

B. IHO work program 1 – Corporate Affairs

B1. Information on Council issues of the IHO

Finland (*Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi*) gave a short overview to preparations for the 2nd Meeting of the IHO Council in London from 9-11 October 2018. *Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi* informed that proposals for the meeting are requested before 9. July and comments before 31. July. The C-2 Red Book was published on 10. August 2018. All MS are invited to give comments to IHO secretary. Issues that may have regional or common interest of BSHC are:

- Proposal (IRCC) for amendments to the IHO Resolution 2/1997
- Report (and proposals) of the Strategic Plan Review Working Group
- Development and Future Provision of S-100 based Products.

The Draft amended IHO Resolution 2/1997 will be presented in Agenda item B.7.

The Chair thanked Finland for information provided and stated that Commission took note of the information.

B2. Information about the activities of the IHO and outcomes of the IRCC10 meeting

SG IHO (*Dr. Mathias Jonas*) expressed the sincere congratulations of the Secretariat for the appointment of new national Hydrographers of Estonia and Germany. Then he reflected the conduct of the first IHO Council meeting (C-1) in November 2017 in Monaco and explained some of the consequences for the operations of the Organization. He reported about preliminary considerations at the Secretariat to possibly shorten future Assemblies by one day compared to A-1. In this context he suggested to better synchronize the reporting of the IRCC Chair about coordinated regional activities and the individual RHC's reports towards the Assembly to avoid duplication and to create a lively image of specifics of the particular regional commission.

According to SG report, IHO membership currently enjoys a satisfactory growth thanks to the revised accession procedures under the renewed IHO Convention. More IHO members are expected for the coming years. The biggest lack in geographic coverage of IHO membership remains with Africa. SG renewed his invitation to Lithuania to join the IHO to become a full IHO member and thus being granted with the right to publish INT charts.

SG welcomed the BSHC initiative to establish a permanent MSIWG under the supervision of the Commission. He emphasized the foreseeable future substantial changes within the WNWNS framework triggered by developments like e-navigation and advanced Marine Traffic Management which call for improvements and smooth implementation under the auspices of such a group.

SG mentioned the ongoing engagement of the Secretariat to facilitate the two main pillars of the IHO Work Programme: technical standardization and capacity building. He thanked the BSHC member states for active participation in both fields through nomination of experts and office bearers for the respective working groups. As a matter to note he mentioned the nomination of an employee of the Polish Hydrographic Service to attend an Category A education course in hydrography provided under the CBSC framework. SG further explained that the Secretariat strives to facilitate administrative tasks of the member states and regional commissions through further improvement of the Secretariat's GIS infrastructure. According to his comments, the INTtoGIS II system incorporate all such services. It is planned to provide template solutions to

enable the member states to maintain national entries online in a swift and smooth manner. In this context he reminded the BSHC member states to consider verifying the up-to-date-ness of national entries in C-55 and P-5 as put forward with BSHC23_B.1 document. He took note of Denmark's proposal for smart retrieval functions to generate individual reports about the up-to-date-ness of the member states individual information hosted by the system.

SG reassured the commission on the Secretariat's ongoing commitment for crowd sourcing as a promising approach to complete the image of the seas and ocean's part of the world. In this context he highlighted the impressive public response to the announced activities of the SeaBed2030 project. He suggested strong collaboration between the ongoing activities of the Commission to maintain the Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database and the regional activities on data gatherings under the SeaBed2030 framework in addition to the established relations to GEBCO and EMODNET activities of the European Union.

Tasked by the first IHO Council, the Secretariat is working on an overhaul of all IHO outreach and communication instruments. According to the SG report, first results will be presented at the second IHO Council in October. This presentation will coincide with the presentation of details of the planned activities to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the IHO in 2021. One of the projects he unveiled is the publication of the prestige book to be written by prominent contributors to the work of the IHO within the last 50 years. For the subject of the International Hydrographic Review he reminded the Commission to nominate a successor of his own person to represent the region at the IHR editorial board and informed briefly about the proposed digital revamp of this prestigious IHO publication.

The BSHC took note and endorsed the Secretariat's report.

Denmark (*Mr. Jens-Peter Weiß Hartmann*) highlighted the complications to update different webpages independently. It will be good to update one specific page and the other pages to be updated automatically. SG informed about developments and projects for easier access to documents.

**Action No.2: Evaluate the improvement of the updating means of national information;
IHO Secretariat**

Centenary celebrations of IHO

Secretary-General (*Dr. Mathias Jonas*) gave an overview of the plans regarding the centenary celebration of the IHO and invited to provide material.

B3. National reports

B3.1. National Report of Denmark

Docs: BSHC23_B3.1_National_Report_Denmark

Mr. Lars Hansen presented the National Report (please see NR) and highlighted that Denmark and Sweden are planning new routes from Skagen through the Kattegat until 2020. Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) explained that new detailed knowledge about sea traffic allowed describing better ship routes. The new route mean a 6% reduction of emission. The participants discussed and commented the central significance of detailed surveys and the big economic benefits.

The Chair thanked Denmark for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

Action No.3: Include the topic of propagating new routing measures at the Kattegat information in BSHC 24 agenda; BSHC Chair

B3.2. National Report of Estonia

Docs: BSHC23_B3.2_National_Report_Estonia

Mr. Olavi Heinlo presented the overview about the Estonia Activities (please see NR). He informed about the portal METOC. This portal gives information about all operative/ real time measurements in the Estonian coast and coastal sea.

The training of one student from Estonia funded by IHO capacity building was highlighted. The Chair thanked Estonia for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

B3.3. National Report of Finland

Docs: BSHC23_B3.3_National_Report_Finland

Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi presented National Report (please see NR) and highlighted the successful pilot for LiDAR in very shallow water. The project combined LiDAR and MBES survey and he showed the results in a video.

Mr. Rainer Mustaniemi informed that the Ministry of Transport and Communications is planning a major reorganization for the year 2019 and the implementation project for the new vertical chart reference N2000 (BSCD2000) is ongoing.

The Chair thanked Finland for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

B3.4. National Report of Germany

Docs: BSHC23_B3.4_National_Report_Germany

The head of the German delegation *Mr. Stefan Grammann* presented the report (please see NR) on the activities of the Federal Maritime and Hydrographic Agency (BSH).

Mr. Stefan Grammann reported that BSH has developed for national shipping a scheme of DIN A1 sized paper charts and published the first DIN A1 chart for the Baltic Sea (2018/6, chart number 2610).

Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) questioned the reason for DIN A1-format. *Mr. Stefan Grammann* explained the difficulties with DIN A2-format for charts e.g. overlaps. The mayor role of nautical paper charts will be the redundancy for electronic navigation.

Sweden (*Mr. Patrik Wiberg*) asked whether BSH is using LiDAR. The German National Hydrographer *Mr. Thomas Dehling* answered directly that currently the BSH is not using LiDAR. The BSH resurvey the coastline periodically all six years in cooperation with other federal state agencies. The Federal State for Nature Protection (SH) use LiDAR regularly. The data will be shared between the partners.

The Chair thanked Germany for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

B3.5. National Report of Latvia

Docs: BSHC23_B3.5_National_Report_Latvia

Mr. Bruno Spels presented National Report (please see NR) and gave an overview of the main activities of Hydrographic Service of Maritime Administration of Latvia.

Under the topic 'Capacity Building' *Mr. Bruno Spels* reported that one hydrographer completed CAT B course and one cartographer is currently studying 1 year CAT A course organized by Nippon Foundation in USA.

The Chair thanked Latvia for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

B3.6. National Report of Lithuania

Docs: BSHC23_B3.6_National_Report_Lithuania

Mr. Emilis Tertelis presented the National Report (please see NR) and highlighted the developments in direct relationship with the EU CEF co-financed project "FAMOS Odin: finalizing surveys for the Baltic motorways of the sea".

Current Lithuania is in the process to become a member of IHO. Secretary-General (*Dr. Mathias Jonas*) and Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) offered their support to ease the procedure.

The Chair thanked Lithuania for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

B3.7. National Report of Poland

Docs: BSHC23_B3.7_National_Report_Polandf

Cpt. Andrzej Kowalski presented the National Report (please see NR) by giving an overview about hydrographic surveys, charts production, nautical publications and World Hydrography Day celebration in Gdansk.

Poland has informed that the Polish Parliament passed the Legal Act about IHO Standards for Hydrographic Surveys on 28 March 2018. The Legal Act comprises the IHO S-44 Order Specifications and in addition the national definition for "extra special". The Order "extra special" is designated for hydrotechnical constructions (building, foundation and verification) and for areas, which requires extraordinary safety of navigations.

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) highlighted the possibility to define a Legal Act for Hydrographic Standards like S-44. Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) and Finland (*Mr. Seppo H. Mäkinen*) explained their national adaptations of S-44.

The Chair thanked Poland for the Report and the Commission took note of the Report.

B3.8. National Report of Russian Federation

Docs: BSHC23_B3.8_National_Report_Russia

The Chair informed that the Russian Federation did not provide a National Report.

B3.9. National Report of Sweden

Docs: BSHC23_B3.9_National_Report_Sweden

Mr. Patrik Wiberg presented National Report (please see NR) and highlighted the successful surveys, so that 60% of all Swedish waters now fulfils the FSIS-44 Standards (common Finnish-Swedish realization of S-44 named FSIS-44). *Mr. Patrik Wiberg* informed over the changes in the Swedish Maritime Administration. The new head of division *System Development* is Mr. Kennet Swahn and Mr. Thomas Gränne is responsible for division *Product coordination*. The new Chart Production System – CARIS HPD has been implemented. New Editions of paper charts and small craft charts were produced from CARIS HPD and they are optimistic to fulfill the production plan.

The actual Swedish maritime limits and boundaries are available at <http://www.sjofartsverket.se/sv/Maritima-Tjanster/Havsgranser/>. Sweden has proclaimed a Contiguous Zone in Swedish waters.

The Swedish Maritime Administration is establishing a Category B Hydrographic Surveyors Program in Sweden. The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) was interested to get more information about the course e.g. the language.

The Chair thanked Sweden the Report and stated that Commission took note of the Report.

Action No.4: To send information paper on Category B Hydrographic Survey Program to CBSC-Chair before next CBSC-Meeting, SE

B4. Status Report from the IHO-EU Network WG (IENWG)

Docs: BSHC23_B4_IHO-EU_Network_SE

Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) gave overview of the activities (please see EN). It was followed by a discussion on the role of the regional coordinators, their relationship to the MS and the general objectives. The Commission agreed that the work of IENWG is important and that BSHC MS can be involved directly to improve the visibility at EU-Commission.

The Chair thanked Sweden to represent the BSHC in the EU Network WG. The Chair thanked Sweden for the presentation. The Commission took note of the Report and approved the following decision:

Decision No.1: Sweden to continue to represent the BSHC in IHO – EU Network WG

B5. Navarea 1 Baltic Sea Sub-area MSI Report

Docs: BSHC23_B5_MSI_SE

Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) presented the Report on MSI activities in the Baltic sea Region (please see EN). The report highlighted the *BALTICO Meeting 2018* (documents at www.sjofartverket.se/balticomeeting) that was hosted by the Russian Federation, Department of Navigation and Oceanography in St. Petersburg 24 – 25 April 2018.

Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) informed that the name “MSI Sweden” was changed to “Sweden Traffic” and the new e-mail address to be used is: swedentraffic@sjofartsverket.se

The Chair thanked Sweden for the presentation and referred to the recommendations from IRCC to

- encourage the use of the Joint Manual on **MSI** to ensure correct terminology and formats are used in MSI messages.
- encourage closer engagement of the National MSI Coordinators of Member States with the relevant NAVAREA Coordinator(s).
- raise awareness of the impact of e-navigation on the provision of MSI in the respective regions and to highlight the use of the Joint Manual on MSI to ensure correct terminology and formats are used in MSI messages.
- encourage the attendance of Member States and Observers at WVNWS-SC meetings.

The Chair noted that this bullet points are obviously not problematic in the BSHC region. The Commission took note of the Report.

B6. Proposal to establish a Baltic Sea MSIWG to supersede the BALTICO meetings

Docs: BSHC23_B6_Baltic_Sea_MSIWG_to_supersede_the_BALTICO_meetings_SE

Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) presented the Proposal to establish a Baltic Sea MSIWG to supersede the BALTICO meetings (please see EN). Up to now the BALTICO Meetings have been used to make decisions for improvements to the MSI service in the region although it has no formal authority. At the recent BALTICO Meeting in Sankt Petersburg in April 2018, a

proposal to formalize the BALTICO meeting under BSHC was discussed. The meeting agreed that Sweden forwards a proposal, to the coming BSHC meeting. Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) presented following suggestions:

1. The existing forum to be organized as a permanent Working Group under the Baltic Sea Hydrographic Commission (BSHC).
2. The name of the Working Group to be the Baltic Sea MSI Working Group (BSMSIWG).
3. Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for the Baltic Sea MSI Working Group (BSMSIWG) included in Annex 1 to be confirmed.

The Chair thanked Sweden for the Proposal and invited all MS to comment the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures.

The Chair summarised the discussion and noted that MS are in favour of the establishment of the Working Group.

The Commission took note of the Proposal and approved the actions:

Decision No.2: to install Baltic Sea MSI Working Group (BSMSIWG) and adopt the Term of Reference and Rules of Procedures, electing the initial chair of the WG directly at the Conference

Decision No.3: to elect Sweden as Chair of WG

Action No.5: all MS invited to nominate members for BSMSIWG; MS

B7. Draft amended IHO Resolution 2/1997

*Docs: BSHC23_B7_Draft-Amended_IHO_Resolution_2-1997;
BSHC23_B7_Draft-Amended_IHO_Resolution_2-1997_Annex_A;
BSHC23_B7_Draft-Amended_IHO_Resolution_2-1997_Annex_B*

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) explained the latest information of the revision of IHO Resolution 2/1997 (Please see EN). The second proposal (annex B) is a first draft of an extensive review on the establishment of RHCs and its relationship with IHO. The IRCC adopted actions 3 to 6 (see EN) and invited RHCs to provide comments and report back to IRCC.

Denmark (*Mr. Jens-Peter Weiß Hartmann*) noted that the wording in Annex B (Point 6) is not clear enough. BSHC MS are invited to forward notes and comments to the next BSHC-Chair.

The Commission took note of the Report and endorses the proposed actions:

Action No.6: All MS to provide input at the IHO-Resolution 2/1997 Annex B forward to the BSHC Chair by mid october 2018

Action No.7: BSHC Chair to forward this information to IRCC and to track the further development

C. IHO work program 2 – Hydrographic Services and Standards

C1. Report of Re-Survey Monitoring Working Group (MWG)

Docs: BSHC23_C1_MWG_Report_FI

Finland (MWG Chair *Mr. Seppo H. Mäkinen*) presented the report (please see EN) and gave an overview about the re-survey status. Sweden (*Mr. Hans Öiås*) clarified the possibility to use the Swedish general chart (at scale 1:500 000) for background charts in the HELCOM re-survey database portal. The Swedish general charts cover most MS waters in the Baltic Sea. Sweden needs the permission from MS to do so.

Finland (*Mr. Seppo H. Mäkinen*) informed that a regional discussion group on S-44 PT work (see BSHC22) has been established and the meetings are back to back with e.g. MWG meetings.

The Chair thanked Finland for the presentation. The Commission took note of the report and approved the actions:

- Action No.8: MS to provide background chart information for HELCOM-resurvey-website or to give permission to Sweden to use the overview chart
- Action No.9: to encourage member states to study and define Cat I & II areas in their waters based on the existing AIS-information on commercial shipping and to utilize risk assessment tools
- Action No.10: MS to provide input to the regional standpoint in HSPT issues

C2. Report of Chart Datum Working Group (CDWG)

Docs: BSHC23_C2_CDWG_Report-SE

Sweden (CDWG Chair *Mr. Thomas Hammerklint*) presented the report (please see ENs). He summarized the answer to the Action number 22 in Action list of the 22nd BSHC Conference (see Annex 3). He gave a summary of the implementation status of the vertical reference level Baltic Sea Chart Datum (BSCD2000). He explained further the changes in TORs and Work Programme 2018-2019.

The Chair thanked Sweden for the presentation. The Commission took note of the report and approved the proposed actions and decision:

- Decision No.4: BSHC endorsed the proposed CDWG TORs
- Action No.11: to invite MS to consider supporting gravity measurements and geoid computation
- Action No.12: to add task to WP to provide an overview where additional gravity measurements are needed
- Action No.13: to BSHC Chair in liaison with CDWG Chair to write a letter to the GI-Registry Manager to include BSCD2000 to the registry

C3. Report of Baltic Sea Bathymetry Database Working Group (BSBDWG)

Docs: BSHC23_C3_BSBD-WG Report

Sweden (*Mr. Hans Öias*) presented the BSBDWG Report (please see EN) and noted that the portal is running smoothly. He reported about the WG plan to optimize the production tools and documentation. Sweden explained that they are in need of a better set of unprocessed data from Denmark to produce a higher resolution bathymetric model of the Baltic Sea. Denmark (*Mr. Jens-Peter Weiß Hartmann*) noted that they are only allowed to share 500m-resolution gridded data products. Denmark agreed to investigate the possibility of sharing data with higher resolution for certain sea areas.

Sweden (*Mr. Hans Öias*) informed the action items No. 23 and 25 from 22nd BSHC Conference are still in progress. As a next step, the WG plans to reinforce the cooperation with GEBCO and EMODnet.

The Chair thanked Sweden for the presentation. The Commission took note of the report and approved the proposed actions:

Decision No.5: BSHC tasked BSBDWG to cooperation with GEBCO and EMODnet

Action No14: Denmark and Russian Federation are invited to distribute good resolution (large scale – 1:50000) coastline to Sweden in order to enhance the presentation in the BSBD portal and to contact SE regarding the procedure if necessary

Action No15: to Russian Federation to make effort to provide bathymetric data to BSBD portal

C4. Report of Baltic Sea North Sea Marine Spatial Data Information Working Group (BSNSMSDIWG)

Docs: BSHC23_C4_BSNSMSDIWG_DK

Denmark (*Mr. Jens-Peter Weiß Hartmann*) gave overview of the Report (please see EN) and highlighted the activities in different workshops and interdisciplinary working groups. He presented the goals and results.

The Chair thanked Denmark for the presentation and the Commission took note of the Report.

C5. FAMOS project status Report

Docs: BSHC23_C5_FAMOS_SE

Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) presented the FAMOS project status Report (please see EN). He noted that the FAMOS project has been very successful and is providing information for more safety, accuracy and efficiency in shipping. Members of a FAMOS Conference this year discussed the further extension of the project in cooperation with the STM project of the EU. They prepared a draft paper called STM – FAMOS 2019-2020.

The Chair thanked Sweden for the presentation and the Commission took note of the Report.

C6. Status report on Validation Checks for S-58 and S101

Docs: BSHC23_C6_Validation_Tests_Report

Denmark (Mr. Richard Anthony Fowler) gave an overview of current validation checks in S-58 6.1.0 and the status of the development of validation checks for S-101 data (please see EN). He explained the production of test data sets are now in the final stages. The S-100 Working Group decided to split the checks into S-100 generic checks, that can be used for all S-100 based products, and product specific checks.

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) emphasized that it is really crucial for BSHC MS to actively support the development of S-100.

The Chair thanked Denmark for the presentation and the invitation to the ordinary S-100 WG meeting in March 2019. The Commission took note of the report.

C7. Workshop on High Density bathymetric ENC

Germany (*Mr. Stefan Grammann*) presented the activities in development of an official service for high resolution bathymetric ENCs (bENC) and the S-102 activities at BSH. He invited MS to participate in a technical workshop in Hamburg in April 2019 to share the knowledge and to discuss further developments.

The Chair thanked Germany for the presentation and the Commission took note of the Report.

Action No.16: Germany to invite MS to participate to technical WS on high resolution bathymetric ENC

D. D IHO work program 3 – Inter Regional Coordination and Support

D1. Report of BSHC representative to WENDWG

Docs: BSHC23_D1_ENDWG_Report_FI

Finland (BSHC representative *Mr. Jarmo Mäkinen*) presented the Report (please see EN) and highlighted outcomes of the WENDWG8 Meeting in Buenos Aires in March 2018. Sweden (*Mr. Magnus Wallhagen*) asked about the process to report ENC overlaps. Finland (*Mr. Jarmo Mäkinen*) described the process and showed the new version of ENC Catalogue by IHO.

The Chair thanked Finland for the presentation and the Commission took note of the report.

D2. Report of Baltic Sea INT Chart Coordination Working Group (BSICCWG)

Docs: BSHC23_D2_BSICCWG_Report_FI

Finland (BSICCWG Chair *Mr. Jarmo Mäkinen*) presented the report (please see EN) and highlighted the activities on BSICCWG5 meeting in Gdansk in November 2017. He informed about the updating of the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures for WG. *Mr. Jarmo Mäkinen* explained the proposals to change several geographical names; “Middle Baltic” to “Central Baltic” and “Central Baltic Sea” to “Baltic Proper” and to shift the limit between Middle Baltic and South-Eastern Baltic as well as the limit between Kattegat and Skagerrak. The Chair thanked Finland for the presentation.

The proposals prepared by BSICCWG were discussed in detail. The BSHC approved the proposed changes of “Middle Baltic” to “Central Baltic” and “Central Baltic Sea” to “Baltic Proper”. However, due to the short notice for MS and the rather imprecise proposals the WG was tasked to further elaborate the other naming proposals and to report back to BSHC24.

The Commission took note of the Report and approved the following actions:

Decision No.6: to adopt updated TORs and ROPs for BSICCWG

Decision No.7: approved the proposed changes of “Middle Baltic” to “Central Baltic” and “Central Baltic Sea” to “Baltic Proper”**Decision No.8: to task BSICCWG to further elaborate the change of naming limits and to report back to BSHC24**

Action No.17: BSICCWG to further work on the proposal to change the limit between Baltic Sea and North Sea and the limit between Middle Baltic and South-Eastern Baltic

Action No.18: BSICCWG to further develop the proposal for adjustment of coordinates in level 3

D3. Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide C – 55 Status in BSHC Member States Review

Secretary-General (*Dr. Mathias Jonas*) informed under the agenda item B.2 one day before. The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) presented supplementary details in agenda item D.4.

D4. IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee Issues Review (CBSC)

Docs: BSHC23_D4_CBSC_Issues_DE

Germany (CBSC Chair and BSHC Chair *Mr. Thomas Dehling*) presented the Report (please see EN) and highlighted the developments for Publication C-55. The IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) established a C-55 Review Project Team (C-55RPT). The CBSC invited the Commission to support the use of CATZOC information as an interim solution as an indicator for survey adequacy and to encourage Member States, via RHCs, to provide CATZOC information for C-55, directly or via RENCs as an interim solution introducing CATZOC information.

The Commission took note of the Report.

D5. eNavigation- development project Smart Marine Fairway

Agenda item deleted.

D6. UN-GGIM

Denmark (*Mr. Jens-Peter Weiß Hartmann*) presented the activities of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) with the focus of the establishment and work of the Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information. He highlighted the Work Plan 2018/2019 and the outcome of the meetings.

The Chair thanked Denmark for the presentation and the Commission took note of the report.

D7. Hydrographic Data Provision

Docs: BSHC23_D7_Hydrographic_Data_Provision

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) informed that currently the topic enjoys a prominent visibility, partially initiated through “Seabed 2030”. The Chair emphasized the activities in BSHC and that BSHC MS should consider the release of hydrographic data

The Commission took note of the Report and approved the action:

Action No.19: All MS to consider to release bathymetric datasets or subsets into the public domain via IHO DCDB

D8. Crowd Sourced Bathymetry

Denmark (*Mr. Jens Peter Weiß Hartmann*) presented the Report and clarified the reasons for the establishment a Crowdsourced Bathymetry Working Group (CSBWG). The CSBWG was tasked

by the IRCC to develop a draft IHO publication on policy for trusted crowdsourced bathymetry (CSB) data. The final draft version of the B-12 Guidelines was made available via the IHO website prior to IRCC10.

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) asked MS if they have projects with CSB data. Denmark (*Mr. Lars Hanson*) explained that many questions are still unanswered e.g. how to manage, produce and validate the data, the data policy and the data quality.

The Chair thanked Denmark for the presentation and the MS for the statements. The Commission took note of the report.

D9. Cooperation with other organizations

Docs: BSHC23_D9_Cooperation with other organizations; BSHC23_D9_Annex IRCC10-09B-Stakeholders_Events_2018

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) presented the report (please see Explanatory Notes). The relevance of the list of stakeholder events (see Annex A) was considered rather low. MS see no need for a further existence of the list.

The Commission took note of the report and approved the action:

Action No.20: to BSHC Chair to forward the view to the next IRCC-Meeting

D10. BSHC Website

Docs: BSHC23_D10_BSHC website

Sweden (*Mr. Patrik Wiberg* and *Mr. Hans Öiås*) presented the report and explained the BSHC website usage statistics. *Mr. Patrik Wiberg* asked the MS whether and how Sweden should give a report about statistics and developments. The BSHC agreed that the statistics presented was useful information and should be reported annually.

The Chair thanked Sweden for the presentation. The Commission took note of the Report and approved the action:

Action No.21: Sweden to prepare the BSHC-Website statistics and report regularly at the BSHC Conferences

E. Any other business

E.1 Signing of the revised BSHC Statutes as amended in 2017

Docs: BSHC23_E1_Statutes_BSHC_amended_2018

The Chair (*Mr. Thomas Dehling*) prepared a copy the revised Statutes for every MS for signing. The official signing was done under agenda item I.

E.2 Participation of stakeholders at BSHC Conference

Several RHCs are open for participation of stakeholders in their conferences. The MS discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal to invite stakeholders at BSHC Conferences. The BSHC view is, that it should be decided on a case by case basis if an open forum back to back with the BSHC Conference.

The Chair thanked all participants for this open discussion and the Commission approved the decision:

Decision No.10: The host of BSHC-Conference might consider having open sessions back to back with the ordinary conference

E.3 Volunteer to IHR Editorial Board

The Chair asked for volunteers to represent the BSHC in the IHR Editorial Board. No candidates were named at the Conference. Therefore that topic remains open.

F. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair

BSHC Conference elected Mrs. Pia Dahl Hojgaard (Denmark) unanimously as Chair of the BSHC, and elected Cpt. Andrzej Kowalski (Poland) unanimously as Vice-Chair of the Commission.

G. Place and date of next Conference

According to the regular scheme Poland volunteered to host the next BSHC Conference. The Conference thanked Poland. Poland (*Cpt. Andrzej Kowalski*) announced that the date of BSHC24 will be the second week of September, precisely 10-12 September 2019 and the place will be Gdansk.

H. Review of BSHC23 List of Actions

The Conference reviewed the Draft List of Actions of the BSHC23 and with some amendments it was approved.

I. Closing ceremony

The BSHC23 Chair expressed special thanks to all participants and utmost gratitude to the host Denmark and the excellent hospitality. The BSHC23 Chair invited MS to sign the BSHC Statutes and declared the conference closed at 12:10 on 29th August 2018.