



**23<sup>rd</sup> BSHC Meeting**  
27-29 August 2018  
Aalborg, Denmark

Agenda item B.4  
Report of the IHO-EU Network  
SWEDEN

## **Status Report from the IHO-EU Network WG (IENWG)**

### **Background**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is established between the IHO and the European Commission (EC). The purpose is to provide a framework ensuring a continuing liaison between IHO and EU in the specific areas of common interest. The EU Commission's Directorate General (DG) for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) acts as the contact point on the EC side. From the IHO side the IHO-EU Network WG (IENWG) has been established as a working group under IRCC, which acts as the IHO contact point. The IENWG is chaired by France, Laurent Louvart, and consists of representatives from all Regional Hydrographic Commissions concerned. Sweden represents the BSHC.

### **IHO-EU Network meetings and representatives**

Since the 22<sup>th</sup> BSHC meeting in September 2017 two IENWG meetings have been arranged. One in Paris 6 – 7 February 2018 as a preparatory meeting for the following meeting. At the meeting in Paris Laurent Louvart (FR) was elected as chair of the IENWG and Corine Lochet (FR) was re-elected as secretary and vice chair. At the second meeting in Brussels 27 – 28 February 2018 all EU member states HOs were invited. The internal plenary IENWG-8 meeting on the first day had the following major topics:

- Future work and structure of the IENWG
- Marine Spatial Planning
- EU Projects
- Wide scope uses of S 102 Standard (not limited to safety of navigation)
- Historical Documents

On the second day the 9th EC-IHO meeting was held at the CPMR Offices under the headline "Protecting our coasts: how to anticipate and monitor coastal risks". Several DGs and representatives were present (DG Mare, CPMR, EMODnet, Copernicus, EuroGOOS/EOOS and representatives from several regions. Very positive was the excellent representation of HOs from the NSHC. Important topics were:

- Visibility of hydrography
- Future perspectives of co-operation
- Participation of IHO representatives in EuroGOOS Assembly and EOOS Conference

The following member states represent the RHCs concerned:

- Arctic HC (ARHC) – Denmark
- Baltic Sea HC (BSHC) – Sweden

- Eastern Atlantic HC (EAtHC) – France
- Mediterranean and Black Seas HC – Greece
- Nordic HC (NHC) – Norway
- North Sea HC (NSHC) – Germany
- The IHB is represented by Director Abri Kampfer

The meetings are always open for any IHO member state to participate in. Italy and UK has usually participated in the IENWG meetings.

## Ongoing in the IHO-EU Network

### Coastal Mapping

A consortium, led by SHOM (FR), with 19 partners from 15 countries was awarded the contract by the DG MARE in June 2015. See <http://coastal-mapping.eu/> . An algorithm has been developed, and is available in the portal, in order to calculate and suggest suitable survey methods for different depths ranges and different turbidity. The project was finalized in December 2016. The portal will be up and running until 2018. A proposal of a future Joint European Mapping Programme has been proposed and has been presented to the EU Commission. Involved from the NSHC in the project were Belgium, France (lead), Germany, Ireland, Norway and Sweden

The result of the Coastal Mapping project and a proposed way forward for mapping EU:s coastal waters is presented for EU Parliament Intergroup for Seas, Rivers, Islands and Coastal Areas. The meeting was chaired by the vice-president for Marine Knowledge MEP Ricardo Serrão Santos (Portugal). MEP Gesine Meissner (Germany), president of the Intergroup, participated also actively.

### EMODnet phase 3 - High Resolution Seabed Mapping

The DG MARE has launched the EMODnet in order to be able to give easy access to marine data, of the EU member states waters, to the society as a whole. There are the following themes in EMODnet (see also <http://www.emodnet.eu/>):

- Bathymetry
- Geology (including sedimentology data)
- Seabed Habitats
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Physics
- Human Activities
- Coastal Mapping

The EMODnet data infrastructure is being constructed in three major phases and is currently in the 3rd phase of development (2017 - 2020). Building on the EMODnet Bathymetry portal developed during Phase I (2009-2013) & Phase 2 (2013-2017), Phase 3 will see further upgrading of the EMODnet Digital Terrain Models (DTM), including incorporation of more surveys and further improvement of the digital bathymetry. Satellite Derived Bathymetry (SDB) data will be included to cover gaps in survey coverage. Coverage of the DTM will be extended to include also the European coastal zones as well as the European Arctic region and Barentz sea. Furthermore, higher resolution DTM will be developed and made available where underlying data are available and released for

publication by its owners. (see also <http://www.emodnet.eu/> and <http://portal.emodnet-bathymetry.eu/>):

## **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the BSHC continues to monitor the ongoing work within the EC through participation in the future IHO-EU Network. Sweden (Magnus Wallhagen) is willing to continue to represent the BSHC.

## **The Commission is invited to**

- Take note the report
- Discuss the future perspectives of the WG and the networking
- Decide on the representative of the BSHC and the communication with the MS