



**BALTIC SEA
HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION**



IHO

28th BSHC, D1 Status Report of the BSHC Strategic Correspondence Group

Magnus Wallhagen, SCG Chair



Background

- BSHC26, in September 2021, decided to establish a correspondence group to draft a strategic plan for BSHC, using the IHO Strategic Plan as a foundation. Sweden offered to chair the group and has been the chair since the establishment.
- BSHC27 agreed upon continuation of the SCG with the target to finalize the work and report its result to BSHC28 in 2023.
- The SCG had a VTC-meeting 15 March 2023 with representatives from DE, DK, EE, FI, LT, LV, PL and SE. Main topics on the agenda were:
 - RHC allocated IHO Strategic Plan, Strategic Performance Indicators
 - Gap analysis against IHO Strategic Plan
 - Strategic guidance for regional S-100 implementation
 - Format of a Strategic Plan for BSHC and possible continuation of the SCG



Strategic Performance Indicators (SPI)

- The SCG concluded that the measurement of the SPIs has been implemented by the IHO Secretariat and by the IGIF matrix, coordinated by WENDWG. Thus there is no need for any actions regarding the SPIs.

Gap Analysis against the IHO Strategic Plan

- A gap analysis has been performed by the SCG. However, the SCG considered that the gap analysis has been overtaken by events in the Council and that BSHC has a system in place to track the implementation of the IHO's strategic plan on a RHC level.
- The SCG agreed to archiving the document until any future need for updates may arise The document is published on the BSHC web site.



Strategic Guidance for regional S-100 implementation

- BSHC tasked the BSICCWG, the CDWG and the BSMSIWG to have specific responsibilities for the S-100 implementation in the region.
 - BSICCWG overarching S-100 coordination and specific coordination for S-101 and S-102
 - CDWG coordination for S-104 and S-111
 - BSMSIWG coordination for S-124
- The SCG has involved the respective chairs of these three WGs to draft amended TORs, to include S-100 responsibilities. Subsequently they have been circulated within the WGs.
- Suggested changes in the TORs will be presented for approval at BSHC28, by the respective WG.
- The SCG recommends that the respective WG should update the BSHC on an annual basis regarding the S-100 implementation as part of their reports to BSHC.



The BS-NSMSDIWG status and future

- The SCG discussed the status and future need for the BS-NSMSDIWG in the context of the strategy for the BSHC.
- DK, as the acting BS-NSMSDIWG chair, confirmed that there was an ongoing discussion within the WG.
- The SCG concluded that national MSDIs are established under the INSPIRE directive and thus the need for a MSDIWG under BSHC is limited.
- The SCG was in agreement to recommend the BSHC to close the BS-NSMSDIWG as a BSHC WG.
- The SCG Chair was tasked to inform the NSHC about these ongoing discussions within the BSHC.
- Similar opinions were raised at the following NSHC36 meeting and NSHC decided to keep the BS-NSMSDIWG dormant, until a final decision to continue or shut down the work will be taken at NSHC37, April 2024.



BSHC Strategic plan and future for the SCG

- The SCG decided that the SCG Chair, the BSHC Chair and the BSHC Vice-Chair should discuss further if there is a need for a specific BSHC Strategic Plan.
- Due to time constraints these discussions have not yet taken place yet, at the time of submitting this report.
- The SCG Chair is of the opinion that a specific BSHC Strategic Plan is not needed. The BSHC TORs and the directions from the IHO, mainly through IRCC, gives enough guidance for the work of the Commission.
- If BSHC agree that no specific BSHC Strategic Plan is needed the SCG Chair propose to close the SCG.



Actions requested by BSHC28:

- The Commission is invited to agree upon that the respective WG should update the BSHC on an annual basis regarding the S-100 implementation as part of their reports to BSHC.
- To take note of the amended versions of the respective drafted TORs for BSICCWG, CDWG and BSMSIWG to include S-100 implementation.
- Based on the recommendations from the SCG to agree upon to close the BS-NSMSDIWG as a BSHC WG.
- To discuss if there is a need for a specific BSHC Strategic Plan.
- To discuss if there are any further need for the SCG and if not to close the SCG.
- Take any further actions as deemed appropriate.