

Opening Speech by EAHC Chair

First of all, thanks to the Indonesian hydrographic office, this meeting has been held in this wonderful place, Bali Island. I would appreciate Rear Admiral Harjo Susmoro and other staffs of the Indonesian hydrographic office for hosting this meeting and providing suitable meeting environment for us here.

Also, on behalf of the participants of this meeting, I would like to express my deepest condolence to the people that were killed in the severe disasters such as earthquake, tsunami and flood that occurred in Indonesia. We hope that people's ordinary lives and affected areas will be restored as soon as possible.

At this meeting, about 60 people from 13 countries are attending. We welcome Cambodia, too. Even if it is not an IHO member, we are connected with ocean in East Asia region. I hope that we will help each other and work together for safety of navigation in our region.

There remains difficult issued in EAHC. However, relationships among us have become stronger meeting by meeting, and I believe that the issues will be solved in near future. I have not attended at the other RHC meeting, but it would be no doubt that EAHC is the best RHC in the world. IHO Secretariat, Dr. Jonas surely thinks so too.

So Let's discuss frankly in this annual meeting, talk with each other during breaks not to affect the meeting on the next day and make this meeting fruitful finally.

Thank you.