

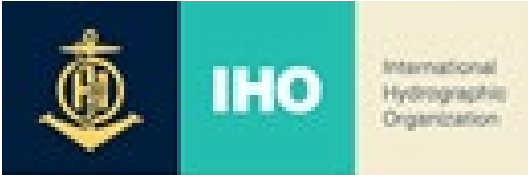
21st Meeting of the Meso America – Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission

MACHC International Chart Coordination
Working Group (MICC).

MACHC Regional ENC Scheme sub working group on a Regional MACHC Scheme

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Background

- During the 19 meeting of the MACHC 2018, Colombia presented a research project as an alternative to improve the ENC Scheme of the region on the overview, general and coastal navigation purposes
- At the XX MACHC meeting in Dominican Republic, Colombia presented a proposal for a Regional ENC Scheme, to unify cell sizes based on current coverage of INT Paper charts, in order to reduce the number of cells to maintain.
- At the same meeting the creation of a Sub working group on a Regional MACHC Scheme was approved by the Member States.
- The objective of the MICC Sub working group is to redesign and correct the ENCs before facing the challenge of the S-101 standard
- In addition, the increase in the use of electronic nautical cartography has led to some countries and the IHO to rethink the forms of production and design of their cartographic schemes, having electronic nautical cartography as a primary product, as it is reflected in the Final Report “The Future of the Paper Nautical Chart”.

Actions taken

- The ENC scheme proposed by Colombia was adjusted according to the comments made during the XX MACHC meeting
- Captain Ricardo Ramos FREIRE (PhD), Vice chair of the MICC collaborated in the analysis of ENC coverage for the Region in band 3, and observations of the MICC chair were also received.
- Julio Castillo, NOAA representative to the MICC, supported the efforts to generate a regional scheme, and expressed his availability to harmonize his plan within the framework of ENC coverage in the region.
- A questionnaire was prepared by the sub working group, and sent to the MACHC Member States together with the adjusted proposal, in order to have feedback regarding convenience, feasibility and acceptability of adopting a regional ENC scheme in the short, medium or long term.
- Thanks to five Member States that responded the questionnaire (NL, USA, UK, FR, MX), their responses helped us to find the way forward.

Results

- Convenience
 - Not a definitive “No”
 - Gridding Scheme, cell/grid size, compilation scales,
 - Maritime boundaries are meant as divisions of responsibility between states, including charting responsibilities
 - arrangements with neighboring countries in order to exchange source data, chart data and royalties for creation and update of the ENC's
 - There is not an agreement regarding the usage band that need to be in the Regional Scheme and the compilation scale
 - There is concern regarding evaluate the expected benefits in relation to the magnitude of the tasks to be accomplished
 - Readiness of parties to make their source data and chart data available to the producing nation
- Feasibility
 - Many of the MS are now focus on the completion of ENC's coverage.
 - Not with the current proposal
- Acceptability
 - No for the current proposal
 - Option of a step by step approach, starting with the smaller scale user bands (Band 1 has two producers in the region, US and UK, band 2 has eight producers, and band 3 have nine producers)

Request to the MACHC

- Approve the report
- Endorse the advances of the Subgroup
- Endorse the approach of a gridding proposal to be further refined by the MICC subgroup
- Endorse a step by step proposal starting with band 1