24ᵗʰ Conference of the Meso American - Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission

IHO Council 7 Report by

the Netherlands and Jamaica

IHO Council, Secretariat, 17-19 October 2023

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IHO Council, relevant decisions: HSSC

S-100 Infrastructure and Standards Development
C7/09: In accordance with Decision A3/08(b), the **Council** endorsed the principle that additional funding resources (Decision A3/20 and IRCC15 Decision 41 refer) should be considered for setting up a sustainable technical and administrative infrastructure around S-100 including standards development to meet the S-100 timeline.

Establishment of new PTs
C7/11: The **Council** noted the establishment, under HSSC, of:
the S-100 Infrastructure Centre Establishment PT
the S-100 Security Scheme PT
as well as the establishment of the ECS PT under the ENCWG.

IHO Council, relevant decisions: HSSC/IRCC

Champion of Hydrography Award
C7/16: While noting the existing IHO Resolution 2/2014 as amended – *Prince Albert the 1ˢᵗ Medal for Hydrography,* the **Council** endorsed the proposal from **HSSC** and **IRCC** for an annual Champion of Hydrography Award and agreed upon the proposed way forward.

IHO Council, relevant decisions: IRCC

A-3 Decisions
C7/22: Following up on Decision A3/20b, the **Council** noted the outcome of a scoping team and endorsed the recommendations from the IRCC to establish a Project Team on *Fund Generation of IHO' Project Initiatives* under the IRCC.

Gender Balance in Hydrography
C7/24: On the proposal for a new *Programme* for Gender Balance in Hydrography (as a follow-up to the successful Empowering Women in Hydrography *Project*), the **Council** agreed on the way forward in three steps suggested by the **Secretary-General**.

IHO Council, relevant decisions: IRCC

IBSC and CSBWG
C7/25: The **Council** welcomed the proposal from the **IRCC** supported by the **IHO Secretariat** to plan two workshops as follows:

- one on Standards of Competence (**IBSC**) matters, to provide clarifications for the institutions on the preparation of submissions to the Board;

- one on Crowd Sourced Bathymetry (**CSBWG)**, on the benefit of crowd sourced bathymetry and how to expand data contribution.

IHO Council, relevant decisions: Joint IHO/SG Lab

C7/29: The **Council** noted the update on the Joint IHO-Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory and noted the progress made on the following projects:

- S-131 Marine Harbour Infrastructure Database (MHID)

- Development of S-57 to S-101 Conversion Guidance Document

- Creation and Test-Bedding of ECDIS capable of displaying S-102 (Phase 1) and S-104 (Phase 2) on S-101 ENCs

and the completion of the Proof of Concept Project: IHO-IALA Collaboration to Demonstrate Interoperability of S-101, S-124 and S-125 at sea using wireless updating via 4G/5G Telecommunications links.

IHO Council, relevant decisions: Strategic Plan

C7/36: The **Council** acknowledged that the current structure of the Strategic Plan (SP) 2021-2026 was still relevant at conceptual level (vision, goals, etc.), and agreed that the objective for the next SP 2027-2032 should be limited to a *revision* of the current SP.

C7/38: The **Council** welcomed the offer from the **Council Vice-Chair**, to lead a correspondence group consisting of **BR, DE, DK, FR, GB, HR, JP, NO, NZ, SE and US** on the ways and means to prepare the next IHO Strategic Plan 2027-2032.

IHO Council, relevant decisions: Event inclusiveness

C7/40: The **Council** endorsed the principle of considering an initial proposal for a IHO Resolution *Guidelines for Making IHO Events More Inclusive* (title to be confirmed) to be prepared by an ad hoc drafting group (**AU, CL, FJ, <u>NZ</u>, SG, GB, US…**)

The **Council** tasked the **ad hoc drafting group** (respectively **IRCC**) to conduct a survey on behalf of the Council to assess the feasibility, preference and willingness of **MS**, **WGs, Committees Chairs**… (respectively **RHCs**), to host and attend meeting in the four different modalities (in-person, in-person with live streaming, hybrid, or full VTC).
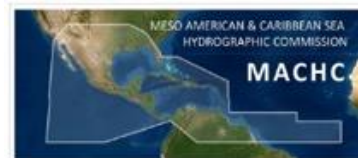
IHO Council, relevant decisions: MPAs

C7/44: Following on clarification on the objectives provided by the **Secretary-General**, including updates from the last NIPWG-10 meeting on S-122 development, the **Council** agreed on the strategic need to promote the S-100 Concept with a quick-win through S-122.

The **Council** tasked the IHO Secretariat to establish liaison with relevant data providers of MPAs and tasked the IRCC through the MSDIWG to establish a pilot project for the High Sea and MPAs adopted by IMO, to demonstrate the benefits of S-122 for non-navigation purposes.

IHO Council, recommendations by the Secretariat

- *17.1 MACHC is invited to create the role of regional S-100 coordinator in accordance with the WEND-100 Principles and S-1xx Implementation Guidelines.*
- *17.2 MACHC Chair is invited to evaluate the opportunity to participate with a representative from MACHC to the Project Team on Fund Generation of IHO Project Initiatives under the IRCC.*
- *17.3 MACHC Members are encouraged to support the continuation of the EWH project through financial and / or in-kind support.*
- *17.4 MACHC is requested to provide the IRCC Chair with their contribution to continue on the measurement of those SPI of regional interest allocated to IRCC.*
- *17.5 MACHC Chair is invited to conduct a survey within the MACHC on hosting and attending meetings in the four different modalities (in-person, in-person with live streaming, hybrid, or full VTC).*