

IHO High Level Visits

by

IHO Director Luigi Sinapi

IHO Capacity Building Sub Committee Vice-Chair Lucy Fieldhouse



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization



Background

| | | | | | |
|------|---|-------|---------|----------------|-----|
| A-12 | High Level Technical Visit to Dominican Republic (from 2021 A-06 and 2022 A-13) | MACHC | 5,000 € | Led by Date | IHO |
| A-13 | High Level Technical Visit to Jamaica (from 2021 A-07 and 2022 A-14) | MACHC | 5,000 € | Led by Date | IHO |

Visits requested for inclusion in the MACHC CB Workplan;
Delivery delayed by COVID

High Level Visit – Dominican Republic
Conducted 23 – 24 November 2023

High Level Visit – Jamaica
Conducted 5 – 7 December 2023

Aims & Objectives:

To raise the importance of Hydrography at the highest levels within the country:

- The importance of Hydrography in supporting National Economy (Blue Economy) and the UN Ocean Decade
- Digital transformation and IHO initiatives
- The commitment of the Hydrographic Office at National and Regional levels.



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization



High Level Technical Visit - Dominican Republic

IHO Report available on website: [High Level Visit – Dominican Republic](#)

Stakeholders:

- President of the Dominican Republic, Mr Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona
- Vice Admiral, Chief of the Navy, Agustin Alberto Morillo Rodriguez
- Administrative Minister of the President
- President of the Senate House
- President of the Chamber of Deputies
- Minister of the Armed Forces
- Port Authority of Dominican Republic
- Radio Interview and Lecture to the Armada Officers and Government Representatives



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization



High Level Technical Visit – Dominican Republic

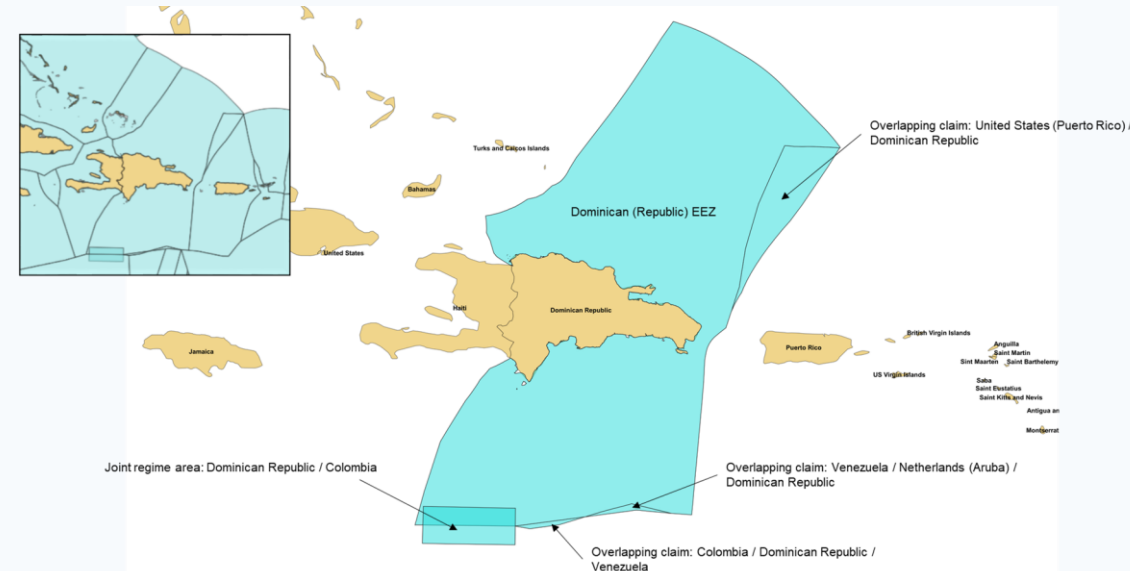
Discussions at the Highest Levels of Dominican Government with military, administrative, maritime, legislative and executive officials to highlight the importance of Hydrography in:

- Developing Dominican Republic capability
- Ensuring Safe Navigation
- Protection of the Environment

And the need for Investment in training and equipment to support Hydrographic development is essential.

Outcomes:

- **Willingness to financially support the development of the Country's hydrographic capabilities**
- **To approve new legislative instruments to consolidate the role of the Hydrographic Office at a national level**
- **To urgently initiate a plan to strengthen the equipment necessary to carry out hydrographic surveys through new funding**



High Level Technical Visit - Jamaica

IHO Report available on website: [High Level Visit - Jamaica](#)

Stakeholders:

- Hon. Alando Torrelonge, State Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
- Mrs Arlene Williams, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation
- National Land Agency
- National Maritime Authority (NLA)
- Port Authority of Jamaica
- NLA - Surveys and Mapping Division
- Jamaica Defence Force Coast Guard
- Faculty of Built Environment, University of Technology, Jamaica



Discussions outlined the importance of the Blue Economy for Jamaica's growth, the aspirations of the Government to develop this economy, but the lack of awareness of how Hydrography underpins this



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization



High Level Technical Visit - Jamaica

Outcomes:

- Awareness of the importance to continue to build Jamaica's hydrographic capability raised at Ministerial Level
- Agreement amongst the stakeholders of the NHC on the need to build capability and to continue work collaboratively
- **CONCEPT NOTE** developed, which:
 - Recognises the issues within Jamaica regarding the lack of awareness of the importance of Hydrography at all levels
 - Outlines the objectives of the Stakeholders that were identified during discussions
 - Proposes actions to enable Jamaica to meet the objectives, consolidating Jamaica's position as a maritime economy at national and regional level through development of appropriate legislation.



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization



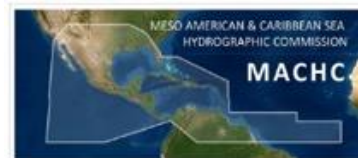
Conclusions

- Both High-Level visits were successful in meeting the outlined objectives
- Whilst the importance of Hydrography is recognised at a technical level this is lost at the highest levels of Government, even for IHO Member States.
- To impress upon decision and policy makers it is important to:
 - ✓ Use reliable language
 - ✓ Relate requirements to how they refer to the UN SDGs
 - ✓ Highlight the wider benefits (economic growth, security, etc).



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization



Action requested of MACHC:

- TAKE NOTE OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE TWO HLTVs TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND JAMAICA
- ENCOURAGE THE IHO MEMBER STATES AND THOSE MEMBERS OF THE MACHC NOT YET IHO MEMBERS, TO REQUEST RESPECTIVELY HLTV AND HLTV TO RAISE THE AWARENESS OF HYDROGRAPHY UP TO POLITICAL / DECISION MAKING LEVELS IN THEIR COUNTRIES
- TAKE ANY OTHER ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY



IHO

International
Hydrographic
Organization

