

# 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Meso American - Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission

## IHO Council 8 Report by the Netherlands



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# IHO Council, Secretariat, 15-17 October 2024

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Summary Report: <https://iho.int/en/8th-council-meeting-2024>



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions: HSSC

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## *IHO Sea Trial Area*

- C8/11 : The **Council** endorsed the principle of creating IHO S-100 Sea Trial Areas around the world, and thanked **Canada** in particular for their offer on St Lawrence River.
- C8/12 : Based on the outcome of the experimentation supported by **Canada**, the **Council** tasked **the IHO ISO Cell** through **HSSC** to consider the possibility of developing some Guidelines (minimum requirements and expected outcomes) for IHO S-100 Sea Trials Areas (for instance: possible impact on standards, impact on equipment, impact on production tools and distribution mechanisms, impact on data services, impact on education and training for users, etc.). **Member States** having International S-100 Sea Trials Areas are also invited to contribute to the development of these Guidelines.

## *MASS WG*

- C8/13 : Following up on a proposal from **HSSC**, the **Council** decided not to establish a **MASSWG** as such, but to continue with the current **Project Team** under its current TORs, noting that the next SPRWG could bring more guidance on this matter, if deemed appropriate.



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions: HSSC/IRCC

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## *IHO Singapore Innovation and Technology Lab*

- C8/17 : The **Council** noted the verbal update on the Joint IHO-Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory by **IHO Director Dr Nyberg**, and making reference to Doc. [HSSC16-04.4A](#), thanked the Lab and contributors (**ID, IT, MY, SG, ...**) for the achievements (conversion S-57 to S-101, S-131 Database, Interoperability S-101 and S-102 on a prototype S-100 ECDIS, availability of ENC's S-57 and S-101 on a dual-fuel ECDIS onboard the Italian Tall Ship *Amerigo Vespucci* for her circumnavigation, etc.).
- The **Council** encouraged **IHO Members States** and **industry stakeholders** to actively engage in collaborative projects with the IHO-Singapore Lab.

## *Report of IRCC*

- C8/21: The **Council** noted that many **RHCs** reported on the importance of CB activities and the need for additional funds especially to support S-1xx service developments in their regions.



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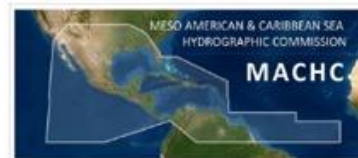


# S-100 'Aquarium'



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions: IRCC

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## *Gender Balance in Hydrography*

- C8/22 : 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**.

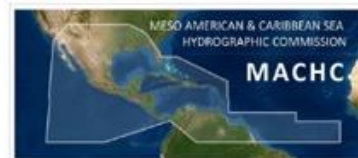
As a consequence:

- The **Council** tasked the **CBSC** through the **IRCC**, to first define the regulatory framework (M-3) for a continued activity on this social theme through a proposal for an IHO Resolution;
- The **Council** agreed to continue with the EWH project led by the **CBSC** supported by remaining funds and future financial and / or in-kind support as currently announced by **CA, NO, DK, US**, but still to be confirmed.
- The **Council** supported by **IRCC** to develop a proposal on the future framework for an IHO social Programme (incl. Gender Balance in Hydrography) as part of the revised IHO Strategic Plan to be submitted to A-4.
- IHO CL 42/2024 was issued to call for the composition of the Project Team to draft the IHO Resolution



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions: IRCC

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## *Fund Generation Project*

- C8/27: The **Council** noted the update on the activities of the IHO Fund Generation Project Team provided by the **IRCC Chair**, supported by **Director Sinapi**, as well as the other initiatives regarding additional funding (RENCs, IENWG and the Joint IHO/IMO/IALA/IOC/WMO/FIG/AIEA/IMPA CB initiative in particular).
- The **Council** invited the **IRCC** to expand the scope of the Fund Generation Team to consider options for charging the IHO digital standards services.



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions:

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## *IHO infrastructure Centre*

- C8/37 : Noting the generous offer made by the **Republic of Korea**, noting the initial assessment provided by the **IHO Secretariat**, the **Council** agreed on the interim establishment of the IHO Infrastructure Centre in the **Republic of Korea (ROK)** starting in 2025 under the supervision of the **IHO Secretariat** and **HSSC** (supported by the **S-100 ICE PT**), based on the principles described in the HSSC Report completed by the IHO Secretariat's preliminary considerations.
- Name endorsed by **HSSC**.
- C8/38 : The **Council** agreed that the permanent establishment of the IHO Infrastructure Centre in the ROK should be finally decided by the **Assembly (A-4)**.



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions: Strategic Plan

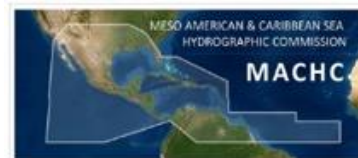
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- C8/57 As proposed by the **Correspondence Group**, the **Council** established the **Strategic Plan Review Working Group (SPRWG)** and following up on a call made in session, agreed to nominate **US** (Benjamin Evans), **NZ** (Adam Greenland), and **DK** (Hendrik Justus Stang) as **Chair, Vice-Chair** and **Secretary** of the **SPRWG**, respectively.
- The **Council** endorsed the proposed TORs and ROPs of the SPRWG.
- With the IHO CLs 38/2024 and 41/2024 the SPRWG was established and the ToRs approved.



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# IHO Council, relevant decisions: Event inclusiveness

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## *Inclusive participation in IHO meetings*

- C8/62 : Noting the selected comments and insights, the **Council** endorsed the principles of the proposed IHO Resolution submitted by the ad hoc drafting group and invited the group to add an Annex with (minimum) practical Guidelines derived from the outcome of the survey to assist Member States to host and facilitate online meetings.
- **IHO Secretariat** to submit the proposed IHO Resolution and associated Guidelines to the **IHO Member States** for their approval.



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# IHO Council other relevant decisions

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## *World Hydrography Day (WHD) motto for 2025*

- C8/45 : The Council noted the proposed theme for the 2025 World Hydrography Day by the Secretary-General which is: *“Seabed Mapping: Enabling Ocean Action”*
- IHO CL 43/2024 invites IHO Member States to comment/approve the proposed WHD 2025 motto.

## *Hydrographic Interest*

- C8/67 : law Decision A3/05, the **Council** noted the proposal on the evolution of the definition of Hydrographic Interests supported by **BG, GE, RO, TR and UA**.
- C8/68 : Noting the ranges of views provided in the discussion including the recommendations of the **Secretary-General** given in the Red Book, the **Council** decided neither to support the proposal to revise the definition of *Hydrographic Interest* at this stage, nor to allocate capacity building funds to this proposed revision.



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# IHO Council, IMO Regulatory Framework & IHO S-100

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**Mr Javier Yasnikouski**, Head, Operational Safety, Maritime Safety Division, IMO, briefly described the longstanding collaboration between IMO and IHO.

Compliance with the S-100 standards would be required not only for ECDIS systems, but for many other types of equipment used on board ship. Data exchange must be assured at the prescribed intervals and in all geographical areas, which might require regulation of the communications links to be used.

In the immediate future, the IMO Maritime Safety Committee would consider proposals for a new output to develop guidance for a framework for data distribution and global internet protocol (IP) based connectivity - in other words, to standardize the exchange of dynamic data between ship and shore over the internet. Compliance with the IEC standard 63173-2 on secure communication between ship and shore (SECOM) was recommended.

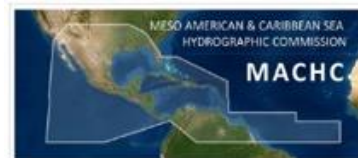
**C8/74:** The **Council** noted the information on MSC Circulars already addressing S-100, and the future events that are in the interest of **IHO Member States**:

- MSC 109 (2-6 Dec 2024)
- NCSR 12 (13-22 May 2025)
- HTW 11 (10-14 Feb 2025)
- MSC 110 (18-27 June 2025)



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# IHO Council, recommendations by the Secretariat

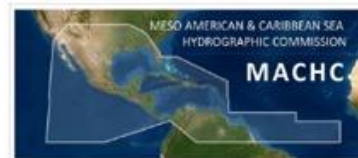
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- To contribute to the development of *Guidelines for Sea Trials Areas*
- To actively engage in collaborative projects with the *IHO-Singapore Laboratory*
- To note the process for the creation of an *IHO Infrastructure Centre in the ROK for S-100*
- To progress to the establishment of the *S-100 regional coordinator*
- To participate in the *IRCC Fund Generation Project Team*



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# IHO Council, recommendations by the Secretariat

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- To note the efforts made to *increment the funds dedicated to CB activities focused on S-100 implementation*
- To continue the participation in the *EWH project* and provide responses to the *IHO CL 42/2024*
- To continue the measurement of *SPIs of regional interest* assigned to IRCC and contribute to the works of the *SPRWG for the review of the IHO Strategic Plan (2027-2032)*
- To contribute to the definition of the *World Hydrography Day (WHD) 2025 motto* by responding to the *IHO CL 43/2024*



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