

Breakout Group B National Reports

Summary of key findings

Chaired by:
Mr. John Lowell of USA

National Reports from:

Brazil – France – Jamaica – Netherlands – Suriname – Trinidad & Tobago – United Kingdom – United States of America – Antigua & Barbuda – Belize – Haiti – St Kitts and Nevis – Guyana – Bahamas – St Vincent & The Grenadines



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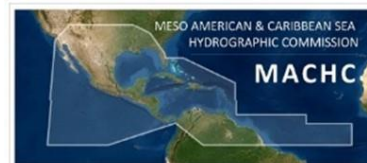
Overarching strengths

- Governance of geospatial activities is trending up in many nations
 - Several nations have established national committees
 - Improvement in knowledge, data and information sharing between nations
- Overarching Technology improvements
 - Nations are building out MSDI capabilities – with intent to expand access and utilization of data.
 - Several nations highlighted portal access to the data
- Data Collection and Processing
 - Overall improvements in awareness for data collection activities and delivery of MSI
 - Uptake of LiDAR and SDB, with examples shown
 - Two nations highlighted acoustic collection challenges in rivers and un-consolidated bottom (i.e., fluid mud)
 - NL and Jamaica noted the submission of depth data to the IHO DCDB for use in Seabed 2030
 - Overall expansion of a grided approach to ENC's over the MACHC region
- Tradecraft and Training
 - Multiple examples of cross-national coordinated training events, including implementation of new technology (SDB) , training (workshops), and education (Cat A and Cat B in S-5 and Cat B in S-8)
 - Involvement of Industry in many events
- Highlighted international boundary successes



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Overarching challenges/obstructions

- National geospatial governance activities continue to be needed and where they exist, improvement in the implementation of established bodies
- At the HO level, awareness and universal recognition of the challenges to make the move to S-100
 - Corresponding need to impress on national leaders to support this advancement
- Continued effort to negotiate national boundaries within the region by NL
- Need to build workforce capabilities and knowledge – driving the need for continued training and education
- Data collection and processing hardware (vessels, systems) and technology investments hamper national delivery of hydrographic services (regardless of the level of HO maturity)



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Collaboration opportunities/plans ahead

- Several nations highlighted the commitment to meet their SOLAS obligations
- With many producer nations shifting to gridded ENC's, the need to coordinate within the MICC WG is critical
- Innovative UK project to create a pool of shared hydrographic equipment (loaner system) for use by PCA nations
- Multiple large port infrastructure projects are underway across the region – this will drive the need for more data collection and coordination with the chart producers (nationally and PCA)
- Multiple requests for IHO High Level and Technical Visits requested



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