

21st Conference of the Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC)
11 - 13 June 2019, Cádiz, España (Spain)

Draft Agenda

1. Opening and Administrative Arrangements

1.1 Opening Address (Chair, IHM Director, IHO Director)

ITALY as Chair welcomed attendees and introduced Vice Admiral Juan Luis Sobrino Pérez – Crespo (Head of Maritime Operations of the Spanish Navy) for a short address on the past and present of MBSHC. Then SPAIN made a short speech introducing the city of Cádiz, and IHO spoke on the relevance of the work by Regional Hydrographic Commissions. The CHAIRMAN welcomed BULGARIA as the new IHO and MBSHC member and praised the attendance to this Conference. Finally, SPAIN provided some logistic details regarding the meeting.

1.2 Administrative Arrangements

<i>Docs: MBSHC21-01.2B</i>	<i>List of Participants (Chair)</i>
<i>MBSHC21-01.2A</i>	<i>List of Documents (Chair)</i>
<i>MBSHC21-01.2A</i>	<i>Election of Region F ICC Coordinator (IHO Sec.)</i>

All participants introduced themselves at the request of the CHAIRMAN.

As per the MBSHC Statutes, Spain as host country was designated as Vice-Chair of the Conference.

Following the resignation of France, a new Region F ICC Coordinator was elected. As there was only one candidate submitted, the Conference did not have to vote and ITALY was elected as the new Region F ICC Coordinator by acclamation.

2. Approval of the Agenda

<i>Docs: MBSHC21-2A</i>	<i>Agenda and Timetable (Chair)</i>
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The CHAIR summarized the Agenda. FRANCE proposed a correction to item 4.3, which was accepted, and the amended Agenda was subsequently approved by the Conference.

3. MBSHC Administration

3.1 Chair's report

<i>Docs: MBSHC21-03.1</i>	<i>Chair's report (Chair)</i>
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The CHAIRMAN welcomed BULGARIA to the MBSHC, and then summarized activities since the last MBSHC Conference:

- Several MBSHC Member States are active in the IHO-EU network working group (IENWG) with Greece as the focal point, the EMODNET project and the revision of EU Directive on Re-use of public sector information.
- Following the recommendation by IOC UNESCO in the last Conference, HO and IOC increased their active cooperation via working groups, workshops and conferences. The NAVAREA III coordinator participated in NEAMWave17 exercise. MBSHC Member States were encouraged to share tsunami data.
- Cooperation with CIESM via IHO-CEISM MoU for the benefit of Oceanography in the Mediterranean.

- Attendance to the first two meeting of the Council related to MBSHC. The CHAIRMAN noted that 20% of the Council were MBSHC Members. IHO Resolution 2/1997 was amended, the autonomy of IRCC and HSSC was confirmed, and Seabed 2030 was started as a joint IHO-IOC GEBCO and Nippon Foundation project.
- HSSC has met three times since the last Conference to work on the six priorities identified by the Council.
- IRCC also met three times.

Finally, the CHAIRMAN summarized the past two years in MBSHC activities, focusing on coordination and cooperation, both regionally and bilaterally, related to Capacity Building.

3.2 Matters arising from Minutes of 20th MBSHC Meeting

Docs: MBSHC21-03.2A Minutes of MBSHC20 (Chair)
MBSHC21-03.2B Status Report on the MBSHC20 Action List (Chair)

The Minutes of MBSHC20 were not reviewed as they had already been approved and circulated. The CHAIRMAN went down the list of actions and decisions from the 20th MBSHC Meeting, noting those still not concluded.

- MBSHC20/1: Albania to sign the MBSHC Statutes to become an Associate Member, still in progress.
- MBSHC20/3: Members encouraged to populate the CATZOC values of ENC cells, to be discussed later.
- MBSHC20/6: IENWG Chair (France) to liaise with Cyprus, Croatia and Montenegro regarding EU funded initiatives has been completed and a report will be presented.
- MBSHC20/8: There will be an update on requirements for ECDIS back-up arrangements being posted on the IHO website.
- MBSHC20/12: Members should contact Greece if they wish to participate in EU projects listed.
- MBSHC20/35: Members have become familiarized with INTogIS.
- MBSHC20/38: Industry representatives attending the Conference are welcomed by MBSHC.

3.3 Review of MBSHC Statutes

Docs: MBSHC21-03.3 Revised version of MBSHC Statutes (Chair)

The CHAIRMAN reported that IHO Resolution 2/1997 on establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions has been reviewed twice, first to align the Resolution to the new IHO Convention and then a substantial amendment recently endorsed by IRCC. IHO clarified the status of revised IHO Resolution 2/1997.

3.4 Outcome of the 2nd meeting of the IHO Council (C-2) and Preparation of C-3 and A-2 (Chair/IHO Director)

The MBSHC Chair and IHO Director will provide a verbal report with an overview on the outcome of C-2 and main milestones for the MBSHC for the preparation of C-3 and A-2.

IHO reminded MBSHC Member to consider applying for a seat at the IHO Council. The CHAIRMAN stated that relevant information would be circulated when they received the corresponding IHO Circular Letter.

4. IHO Work Programme 1– “Corporate affairs”

4.1 General update on IHO activities that may affect MBSHC

Docs: MBSHC21-04.1 IHO Secretariat’s Report (Secretary)

The IHO Secretariat will report on the main activities since the last MBSHC Conference.

IHO reported that Seychelles, Bulgaria and Guyana have joined the IHO reaching a number of 90 Members. Non-IHO Member States of the MBSHC region (Albania, Israel, Lebanon and Libya) are being encouraged to become IHO members. Republic of Congo, Serbia and Syria are suspended.

On INT Chart and ENC Production Coordination in Region F, IHO encouraged MBHSC Members to support the new IRCC Chair, Italy, with C-55 updates.

IHO announced that the deadline for proposals for the Second IHO Assembly is December 2019. The Assembly is to be shorter as some of its duties have been taken over by the Council. Attendance to the IHO Assembly is strongly encouraged.

IHO announced that the third meeting of the IHO Council is scheduled to take place in Monaco from 15-17 October 2019. The deadline for proposals is 15th July.

IHO Outreach: IHO reported on activities related to World Hydrography Day 2018 “Bathymetry - The foundation for sustainable seas, oceans and waterways”; the theme for WHD 2019 will be “Hydrographic information driving Marine knowledge”. The IHO website is being renovated with a high tech GIS service, and there is also an IHO LinkedIn with the assistance of NOAA. IHO reported that the International Hydrographic Review (IHR) does not receive enough articles for publication, and that IHO Assistant Director Alberto Costa Neves has taken up duties as Editor of IHR. IHO reported that the 1923 to 2018 digital collection of IHR is available online.

IHO reported that the “peak of the peak” of the IHO Centenary Celebration will be the World Hydrography Day 2021, when all Members will be invited to an international symposium in Monaco in conjunction with the IRCC meeting.

IHO reported that the Capacity Building Program has been expanded with the support of Japan and Korea. IHO announced a forthcoming circular letter on GEBCO projects, and encouraged MBSHC members to support the Seabed 2030 Project. Also, Members were encouraged to review the IHO Yearbook for update.

4.2 Information Management (IHO web site, ENC Catalogue, INTToGIS II, etc.)

IHO displayed a presentation on the IHO Integrated GIS Information Management system, its evolution since MBSHC 20, and its integration with the new IHO branding and website. The new IHO website includes online updating of C-55 and P-5, the IHO ENC Coverage Catalogue, and will eventually integrate CATZOC information into INTToGIS II. INTToGIS is to expand S-11 support with the inclusion of ENC Schemes, an ENC Gap finder, S-128 compatibility, and a new interface. The incorporation of traffic density data is still in progress. IHO encouraged members to use these features, and invited the Region F Chart Coordinator (Italy) to attend the INTToGIS II workshop.

FRANCE asked about update frequency for AIS data, and IHO responded that it would depend on usage.

5. IHO Work Programme 2– “Hydrographic Services and Standards”

5.1 HSSC Activities that may affect MBSHC (HSSC Chair)

The CHAIRMAN as HSSC Chair introduced a presentation on HSSC10 & HSSC11. During the last meeting, HSSC endorsed IHO Resolution 2/2007 as amended and passed on to IRCC which also endorsed it. HSSC also considered the Draft IHO Strategic Plan and proposed amendments. The decline of paper charts was discussed regarding reallocation of resources until full automation of paper chart production is achieved, and

a showcase of S-100 products for C-3 was arranged. The CHAIRMAN listed the new editions of publications that HSSC has endorsed or approved, and requested contributions to S-122 & S-123 datasets and PSs development. The Draft of the 6th Edition of S-44 has been completed for review and comments. The CHAIRMAN stressed the importance of the encoding of meaningful values of CATZOC and the correct implementation of the methodology of Quality of Bathymetric Data. The CHAIRMAN also reported the production of an Initial Guidance on definition and harmonization of “Maritime Services in context of e-navigation”, and achievements regarding the Hydrographic Dictionary and IHO GI Registry.

IHO announced a forthcoming Circular Letter including a questionnaire on the future of paper charts. FRANCE asked about the deadline for the questionnaire.

6. IHO Work Programme 3– “Inter-Regional Coordination and Support”

6.1 Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC)

Docs: MBSHC21-06.1B Overview of MBSHC report to IRCC11 (Chair)
MBSHC21-06.1A IRCC11 Main Outcome that may affect MBSHC (Chair)

The CHAIRMAN presented an Overview of MBSHC Report to IRCC11, which stated that all actions from IRCC10 have been completed. The presentation also covered cooperation with international organizations and the EU, MSDI, the status of hydrographic surveys and ENC's in the area, and Capacity Building operations. Challenges regarding coordination and ENC overlapping were identified, as well as achievements and lessons learned.

Then the CHAIRMAN introduced a presentation on IRCC11 main outcome that may affect MBSHC, regarding regional initiatives, IHO Resolution 2/1997 and a joint proposal for a Seabed 2030 regional data coordinator. Also, MBSHC is to provide a brief history to be posted to the IHO website. IHO reminded that the draft list of actions, decisions and recommendations, as well as the work programme for next year is posted in the IHO IRCC website.

FRANCE made some comments on WEND and the Strategic Plan, which were deferred to the appropriate agenda items. FRANCE also commented on a draft IRCC paper on the temporary provision of both S-57 and S-101 ENC's.

6.2 Cooperation with Member States

6.2.1 IHO Membership

The IHO introduced Bulgaria as a new IHO Member and announced the new IHO logo.

6.2.2 National Reports

Docs: MBSHC21-06.2.2.X National Report

The CHAIRMAN invited each Member State to summarize their national reports:

ALGERIA: Intends to acquire a hydrographic vessel, joint production of INT Charts is in progress.

BULGARIA: Thanked RAdm. Iptes for their assistance.

CROATIA: Presented a list of topics for discussion; US referred them to the relevant IHO WGs.

CYPRUS: Reported on surveys, the THAL-CHOR 2 project, and the PYTHEAS tide gauge network. Turkey objected to this report. IOC UNESCO asked if PYTHEAS would be a part of the IOC network, and CYPRUS confirmed it.

EGYPT: 100% of Egyptian Mediterranean Waters surveyed, in coordination with the commercial sector.

FRANCE: Progress on surveys, ENC, INT charting and MSDI portal.

GEORGIA: Has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Korea, Romania and India.

GREECE: Reported on the progress of their ENC coverage.

ITALY: Has provided the bathymetry layer for the Italian National SDI. US asked if they are involved in the National SDI, and ITALY confirmed it.

MALTA: Progress in cooperation with UK and the University of Malta.

MONTENEGRO: Reported progress in ENC production and plans to improve oceanographic activities.

MOROCCO: Reported on their new Hydro-Oceanographic Vessel and Capacity Building activities. IHO regretted informing that they would be unable to attend their WHD celebrations, and also asked about ENC production.

ROMANIA: Presented their improvements in surveys, equipment and Capacity Building.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Described their commitments in Region F. The CHAIRMAN asked about the distribution for their print-on-demand service, and RUSSIA explained that they use a coordination center.

FRANCE asked whether they had contacted Turkey and Georgia regarding the publication of INT Chart 3808, and RUSSIA replied that they had not done so. The matter was referred to the ICCWG meeting.

SLOVENIA: Announced a new extended edition of the ENC Chart for the Port of Koper.

SPAIN: Described involvement in MSI, S-55, NAVAREA THREE and Capacity Building. IHO expressed appreciation of their support for other Spanish-speaking countries.

TURKEY: Reported on the CAS-Deniz Chart Display and Information System and Antarctic projects. The CHAIRMAN asked whether CAS-Deniz was a dual military and public system. IHO asked whether the new Antarctic chart would be a national or an INT chart, and TURKEY replied that it was a national chart.

UKRAINE: Expressed concerns due to ENC overlapping in the area, especially with Russia. RUSSIA complained over the introduction of political issues into a technical forum. UKRAINE replied that those issues have an impact on the safety of navigation. RUSSIA complained of the use of political language in the Ukrainian report.

US: Reported that magnetic anomalies have resulted in an unscheduled update of the World Magnetic Model, and that there is a call for innovation to improve the WMM.

IHO noted the lack of references to S-100 in national reports. The CHAIRMAN then introduced industry presentations by ESRI, Teledyne-Caris, Kongsberg, SevenCs, ixblue and Fugro.

4.4 Cooperation with the Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM)

Docs: MBSHC21-04.4 CIESM Activities that may affect MBSHC (CIESM)

CIESM provided a presentation on their work in the Mediterranean Sea and cooperation with IHO. FRANCE asked about scientific data in the Digital Terrain Model, and CIESM replied that they were provided on a volunteer basis. EGYPT asked about gaps in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, and CIESM confirmed that they feature significant contributions from Egyptian colleagues. IHO commented on the sensitive nature of MSR, and CIESM noted that all contributions are voluntary.

4.3 Cooperation with European Union (EU) Commission

Docs: MBSHC21-04.3 IHO-EU Network WG Report (IENWG)

FRANCE presented the report on the IHO-EU Network Working Group in liaison with GREECE, and noted the recently recast Public Sector Information Directive which introduces the High Value Data Set concept, which are fully free and open data.

4.5 Cooperation with Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

Docs: MBSHC21-04.5 IOC general activities that may affect MBSHC and NEAMTWS developments (IOC)

IOC made a presentation on the ICG/NEAM Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System. IHO stressed the close cooperation with IOC regarding GEBCO activities. FRANCE stated that a conference on sea level observation

had been held in Paris and suggested that MBSHC be represented in a possible Ocean Science Decade regional workshop.

4.6 Cooperation with International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)

Docs: MBSHC21-04.6 IALA Activities that may affect MBSHC (IALA)

IALA made a presentation on International Obligations on the Work of IALA. IHO asked IALA to participate in the HSSC Working Groups.

Then there was another industry presentation by Skillshare, on training from Introduction Hydrography to Certified Courses. MALTA asked about international accreditation, and Skillshare replied that it was accredited by IHO. IHO specified that it was actually accredited by the joint FIG/ICA/IHO International Board on Standards of Competence according to Standards S-5 A/B and S-8 A/B, and then asked for information about cartography in Kuwait.

3.4 Outcome of the 2nd meeting of the IHO Council (C-2) and Preparation of C-3 and A-2 (Chair/IHO Director)

The CHAIRMAN presented a report on the 2nd Meeting of the IHO Council, which focused on the SPRWG report, the development and future of S-100, BASWG guidelines and Seabed 2030. Publication B-12 on Crowdsourced Bathymetry was adopted. IHO reported on the timeline of the preparation of C-3, and presented the draft agenda. FRANCE as the SPRWG Chair presented a report on the draft Strategic Plan of IHO. The CHAIRMAN reported developments in S-100 implementation strategy during the IRCC meeting, regarding harmonized production and dissemination of S-100 based products. CROATIA asked about the involvement of IMO, and the CHAIRMAN confirmed that collaboration was already in place. FRANCE stated that paper submission deadlines were too close, that there was not enough time for discussion at IRCC, and stressed the need for cooperation with IMO. The CHAIRMAN agreed that we are already in the transition phase. IHO warned of differing approaches when collaborating with IMO.

6.3 WEND Principles and Governance

6.3.1 Activities of WENDWG

Docs: MBSHC21-6.3.1A WENDWG9 Outcome, and Actions and Decisions that may affect MBSHC

France will report on the outcomes of the 9th WENDWG meeting that was held in Brest, France, in February 2019.

IHO on behalf of FRANCE made a presentation on the meeting of the WENDWG in February 2019, with special emphasis on overlapping in ENC coverage and the implementation of IHO Resolution 1/2018 in the MBSHC area. US asked about possible changes in the WENDWG makeup, and the CHAIRMAN replied that it would depend on the availability of experts, and the IHO added that they are still in a transition phase.

6.3.2 Regional ENC Coordination Centre (RENCs) Operations

IC-ENC and PRIMAR will provide a joint presentation of their activities since MBSHC20, and of the evolution of their strategies, if any.

IC-ENC made a presentation on their structure and services, including a non-ECDIS navigation management service under consideration. PRIMAR made a presentation on their services, specifically their new S-100 related projects.

5th REGION F ICCWG meeting

ICC5-1 Opening of ICCWG-5 meeting

Opening address by the region F ICCWG Chair.

Introduction of the newly elected region F ICC Coordinator.

ICCWG members are invited to approve the draft agenda submitted by the ICCWG Chair.

The ICCWG CHAIRMAN introduced MALTA as the new Chair. MALTA introduced themselves. FRANCE commented on the INT Scheme and ENC overlapping.

ICC5-2 Minutes of ICCWG-4 Meeting

Approval of the minutes of the 4th ICCWG meeting that was held in Montenegro (5th July 2017).

Review of the MBSHC20 actions affecting the ICCWG.

The Agenda was approved after some comments by FRANCE on time management.

The minutes of the 4th ICCWG meeting were approved. The CHAIRMAN reviewed MBSHC 20 actions related to ICCWG. EGYPT reported on cooperation with UK, but complained that four paper charts submitted had been suspended as INT Charts. US replied that it would have involved changes in the INT Scheme to change the producer. EGYPT noted that the charts were major updated, but US reiterated that it was a matter of modifications to the INT Scheme. EGYPT clarified that their intention was to add new INT Charts, not to replace existing INT Charts. US suggested a new proposal to include these charts in the INT Scheme.

ICC5-3 Region F INT scheme status

The ICCWG Chair will first report briefly on the evolution of the regional INT catalogue.

The ICCWG CHAIRMAN reported on several developments regarding the INT Scheme. TURKEY objected the act of the coordinator when the coordinator said he 'approved' the proposal by GREECE, by referring to the RoP of the WG, as the coordinator has no right to approve anything by himself but rather brings proposals to the attention of the WG, and approval is solely manifested by the WG if there is full consensus. GREECE commended that the charts had originally been submitted and agreed by the previous F-ICCWG meetings procedures with no complaints, and they had resubmitted them now just as a practical matter in order to be incorporated into the electronic catalogue (INToGIS). GREECE proposed to remove the chart INT 3736 in contention, but TURKEY replied that the proposal listed all charts. The CHAIRMAN explained that the objection by TURKEY was not based on technical issues. TURKEY insisted that the objection was not political but technical, and it remains as a bilateral issue for the moment. GREECE asked to proceed with the approval of these charts as there was no other INT Scheme proposed for the area. The CHAIRMAN stated that the matter would be submitted to MBSHC. TURKEY emphasized again that there was no full consensus on this matter, and according to the RoP, only matters that have full consensus can be brought to the attention of the MBSHC by The Region F INT Chart Coordinator.

The CHAIRMAN also informed that BASWG reported that there had been no cooperation regarding INT Chart no 3812 which was to be co-produced by UKRAINE and RUSSIA. UKRAINE has requested to produce 4 INT Charts. The CHAIRMAN also reported that RUSSIA had not responded to GEORGIA offer to co-produce INT

3810. RUSSIA replied that no decision has been reached on these issues. RUSSIA reported that they had offered to transfer the publication rights of INT 3808 to TURKEY, retaining the national publication rights. The CHAIRMAN suggested that RUSSIA provide TURKEY with the repromats to keep INT Chart updated. RUSSIA agreed. The CHAIRMAN reported that RUSSIA objected to GEORGIA taking over INT Chart 3875 and thus remains unassigned.

SPAIN proposed maintaining smaller scale INT Charts covering the East coast of Spain as the area is being covered by large scale charts, considering user requirements, and the CHAIRMAN agreed. UK recorded a statement regarding the sovereignty over Gibraltar. The CHAIRMAN stated that there were not technical issues but political.

ICC5-4 ENC coverage status

The CHAIRMAN reported on gaps in ENC coverage.

ICC5-5 ENC overlap risk assessment

The CHAIRMAN reported that producer coordination is still insufficient. CROATIA clarified that their overlapping with Greece was low risk, and GREECE agreed that this overlapping is insignificant. UK also provided an update regarding their overlap issues.

ICC5-6 Region F ICCWG ToR & RoP

Revised ToR & RoP were approved by MBSHC-20.

ICC5-7 Priorities

The CHAIRMAN delineated considerations for the immediate future, regarding the INT Chart Scheme, the ENC Scheme, and S-100. ITALY stressed the need for bilateral cooperation, and GREECE noted the need to follow IHO principles and the agreed rules of procedures.

ICC5-8 AOB

The CHAIRMAN proposed to open access to the commission documentation, except old catalogues.

3.5 Black and Azov Seas Working Group – BASWG

Docs: MBSHC21-03.5 Report of BASWG (Chair)

The BASWG Chair will report on the activities of BASWG since MBSHC20.

The BASWG CHAIR (Turkey) presented a report on the last meeting of BASWG. FRANCE noted the proposal to consider developing the BASWG into a new RHC, and stated that RHCs are defined in basic IHO documents. TURKEY replied that it was still in the discussion stage. IHO stated that RHCs are not subordinate to the IHO, and Member States may establish a new RHC; he mentioned the example of the Caspian Sea, where a RHC is under consideration despite it being a closed sea.

6.4 Coordination of Global Surveying and Charting

6.4.1 Hydrographic survey status in the MBSHC area

Spain will report on the status of hydrographic surveys in the MBSHC area.

SPAIN presented a report on the status of Hydrographic surveys in the MBSHC area based on information provided by Members. ALBANIA stated that they will be updating the status of hydrographic surveys in their waters with recent surveys. The CHAIRMAN encouraged all Members to provide SPAIN with updated information.

6.5 Maritime Safety Information (MSI)

Docs: MBSHC21-06.5 Report of NAVAREA III

The NAVAREA III Coordinator will report on the MSI activities and developments within the MBSHC region.

SPAIN as the NAVAREA III Coordinator reported on MSI activities and developments in the MBSHC area, focusing on the NAVTEX Panel ruling on the situation between UKRAINE and the RUSSIAN FEDERATION. UKRAINE read a statement complaining of Russian interference in MSI activities in the area. SPAIN clarified that they had been in contact with the Ukrainian embassy at Madrid on this issue. RUSSIAN FEDERATION denied any problems related to MSI and asked to UKRAINE to avoid political issues. UKRAINE replied that it was not a political issue but a matter of the safety of navigation. The CHAIRMAN noted that the safety of navigation was the paramount consideration. MALTA asked about the re-establishment of the Tunisian NAVTEX station at Kelibia, and SPAIN responded that the station remained inoperative and that they had no further information.

IHO presented two papers on MSI, one by IMO reporting the prevalence of non-updated ENC's on ECDIS, and another on EU funding for Port State Control. Another paper on IHO Standards related to ENC and ECDIS will be circulated soon.

Report of the 5th REGION F ICCWG meeting

FRANCE as the Coordinator presented the report of the Region F ICCWG meeting held the previous day. The CHAIRMAN of MBSHC stressed the need for discussion and cooperation to solve all issues. SPAIN asked for clarification regarding the proposed action about the INT Scheme in the East Coast of Spain, and FRANCE explained the wording of the proposed action. GREECE commented on the recommendation for co-production by Greece and Turkey of INT 3736 (part of the Aegean scheme proposed by GRC), as it had not been requested by either GREECE or TURKEY. GRC representatives explained technically that this chart will not contain any coasts, other than Greek coasts, due to the placement of map legend and CATZOC boxes in the upper corner of the chart that will cover the small portion of the Turkish coast appearing. Moreover, this INT chart was never proposed to be produced by TUR, and no discussion about coproduction of this chart

has ever been made between the two countries. Therefore, GRC proposed the INT chart 3736 to be assigned to Greece.

FRANCE replied that it was an effort to isolate from the original proposal by Greece the single INT chart that may prove controversial. GREECE offered the option to remove INT 3736 from the proposal. TURKEY stated that the role of the Coordinator is to coordinate, not decide. The CHAIRMAN suggested to reconsider the production of INT 3736 later on. UKRAINE refused to coordinate chart production with Russia, claiming that the relevant charts cover solely Ukrainian territory. RUSSIA reminded that there was no technical or practical possibility for Ukraine to fulfil this work, which impacts the safety of navigation. UKRAINE asked about the approaches to Mariopol. IHO recommended that both countries reach an agreement. RUSSIA stated that they did not object to the approaches to Mariopol. UKRAINE asked for approval of their chart covering the approaches to Mariopol, and RUSSIA declined due to unresolved political issues. TURKEY asked whether the report contained recommendations by the ICCWG Coordinator or decisions by the MBSHC, and reiterated their opposition to the proposal by GREECE. FRANCE replied that they were recommendations, that the Rules of Procedure require consensus not unanimity, and that the objection by TURKEY was not technical and thus invalid. TURKEY re-emphasized that sea boundaries are a technical issue, RoP requires full consensus, if the coordinator thinks the arguments are non-technical it solely reflects his personal opinion which is not binding at all. FRANCE replied that limits are legal and political issues. GREECE stated that there was only one proposal for the area, which means technical consensus, and the lack of political consensus was irrelevant. The CHAIRMAN offered the example of the Adriatic Sea. TURKEY asked about IHO S-121 Standard, and IHO responded that it was requested by UN and should not be considered as a technical standard at this moment. FRANCE stated that S-121 had a technical content but sometimes it could be considered as political. The CHAIRMAN stressed the urgent need to resolve ENC overlapping in the area.

6.7 Capacity Building

6.7.1 Capacity Building activities within MBSHC

Docs: MBSHC21-06.7.1 MBSHC Report to CBSC17

The Regional CB Coordinator (Turkey) will report on the outcomes of CBSC17 and the past CB activities within the MBSHC region.

TURKEY made a presentation on Capacity Building activities in 2018 & 2019, and planned activities for 2020. SPAIN corrected a statement in the presentation regarding the lack of coastal warning broadcasts. IHO reported on the Capacity Building Sub-Committee recent meeting, and encouraged Members to take advantage of CB activities. FRANCE expanded on the results of the CBSC meeting regarding funding limitations.

8.2 Review of Actions, Decisions and Recommendations

ITALY reviewed the draft list of Actions, Decisions and Recommendations from MBSHC21. TURKEY stated that they did not agree with the decision to accept the recommendation of the Region F ICCWG Coordinator. SPAIN provided a minor correction to the list of actions. FRANCE stated that decisions in the Commission are not by consensus. GREECE stated that there was a technical consensus due to the lack of technical arguments against it. TURKEY re-iterated that limits of the boundaries issue in the Aegean Sea is correlated with the survey responsibilities of the neighbouring countries, thus is technical.

6.6 Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI)

Docs: MBSHC21-06.6 Report of MSDIWG

Italy, supported by other MBSHC Members of the MSDIWG, will report on the activities of the MSDIWG.

ITALY as the MSDI Ambassador of MBSHC presented a report, including the participation in the UN Working Group on Marine Geospatial Information. The CHAIRMAN encouraged Members to support the MBSHC MSDI Ambassador.

6.8 GEBCO/Seabed 2030 Project/Crowd-Source Bathymetry Activities

The IHO Secretariat will provide an overview on the latest developments of GEBCO/Seabed 2030 Project and Crowd-Source Bathymetry activities

IHO reported on the development of GEBCO/Seabed 2030 Project.

7. Any Other Business

UKRAINE stated their desire to read a statement from their government. RUSSIA stated that the Commission was devoted to technical not political issues. The CHAIRMAN referred the matter to the agenda item for Closing Remarks.

8. Closure

8.1 Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

SLOVENIA volunteered to host the next meeting. FRANCE supported the proposal by SLOVENIA.

8.2 Review of Actions, Decisions and Recommendations

ITALY read the updated list of Actions, Decisions and Recommendations of the Conference.

8.3 Designation/Transfer of the Chairmanship

ITALY transferred the Chairmanship to SPAIN.

8.4 Closing Remarks (End of Conference)

UKRAINE read a statement from their government protesting the national report from the RUSSIAN FEDERATION. IHO replied that the statement will be given proper consideration. RUSSIA refused to discuss political issues and objected to the inclusion of the statement in the final report.

RUSSIA stated that they will be hosting the Arctic Commission in Murmansk.

IHO congratulated all delegations for a most dynamic meeting. SPAIN as the new CHAIRMAN congratulated ITALY for their fine work as CHAIR of the Conference.