

**66th Meeting of the
Nordic Hydrographic Commission (NHC)
Aalborg, Denmark 22-23 March 2023**

IHO Secretariat Report

**Secretariat's work, Council matters
and Work Programme items**

Dr Mathias Jonas
Secretary-General



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IHO Membership

- IHO membership stands at 98. Panama indicated the strong intention to accede. Bolivia came in with questions.
- Unfortunately, Serbia and Syria remain suspended from Member States rights. Lebanon about to join the list.
- Recommendation: *NHC is invited to further assist the Secretariat in promotion of membership to those States not yet IHO Member States.*



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6th IHO Council (October 2022)

- The C-6 discussed, endorsed and finally forwarded 7 (out of 15) Proposals including the triennial Work Programme and Budget Estimates for 2024 – 2026.
- Council has become the main topical contributor to Assembly.
- *Thanks to NHC members for proactive and relevant support on Council issues but even so for participation on various Working Groups & Project Teams!*



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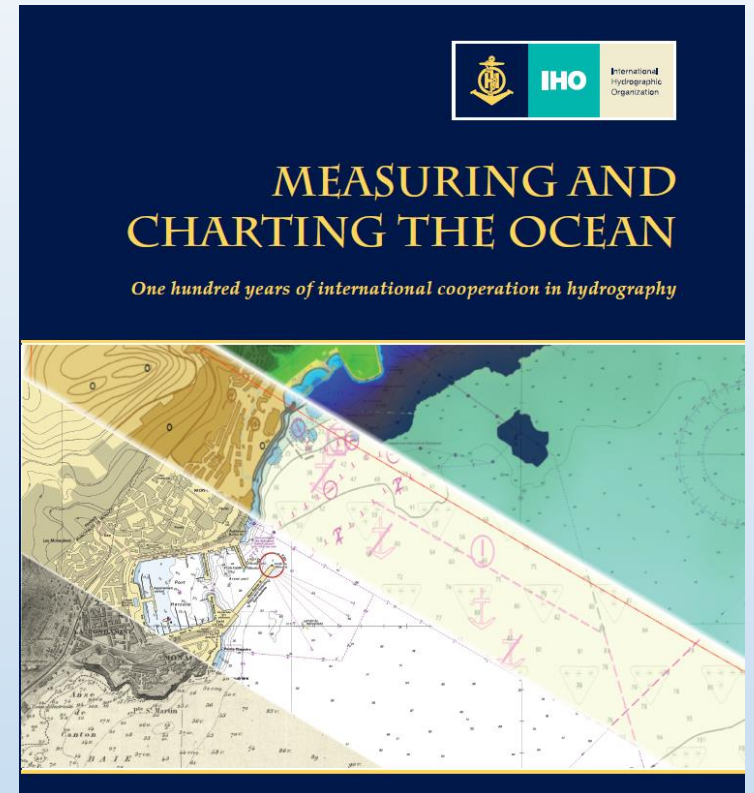
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IHO's Strategic goals as core of the Work Programme 2020 - 2026

Goal 1: Evolving the hydrographic support for safety and efficiency of maritime navigation, undergoing profound transformation.

Goal 2: Increasing the use of hydrographic data for the benefit of society.

Goal 3: Participating actively in international initiatives related to the knowledge and the sustainable use of the Ocean.



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Most relevant themes related to Goal 1:

Support for safety and efficiency of maritime navigation

- Revision of MSC.232(82) - ECDIS Performance Standards forces IHO / HO`s to deliver.
- Future production of S-101 ENCs in conjunction with S-57 maintenance/production. (to be reported to IMO via IHO Sec.)
- Future production and provision of amending S-1xx products. (to be reported to IMO via IHO Sec.)
- Future provision of paper charts.



The S-100 eco-system is taking shape

Significant progress in all areas of S-101 development.

- S-101 Portrayal,
 - Data Validation Checks,
 - Dataset Load/Unload and Scales,
 - Test Dataset Development.
-
- S-101 Edition 1.1.0 – to be published in April 2023
 - Feature and Portrayal Catalogues to be commenced on approval of the S-101 Edition 1.1.0 Main document

Increased focus on critical elements:

- S-98 Interoperability
- S-128 Catalogue
- S-164 – Test data set



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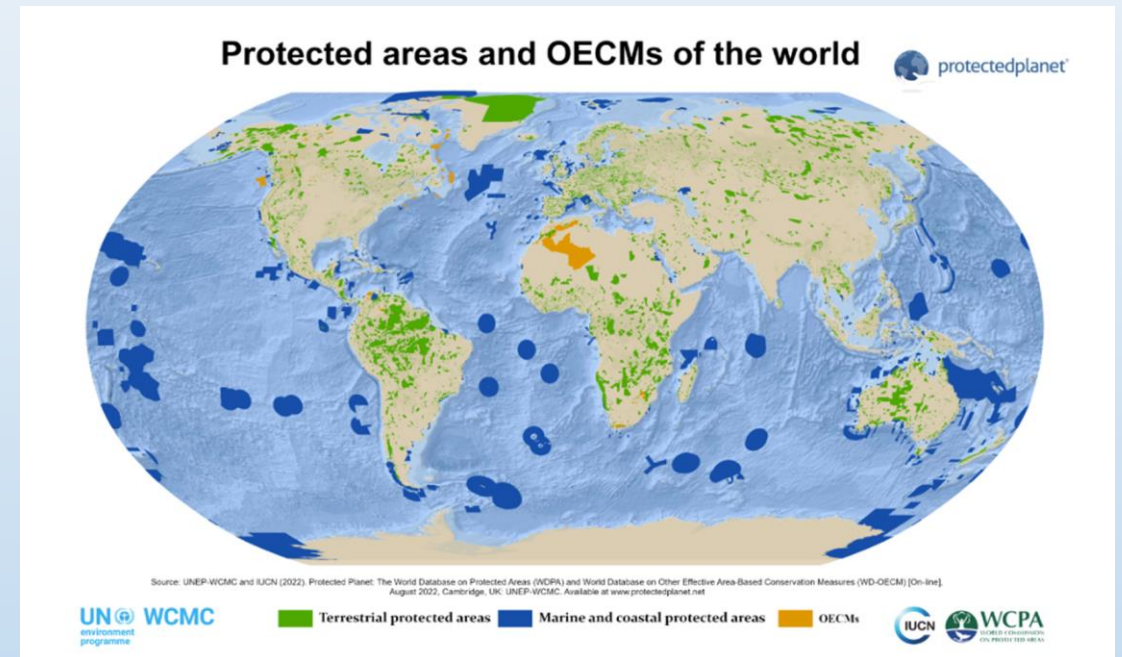
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Extra – Extra - S-100 related news

a) WMO's Standing Committee on Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Services (SC-MMO) has adopted S-4xx series as data format for global Early Hazard Warning System EW4ALL to be ready in 2025/2026

b) UN Decision about 30% MPA by 2030 (30 by 30)

Use of S-122 in support of the 30 by 30 initiative to map MPAs on high seas under the IHO remit?



Most relevant themes related to Goal 2: Increasing the use of hydrographic data

Observations:

- Uptake of blue economy along all coasts – fish farming, sea weed etc.
- Increased request for deep ocean bathymetry for exploitation, renewable energy production, cable, pipelines, **deep water warfare** etc.
- Private enterprises and digital philanthropists endeavored ocean bathymetry as an area to receive public attention.
- Revitalization of the GEBCO programme with SeaBed2030 project and **Map the Gaps** as a booster.



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International Hydrographic Review (IHR)

- IHR will issue a jubilee edition to celebrate its centenary. Paper version will be distributed at Assembly kindly produced and sponsored by Germany.
- Papers for consideration for publication in the IHR should be forwarded directly to the editor (ihr.review@iho.int, copy to ihr.editor@iho.int.com). The deadlines are:
 - End of January for the May Edition
 - End of July for the November Edition
- NHC Members are invited to submit papers for publication in the IHR.



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Most relevant themes related to Goal 3: Participating actively in international ocean initiatives

- First active participation on UN Oceans Conference Lisbon
- Regional activities: Europe – collaboration with EMODNET, Digital Twin of the Ocean
- Consultations with global ocean observation programs such as ARGO and Mercator Ocean



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Forthcoming 3rd IHO Assembly 2023, established and new Council (C-7 to C-9) after

- Because of the pandemic pause and generation change, Assembly will be a completely new experience for many delegation members.
- Discussions are expected for all together fifteen Proposals.
- Side Event : Empower Women in Hydrography - NHC kindly request to report in advance.
- Thematic session as a new element.
- US dispatches a vessel and provides science on a sphere as central element of the chart exhibition.
- Norway was selected by NHC for next Council triennium



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**NHC is requested
to take note of this briefing,
and to take action on the items raised**



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