20th Meeting of the North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission

National Report by

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Main achievements during the year

- Successful conduct of “Learn Through Each Other” monthly VTC programmes among Member States on following topics:
  - January – Crowd Sourced Bathymetry
  - February – MSDI
  - March – Seabed 2030
  - April – SDB
  - May – ENC production
  - June –Migration from S-57 to S-100
- Releasing of Kankesanthurai Harbour ENC – Northern port of Sri Lanka
- Project on redefining coastline of Sri Lanka with Survey Department

Main challenges and/or obstructions

- Update old Survey Data of the national charts
- Lack of material recourses to undertake Hydrographic surveys (Eg. MBES)
- Covid -19 pandemic affected all activities including planned hydrographic surveys & CB activities
- NIOHC-20 meeting had to be postponed till 2021 as a VTC event

Progress on surveys, charting and MSI

- Surveys:
  - Survey in support of national charting
  - Survey in support of defence requirements and projects of national interest
  - Indo-Sri Lanka joint hydrographic survey
- Charting (in progress):
  - Production of ENCs in all scale bands with new survey data
  - Production of own INT charts for Colombo harbour & approaches, Colombo to Sangamankanda, Hambanthota harbour & approaches
  - Production of national charts : KKS to Delft, Off Kalpitiya
- MSI:
  - Issuing of Notices to Mariners through UKHO
  - Dissemination of NAVAREA warnings through NAVAREA VIII Coordinator

Capacity Building

- Contribution
  - Survey Recorder III & Survey Recorder II at Navy Hydrographic School
  - Training modules for Universities including practical training

- Request for Support
  - On the Job training on MB surveying and processing
  - Training on MSI & MSDI
  - Cartographic training for production of ENCs, AMLs & Paper Nautical Charts and their maintenance
  - Cat 'A' & Cat 'B' Hydrographic training and Cat 'B' Cartography training

Plans that affect the region

- ENC production to cover the SLOC coming under National Maritime Jurisdiction has been given a higher precedence.
- Remain open for regional cooperation on Hydrographic matters.
- Commitment for Seabed 2030 & CSB through national MSDI.

Lessons learned to share

- Need of proper mechanism for MSDI implementation in the country
- Utilization of virtual platform to meet the CB requirements by implementing "Learn through Each Other" programme

Success stories to share

- Conduct of “Learn through each other” programme for NIOHC member states on VTC platform