

**34th Meeting of the
North Sea Hydrographic Commission (NSHC)
VTC, 27-28 April 2021**

IHO Secretariat Report

IHO Work Programme and Council matters

**Dr Mathias Jonas
Secretary-General**



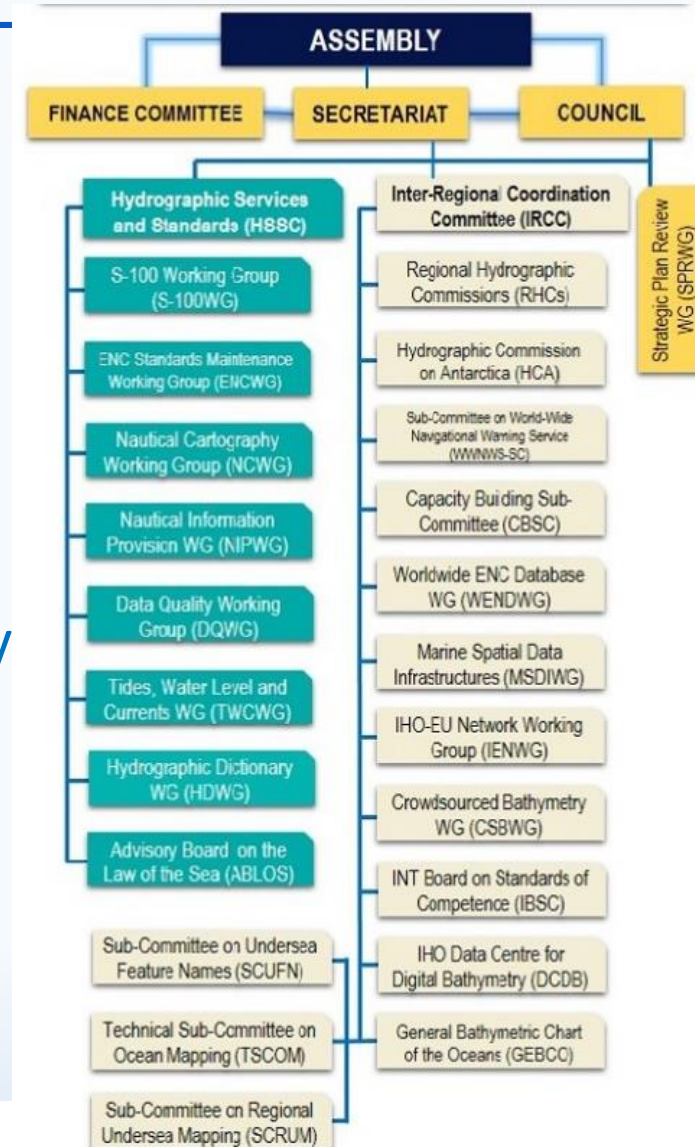
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North Sea Hydrographic Commission

IHO: made of Member States - operated by the Secretariat

- 94 Member States on six continents organized in 15 Regional Hydrographic Commissions plus Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica;
- All activities based on the three years Work programme with the main chapters:
 - *Corporate Affairs*
 - *Hydrographic Services and Standards*
 - *Inter Regional Coordination and Support*
- Work Programme approved by Assembly and fine tuned annually by Council;
- All together 18 Sub-committees, boards, working groups plus numerous project teams under the two main Committees: HSSC and IRCC;
- Main contribution of Member States by nomination of hundreds of experts plus participating stakeholder`s experts.



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The IHO Secretariat

- 20 Employees of ten nations – half of them engaged with specific hydrographic matters;
- Seconded by two / three project officers detached by Member States;
- Annual budget of approximately 3.3 Million Euro;
- Main tasks:
 - Coordination, facilitation and secretary roles for the various Committees, Boards and Working Groups;
 - Organizational tasks for Assembly, Council and Committee meetings;
 - Representation of IHO at many liaising IGOs and industry bodies;
 - Provision of GIS services such as INToGIS, Gazetteers, Registries, Document archives;
 - IHO Website, media outreach such as social media;
 - International Hydrographic Review as authoritative publication about hydrography as applied science;
 - Wealth of technical standards and other publications supporting uniformity and international cooperation in hydrography.



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IHO's productive output

- Globally accepted standardization for
 - Printed and digital nautical charts & nautical publications;
 - Hydrographic survey data;
 - Education in cartography / survey (together with FIG);in liaison with ISO and OGC (marine related contribution to UN-GGIM Framework)
- Strong partnership with IMO and IALA on
 - all aspects of provision of nautical information including navigational warnings;
 - S-100 universal hydrographic data model as baseline standard for e-navigation;
- Coordination of Capacity Building Programme activities;
- Assists regional and international coordination of the production and provision of hydrographic products in collaboration with Regional Hydrographic Commissions;
- GEBCO programme (in liaison with UNESCO-IOC supported by Seabed2030);
- Concept work on MSDI;
- Productive cooperation with many, many others ... IOC, ISA, ATCM, IEC, CIRM, ICPC ...;



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World Hydrographic Day 2021 and IHO Centenary Celebrations (IHO-100)

- The theme for WHD 2021 is:
 "One hundred years of international cooperation in hydrography".
- The "peak-of-the-peak" will be World Hydrography Day (WHD) on 21 June 2021 is now planned to be held as a hybrid event consisting of a small reception at the Secretariat with a select few representatives of local authorities and stakeholders by invitation only, exhibitions of modern survey technology in Monaco harbor and a panel discussion.
- An important element will be the live broadcast of the speeches. There will be a broadcast of videos, highlighting the importance and the role of hydrography, and a virtual panel discussion on future challenges.



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The 2nd IHO Assembly – November 2020

The Assembly, structured as 3 daily remote sessions of 3 hours each, examined 17 proposals and several reports submitted by Member States, by subordinate organs and by the Secretary-General.

The Assembly agreed on 52 decisions, including the approval of the revised Strategic Plan, the Work Programme and Budget of the Organization for the next three-year period by consensus, using the silence procedure.

All the documents related to the 2nd Assembly including the Proceedings are available at the IHO website. The Assembly agreed in principle to host its third session from 25 to 29 April 2023 in Monaco.

NSHC is invited to adapt their respective instruments to comply with the recommendations of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 (Establishment of Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC) as amended by A-2).



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Selected Council Decisions No. 1

Decision and Action C4/06: The Council agreed to include a standing agenda item in future Council meetings on the joint IHO-Singapore Innovation and Technology Laboratory (deadline C-5).

- The **Governing Board** of the Laboratory to report on an annual basis.
- **Council** to advise the Lab on themes and projects to be considered.
- Possible topics for consideration of the Governing Board:
 - “Dual Fuel” Concept
 - Conversion of S-57 to S-101 and vice-versa.

Official start
delayed to
October 2021

Decision and Action C4/07: Secretary-General to report on implementation of proposal A-2 PRO-1.9 Future of S-23 (deadline: C-5).

The Secretariat proposes HSSC13 / May 2021 to establish a S-130 Project Team to develop the Product Specification and the authoritative data set based on.

Nomination of experts welcome



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Selected Council Decisions No. 2

Decision and Action C4/08: The Council noted the task given by the A-2 to consider the best way forward with proposals A-2 PRO-1.4 and A-2 PRO-1.5 on the definition of hydrographic interest and report to A-3 in 2023 and by which the Council was empowered to establish a working group for this specific purpose (deadline A-3).

Decision and Action C4/09: The Council invited **interested parties (Argentina, Brazil, India, Uruguay ...)** in the development of a definition of hydrographic interest, to consider IHC17 outcome, PRO1.4 and 1.5, and come back with a single consolidated proposal to C-5 or C-6 for possible consideration at A-3. (deadline C-5, C-6).

The Secretariat invites NSHC members to consider to contribute to a future joint activity of interested parties in the development phase of a revised definition of hydrographic interest.

**Council Chair has contacted
interested parties**



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Selected Council Decisions No. 3

- **Decision and Action C4/10: Council** to monitor the implementation by **HSSC** of the recommendations on the Future of the Paper Nautical Chart as appropriate. HSSC to report to Council annually on recommendations on the Future of the Paper Nautical Chart (deadline C-5).
- **Decision and Action C4/11: Council** to monitor the progress of the task given to **HSSC** to prepare a synoptic summary report on the various options offered to HOs for future production of S-101 ENC's in conjunction with S-57 maintenance/production (deadline C-5).

The Secretariat invites NSHC members to proactively contribute to the implementation of the strategic developments in future paper chart layout and production. Likewise the Secretariat welcomes any practical experience gained with the parallel production of S-57 and S-101 ENC's including their use for streamlined paper chart production.

DE, DK, FR, NO, NL & UK already
well involved in supporting actions
at Nautical Cartography WG



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Selected Council Decisions No. 4

- **Decision and Action C4/23: Council** to maintain and update the S-100 Implementation Roadmap and resulting activities, in liaison with Member States and external bodies, on an annual basis as a key priority of Council activities (deadline C-5).
- **Decision and Action C4/24: Council** to monitor the subsequent development of the WEND-100 Principles, as a consequence of the expanding range of hydrographic data products addressed in the S-100 Implementation Strategy (deadline C-5).

**WENDWG is crucial to build bridges
between data standardization
and data production!**



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IHO's renewed strategic goals

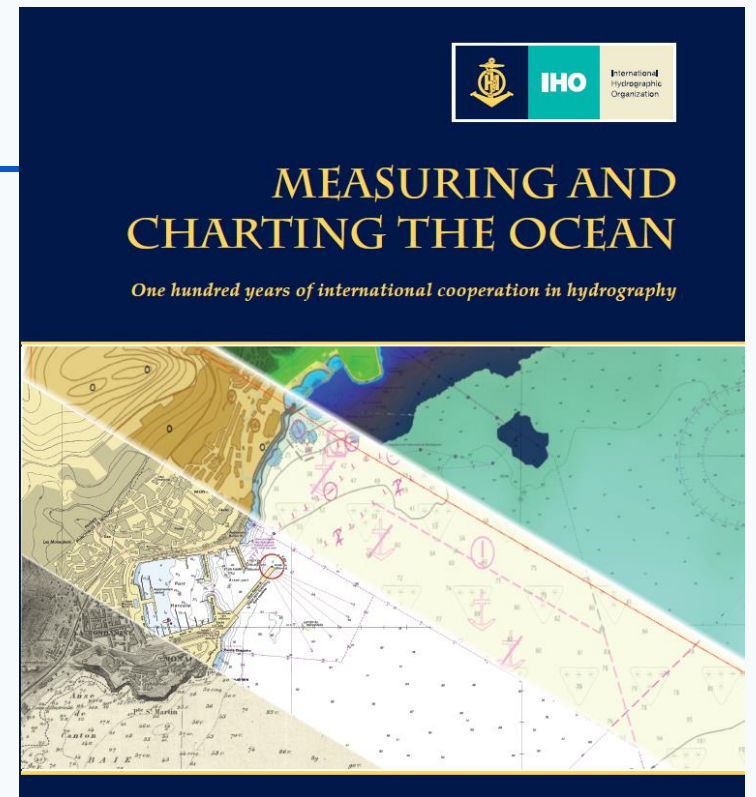
Goal 1: Evolving the hydrographic support for safety and efficiency of maritime navigation, undergoing profound transformation.

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.

- **Decision C4/39: The Council** agreed on the proposed allocation of the new SPIs ... **RHCs** (Chairs/Vice-Chairs) to experiment the implementation of the Strategic Plan and consider during this process, following gap analysis if appropriate, whether our organization and work programmes are fit for purpose, in particular for meeting Goals 2 and 3 (deadline C-5).

Recent SWPHC gave a brilliant example for!



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**NHC is requested
to take note of this briefing,
and to take action on the items raised
in the full report submitted
as meeting document NSHC34-B1.1.**



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