

## Report IHO EU Network WG (IENWG)

### 1. Background

The objectives of IHO-EU Network WG:

- a. Identify EU activities and processes on matters of interest to Hydrographic Offices (HOs).
- b. Establish a common understanding of the issues when possible.
- c. Consider and propose the ways and channels to interface with EU policies, activities and processes (mechanisms) through Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs) initiatives, through the IRCC or through the IHO in general.
- d. Facilitate common actions of HOs related to EU programmes.
- e. Liaise with relevant Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) WGs for technical matters (e.g. standardization).
- f. Advise IRCC on the impact of EU policies, activities and processes in the maritime domain on the IHO programme of work.

The IHO-EU Network WG shall be composed of a representative from each RHC of which at least one EU/EEA Member State (MS) is a member. It is recommended that this representative be from an IHO MS from the EU/EEA.

Chair:

Pierre-Yves Dupuy (France) since 2020

Laurent Louvart (France) until 2020

Executive Secretary: Corine Lochet (France)

NSHC representative: Thomas Dehling, BSH Germany

The meetings are always open for any IHO member state to participate. Regular participants from NSHC are Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden.

## **2. Meetings since the last NSHC Conference**

- 9th meeting back to back with European Ocean Observing System (EOOS) Conference, Brussels, Belgium, 20 – 23 November 2018
- 10th Meeting in Saint-Mandé, France, 14-15 January 2020
- 11th meeting as vtc, 2 - 3 December 2020, originally planned to be held in Dublin, Ireland, from 2 to 3 December 2020, back to back with “20 years of Seabed Mapping” led by Infomar.

## **3. Important topics of the IENWG:**

- a. Implementation of the Open Data Directive (European Directive 2019/1024 of 20 June 2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information), formerly known as PSI Directive.

The way this new directive is implemented at national level may impact the economic models of some European Hydrographic Offices. The main question remains the List of High Values Datasets. Some suggestions and recommendations were made to harmonize the positions as far as possible.

- b. The future of EMODnet:

EMODnet started as a project and not as a permanent infrastructure although an increasing number of stakeholders (incl. IHO DCDB and GEBCO) make use of it as a sustainable and operational portal for viewing and downloading high-resolution bathymetric gridded data. EMODnet has become a long term marine data initiative. Currently the next phase of EMODnet Bathymetry started. Several HOs are participating.

The second EMODnet Open Conference and Jamboree will take place from 14 until 18 June 2021 fully online.

- c. Marine/maritime spatial planning (MSP)

mainly networking and exchange of information for those HOs directly involved in MSP.

- d. European Ocean Observing System (EOOS)

EOOS is a coordinating framework designed to align and integrate Europe’s ocean observing capacity, promote a systematic and collaborative approach to collecting information on the state and variability of our seas, and underpin sustainable management of the marine environment and its resources.

The relation to EuroGOOS as a regional association within the context of the intergovernmental Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) is still not fully understandable.

#### **4. Actions for NSHC34**

The Commission is invited to:

- a. take note of the report
  - b. discuss the future perspectives of the WG and the networking
  - c. take any other decision as appropriate
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