



17th Meeting of the Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission

SAIHC17-2.3 Council 4 Report by South Africa [SAIHC Representative to Council]

SAIHC17, VTC, 3 – 4 February 2021



- Full C-4 Report with actions is available on the IHO website
- IHO Council 4 Meeting convened 19 November 2020 by VTC
- Secretary General confirmed the decision from A-2 the formal establishment and membership of the Council (next 3 years) and the election of new Chair and Vice-Chair of Council
 - Dr Geneviève Béchard (Canada) as Chair
 - Mr Thai Low Ying-Huang (Singapore) as Vice-Chair
- Council congratulated the IHO Secretariat for being so flexible and dynamic to meet the challenges presented during this pandemic by convening virtual meetings
- It was confirmed that Member States at the A-2 approved the IHO Strategic Plan (6 years)
- Pandemic will force all to do things differently whilst still achieving the IHO goals



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REFLECTIONS FROM ASSEMBLY 2

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- **The Council** will need to effect the Strategic Plan focusing on:
 - implementation of the S-100 Roadmap, which included S-100 standards, seamlessly integrated with other data such as navigational aid information and weather;
 - technical, operation and regulatory challenges associated with the transition from paper-based products and S-57 ENC's to the S-100 suite of standards and services;
 - capacity building initiatives supported by the E-learning Project (Republic South Korea);
 - supporting the Empowering of Women in Hydrography Project; and
 - providing oversight to IHO Work Programme and Budget
- Decision A2/02 was noted in particular. This decision approves the interpretation that the Council has the authority to request and consider proposals submitted by Member States or the Secretary-General and confirmed that the Council is entitled to propose amendments to the General Regulations of the IHO for Member States' approval



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REFLECTIONS FROM ASSEMBLY 2 (CONTD)

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- **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 Laboratory on themes and projects to be considered
 - Possible topics for consideration of the Governing Board:
 - ENC “Dual Fuel” Concept
 - Conversion of S-57 to S-101 and vice-versa
- The definition of hydrographic interest continued in tradition to draw much debate
 - **The Council** invited Member States to submit a joint proposal on the definition of hydrographic interest by C-5.
 - **Council** also reiterated the non-Council Member States were free to participate as observers as with any IHO Working Group, Committee etc.



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SUBSIDIARY ORGANS (HSSC AND IRCC)

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- **The Council** will monitor HSSC with
 - the implementation by HSSC, the recommendations on the Future of the Paper Chart;
 - Roadmap for the S-100 Implementation Decade;
 - further development of S-100 Standards; and
 - the development of 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
- **The Council** endorsed the priorities of the IRCC:
 - further cooperation between RHCs and between RHCs and IHO;
 - cooperation between the subordinate bodies of IRCC;
 - the alignment of national reports with the new work programme;
 - outreach; and
 - a number of cross-sectional topics – e-learning development, data collection and dissemination, and technical developments (Seabed 2030 Project, MSI, MSDI, CSB WENDWG for the development of future S-100 products).



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IHO WORK PLAN, BUDGET AND STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

IHO Work Plan

Council approved the IHO Work Plan for 2021 and noted the proposed theme for the 2021 World Hydrography Day by the Secretary-General “100 Years of International Cooperation in Hydrography”

Budget

- **The Council** approved the 2021 budget
- **The Council** noted the decision by A-2 to authorize the Council to increase Member States’ contributions by 1% in 2022 (and/or 2023) subject to the IHO’s financial situation – this decision will be taken at C-5
- **Council** also encourage Secretary General to secure additional funding through negotiated co-operation agreements with Member States and or partnering organisations

Strategic Work Plan Review

- The Strategic Work Plan approved by A-2 must be implemented by Council. The SPRWG was disbanded by Council
- The effective implementation of the Strategic Plan 2021-2026 is to be considered as the main theme of supervision and control of the **Council** until A-3, keeping in mind to apply the principles of ISO 9001
- RHC encouraged to implement 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. Feedback required by C-5



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ACTIONS REQUESTED FROM SAIHC17

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1. SAIHC17 is requested to note the contents of the Report.
2. Thank you.