

African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group 3rd Meeting

8 December 2021 Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendance: Interim Chair: James Timmins, SAIHC Secretary: Ashley Parker, SAIHC CB Coordinator Lucy Fieldhouse, Kenya: Victoria Obura, Malawi: Gift Chigona, Mozambique: Aciano Lipangue, Jose Simbine, Uganda: Brian Musinguzi, Henry Ategeka, UK: Tim Lewis, Nicholas Swadling.

Apologies: Kenya: Lucy Mburu, Mozambique: Celia Magaia, Ricardo Machave, South Africa: Capt. Theo Stokes, Alfons Van Craeynest, Tanzania: Edwin Nkinzo, Charles Mazula Manyasa, Lake Victoria Basin Commission: Amos Christopher Ndoto, PMAESA: Col. Andre Ciseau, Songwe River Basin Development Programme: Rehema Omino.

Time	Item No.	Agenda item
09:00	1	Welcome from Chair and introductions to any new members
	2	Approval of minutes from last meeting
	3	Status of Actions
09:15	4	Review and discussion of Hydrography Audit – (Please complete template and send to the Secretary prior to the meeting)
09:45	5	Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) data portal requirements for Lakes
10:05	6	Any reports from members and other business (AOB)
10:15		Meeting Closed

1. The Interim Chair James Timmins welcomed the members to the third meeting and asked members to introduce themselves. Brian Musinguzi and Henry Ategeka from Uganda, Victoria Obura from Survey of Kenya and Aciano Lipangue from INAHINA were welcomed as new representatives.

We have invited Rehema Omino of the Songwe River Basin Development Programme, PMAESA and Amos Christopher Ndoto Maritime Safety Officer from the Lake Victoria Basin Commission and look forward to them joining future meetings.

2. Minutes from the second African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group 8 September 2021 were approved with no comments received.
3. The Interim Chair summarised the actions and determined Action 1, 4, 5 and 6 are complete and will now be closed. A new deadline of 4 March 2022 was set for the completion of African Great Lakes & Rivers audit ref action number 2. He gave an update re action 3 and explained that he had exchanged emails with the IHO and is waiting to hear back to see what is possible. The IHO have suggested that the INTOGIS could be used for lake chart limits.

Action Table

Summary of updated action list.

No.	Action	Due Date	Lead	Status
1	UK to prepare and circulate template for the African Great Lakes & Rivers audit	31 October 2021	UK	Complete – Circulated 29 October 2021
2	Members to complete African Great Lakes & Rivers audit including MSI	6 December 2021 Extend deadline to March 2022	Members	Open – Ongoing 1 Response received
3	Interim Chair to contact IHO to see if an interactive layer system would be possible for the lakes and rivers similar to INTOGIS and	31 October 2021	Interim Chair - UK	Open - Ongoing In contact with IHO



	also ask what resource is available regarding a data portal			
4	UK to circulate guidance on Notice to Mariner criteria (IHO S-4 publication)	30 September 2021	UK	Complete – Circulated 28 September 2021 Gave a summary
5	SAIHC MSDIWG Chair to write a letter to members to better understand data portal requirements	31 October 2021	SAIHC MSDIWG Chair	Complete Circulated 1 November 2021
6	Malawi to liaise with the Secretary to invite new members to the AGL&RSWG	31 October 2021	Malawi	Complete – Malawi provided the secretary with a contact for the Songwe River Basin Development Programme (SRBDP).
7	Members, through their respective organisations, to consider taking on the role as Chair of this African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group. Provide submission to Secretary	6 December 2021	All members	Open

4. The Interim Chair thanked Malawi for their response to the audit and asked members to complete in preparation for SAIHC Plenary March 2022. He shared the template online and gave a summary of the information to be completed by members including user needs, chart coverage, adequacy of surveys coverage and MSI & Notice to Mariners. He stated that when responses are received the information will be used to help identify gaps in the region, common trends, capacity building requests and enable further collaboration and understanding of the needs of the group.

Existing Action 2 date extended - Members to complete African Great Lakes & Rivers audit including MSI

5. Tim Lewis - SAIHC MSDIWG Chair, commented on the great turn out and new representatives on the call and said he looks forward to meeting at SAIHC Plenary in Mozambique, planned for March 2022 subject to the pandemic situation. He referenced action 5 and said he had received no comments or feedback from the letter distributed on Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI) data portal requirements for Lakes. He discussed foundation layers of data integrated onto a portal and asked members for comments and feedback to ascertain if a data portal is needed for the AGL&R SWG. If required a funding proposal may need to be drafted to cover the cost of setting up a data portal. He asked if members knew if there was an existing portal the group could use and would keep informed of discussions with IHO to discuss using INTOGIS.

Existing Action 3 date extended - Interim Chair to contact IHO to see if an interactive layer system would be possible for the lakes and rivers similar to INTOGIS and also ask what resource is available regarding a data portal

The interim Chair stated that a data portal for marine safety would be helpful to inform decisions on where surveys are required in the lakes and rivers as well as providing a useful source of information that could be used for wider lake related projects.

Malawi raised concerns about security and privacy of data on a portal and suggested the group could generalise information in an observation document.

The interim Chair acknowledged Malawi's concerns and agreed that there was a fine balance to be made, between sharing enough information for the group to allow effective collaboration and understanding whilst allowing privacy of any sensitive information security and protection



of intellectual property. It was assumed that it was possible for a portal to have a private members section as well as an open public section.

Malawi also stated the need to develop Maritime Safety information capability and broadcasting of MSI. GMDSS is focussed on coastal, and Malawi don't use but the lakes region would benefit assistance in this area for MSI.

Lucy Fieldhouse SAIHC CB Coordinator informed the group of an IHO Funded MSI Course for the region to be held mid-2022 focussing on Notice to Mariners and warnings. The aim is to have a face-to-face meeting for optimal delivery and applications will begin next year with 1 funded place for delegates from each nation and will also include Countries from the North Indian Ocean and Eastern Atlantic regions. She stated that Chris Janus Chair of the WWNWS could offer advice and help on MSI and would reach out to him ahead of the next meeting. Funding is for 10 people in the region, but self-funded places are accepted.

The interim Chair posed a question to the group, what is needed for the lakes in terms of MSI?

He stated that the UKHO provide a 24-hour service for radio navigation warnings for Northern Europe and therefore have subject matter experts that may be able to provide advice or answers for the group should we have any specific questions

New Action 1 - Members to provide comments and feedback to understand data portal requirements for the group as per letter sent by SAIHC MSDI Chair

New Action 4 - Provide information on the SAIHC MSI funded course planned for mid-2022

6. AOB

The interim Chair asked members to share lake priorities and provide any updates on the work that they have been doing.

Survey of Kenya reported that Lake Victoria charts were not updated. Lake Naivasha recently suffered from flooding with neighbouring properties and business being destroyed and many complaints received by office. There is now a growing Concern regarding housing/businesses surrounding the lake and the effects of flooding, therefore there is a need to chart Lake Naivasha properly. There are discussions ongoing to survey Lake Naivasha and establish contour lines encroaching on the lake. There is also a plan to survey Lake Victoria and other lake and rivers. Last surveys for Lake Naivasha were in 2019 to support levelling contour levels.

The interim Chair said UK produce 6 charts of Lake Victoria, but these are not maintained and have a cautionary note inserted on the charts stating that they are not maintained for notice to mariners.

Uganda reported that they have a lack of surveys for river traffic and the current Admiralty charts are out of date, so a review of future surveys is needed. They also stated that an Increase in capacity building is needed and thanked the members of this group for sharing information.

The interim Chair stated that World bank funding activities/surveys appear to have occurred in recent years, but the information that was presumably collected has not been passed to chart producers to allow a basic awareness of survey data extents and quality to be reviewed. He stated that other organisations such as the International Association of Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) may possibly also be able to assist our group if they conduct any technical visits to the region. It's possible that they may be able to, help raise awareness and understanding for aids to navigation on the lakes.

Mozambique said they have 1 chart covering the whole of Lake Nyasa and updated the nautical chart recently, this is used for small boats shipping through Mozambique and Malawi and was surveyed 10 years ago.



The interim Chair posed a question to the group, do charts of the lake need to be the same format as Coastal charts? Is there a need to have a chart printed on a smaller sheet of paper for the smaller boats on the lake?

The interim Chair asked if vessels use mobile phones to help with navigation for instance it is understood that some users may receive storm warning alerts on their mobile phones, if so, is there a benefit in having charts viewable on mobile phones?

The interim Chair introduced Nicholas Swadling to the group who is taking over as interim Chair and Geographic Technical Lead for the region from James Timmins. Nicholas stated he was looking forward to working closely with the group and countries in the region.

The Interim Chair reiterated that the UK feel it is important that a member state with one of the lakes should consider taking on the role as Chair to steer the group with support from the UK and other members. This will be tabled as an agenda item at SAIHC18 to seek a permanent Chair. Participants were invited to consult within their organisation about position of Chair. The UK will remain active and support the group but feel that the role would be better suited for a SAIHC member with a lake/river coastline and be a good opportunity to be more vocal in the region.

Existing Action 7 now Action 5 with date extended - Members, through their respective organisations, to consider taking on the role as Chair of this African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group. Provide submission to Secretary

The UK welcomed any new groups joining to observe and participate in the AGL&RSWG to make it more inclusive.

Action Table

No.	Action	Due Date	Lead	Status/Comments
1	Members to provide comments and feedback to understand data portal requirements for the group as per letter sent by SAIHC MSDI Chair	4 March 2022	Members	Open Secretary will forward letter with 3 rd meeting report.
2	Members to complete African Great Lakes & Rivers audit including MSI	4 March 2022	Members	Open 1 response received from Malawi. Interim Chair will review responses picking out common themes to summarise trends at SAIHC Plenary
3	Interim Chair to contact IHO to see if an interactive layer system would be possible for the lakes and rivers similar to INTOGIS and also ask what resource is available regarding a data portal	4 March 2022	Interim Chair - UK	Open – Ongoing In contact with IHO
4	Provide information on the SAIHC MSI funded course planned for mid-2022	January 2022	SAIHC CB Coordinator	Open
5	Members, through their respective organisations, to consider taking on the role as Chair of this African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group. Provide submission to Secretary	SAIHC18 Plenary March 2022	All members	Open