



African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group 4th Meeting

9 May 2022 Face to Face meeting SAIHC18

Attendance: Interim AGL&RsWG Chair: Nick Swadling, SAIHC Chair: Peter Sparkes, SAIHC Secretary: Laura Hewson, participants from Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Uganda, UK, IALA.

The meeting had been planned as hybrid but due to technical issues could only proceed with those face-to-face participants in Maputo.

Time	Item No.	Agenda item
14:00	1	Welcome from Chair and introductions to any new members
14:10	2	Approval of minutes from 3 rd meeting
14:15	3	Status of Actions
14:20	4	Review of audit results
14:30	5	Review of 2018 World Bank funded, Royal Haskoning survey data received by UKHO of Lake Victoria Ports
14:45	6	Chart requirements for AGL&Rs
15:05	7	MSI Chris Janus WWNWSWG chair to present
15:25	8	Data Portal for AGL&Rs
15:45	9	Nominations for permanent chair of AGL&RsWG
15:50	10	Any reports from members and other business

1. The Interim Chair Nick Swadling welcomed the members to the meeting.
2. The agenda was approved by the floor without comment. Minutes from the third African Great Lakes & Rivers Sub Working Group 8 December 2021 were approved with no comments received.
3. The Interim Chair summarised the actions and determined Actions 3 and 4 are closed.

Summary of updated action list.

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 responses received from Malawi and Uganda
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	Closed – interim chair liaised with IHO and not suitable for scope of AGL&RsWG.
4	Provide information on the SAIHC MSI funded course planned for mid-2022	January 2022	SAIHC CB Coordinator	Closed



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	Ongoing
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4. The Interim Chair noted that two responses had been received to the Hydrography Audit so far and thanked both Malawi and Uganda for their contributions. The responses were summarised into themes. The interim chair noted that the audit would remain open and further responses would be welcomed, recognising the challenge of the task.

Action 2 to remain open

5. The interim chair shared graphics of six hydrographic surveys that the UKHO had received from Royal Haskoning, funded by the World Bank. The surveys cover approaches to ports in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The surveys could be used to improve coverage of Lake Victoria. Existing paper chart coverage is no longer maintained due to a lack of incoming information. Interim Chair discussed the importance of unlocking data supply if any new charting is to be produced and maintained. Port Authority collaboration may unlock some safety information as they are active data collectors.

New Action 6. Interim Chair to invite Port Authorities to join WG

6. Chart requirements - SAIHC Chair Peter Sparkes discussed the opportunity for UKHO to produce new digital ECS (Electronic Chart Service) for Lake Victoria and renew its charting in the area. This would be an accessible solution to charting the Lakes and would not require expensive / large ECDIS. However, it would be dependent on opening channels of data supply.

IALA ask for sponsorship requests and would welcome requests to conduct Technical Needs Assessment missions which would be completed for free. IALA state they are ready to collaborate with AGL&RsWG and keen to improve safety of navigation in this region.

Kenya commented that there are sometimes issues with contractors not releasing data to the public when drafted and this prevents sharing.

New Action 5. SAIHC Chair to write letter to Government bodies of members to encourage sharing of data to support safety of navigation (Action 13 of SAIHC)

Interim Chair noted that Lake Victoria Basin Commission had been invited to meetings but had not been able to attend to date, they may hold key information relating to Aids to Navigation.

7. Maritime Safety Information (MSI) - Chris Janus, Chair, IHO World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Subcommittee had been invited to present by VTC but was unable to do so due to technical issues – Interim Chair will invite Chris to next virtual meeting to present on MSI.

Interim Chair discussed potential of developing an MSI APP which could be part of the functionality of the ECS.

SAIHC Chair states this is a very worthwhile endeavour.



8. Data Portal for AGL&Rs – MSDI. Lots of data sets could be included in this – water hyacinth would be a good dataset to capture for the lakes, for example.

Mozambique commented that they have lots of data from their own lakes they would be happy to share in the group

9. Nominations for permanent chair of working group. No nominations were received. UKHO to continue as interim Chair but call for permanent chair to remain open.
10. AOB – Malawi – requested that AGL&RSWG visit their Minister and invited Member States to visit, suggesting that the group should organise visits in region to each other to improve experience and facilitate learning.

New Action 4. Interim Chair to write letter to members to discuss and coordinate a Technical Working Group Meeting to Lakes (Action 12 of SAIHC)

Action Table

No.	Action	Due Date	Lead	Status
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 3rd meeting report.
2	Members to complete African Great Lakes & Rivers audit including MSI	6 December 2021 Extend deadline to March 2022	Members	Open – Ongoing
3	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	Members	open
4	Interim Chair to write letter to members to discuss and coordinate a Technical Working Group Meeting to Lakes (Action 12 of SAIHC)	July 2022	Interim Chair	Sept 2022
5	SAIHC Chair to write letter to Government bodies of members to encourage sharing of data to support safety of navigation (Action 13 of SAIHC)	July 2022	SAIHC Chair	
6	Interim Chair to invite port authorities to join WG	July 2022	Interim Chair	Sept 2022