

IHO CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE

CBSC Intersessional Meeting of 2024

Online meeting, 7 February 2024

MINUTES

1. Opening Remarks

Doc: CBSC22 Int -01C Agenda and Timetable (Chair)

The IBSC Chair opened the meeting welcoming the participants to this intersessional meeting that aims to prepare for the annual meeting CBSC22. After the welcome words he asked the participants to introduce themselves.

Commander Ramkumar Menon from India informed the meeting that he replaced the former member from India. Captain Cesar Reinert was replacing Captain Helber Carvalho SWAtHC CB Coordinator only for this meeting.

The Secretary mentioned that since the last meeting in addition to the new member from India there are the following new members:

- EAtHC - Gabin Sogorb (France)
- MBSHC - Burak Inan (Türkiye)
- RSAHC - Fatemeh Heidari Rad (Iran, I. R. of)
- Japan - Hiroki Yajima
- Republic of Korea - Darae Lee

IHO Director Luigi Sinapi welcomed the participants highlighting the importance of this meeting and mentioning the next meeting in Galapagos and the important items to be discussed.

The meeting approved the agenda.

2. CBWP2023 closure and CBWP2024 Update

Doc: CBSC22 Int -02 CBWP2023 Closure and CBWP2024 Update (Secretary)
CBSC22 Int -02a SWAtHC Report
CBSC22 Int -02b EAtHC Report

The Secretary informed the Meeting on the activities of the 2023 CBWP executed in 2023, with 6 Technical Visits and High-Level Visits (HLVs) and 10 workshops and training courses. From all funded activities two Seminars were cancelled (37,250 €).

The activities transferred from 2023CBWP to 2024 CBWP for the non-earmarked projects were:

- Seven TVs and HLVs (33,220 €)
- Seven workshops and training (133,155 €)

The version 2 of the CBWP2024 was presented and integrates the following funded activities:

- 11 TVs and HLVs

- 12 Workshops and training

Which represents a value of 293,265 € of non-earmarked projects and 790,223 € of earmarked projects. The total of funds for 2024 is 1,083,488 €.

Director Sinapi commented on the number of visits in the CBWP and the importance of having the Member States engaged and have a relevant commitment. The IHO Secretariat is open to collaborate in the execution of other HLVs.

The Chair asked the CB coordinators to provide additional contributes.

SWAtHC

Cesar Reinert representing the SWAtHC CB coordinator presented the assessment of the Members of the RHC Capacity Building phase and the CB activities in 2023 including the attendance of the IHO Lab Workshop on S-57 to S-101 by three representatives of the region and the participation on the MACHC Tides Training Course. It was also presented the plan of activities to 2024 and to 2025. As challenges was highlighted the S-100 implementation, the challenges in the hydrographic data acquisition, processing and management and the accession of Paraguay and Bolivia as IHO Members.

MACHC

Lucy Fieldhouse, CB Coordinator presented the MACHC achievements in 2023 with the execution of, one Technical Visit (TV), two High Level Visits and a Workshop on Tides. The planned activities for 2024 were also mentioned with the activities carried over from 2023 and the ones funded in the 2024 CBWP with an HLV to Colombia and a Seminar preceding MACHC25 Meeting. A MACHC webinar is also planned for April 2024 that will be only face-to-face.

NIOHC

Lucy Fieldhouse, CB Coordinator presented the NIOHC achievements in 2023 with one MSI Course completed.

The planned activities for 2024 were also mentioned with the activities carried over from 2023 and the ones funded in the 2024 CBWP that includes one MSI training course and a workshop on raising Awareness in Hydrography.

SAIHC

Lucy Fieldhouse, CB Coordinator presented the SAIHC achievements in 2023 with the competition of one Technical Visit to Madagascar, one MSI Course and a workshop on raising Awareness in Hydrography.

The planned activities for 2024 carried out from 2023 CBWP were also stated.

EAtHC

Gabin Sogorb, CB Coordinator presented the EAtHC achievements in 2023 with three Technical Visits to Sierra Leona, Mauritanea and Morocco.

The planned activities for 2024 were also mentioned with four TVs and a Seminar called “20 Years of Capacity Building Actions in EAtHC Assessment and Prospect”.

MBSHC

Burak Inan CB Coordinator informed that the Workshop on MSI development funded for 2023 will be carried over to 2024. He mentioned that expect to do all funded activities in 2024, having a workshop on MSI Development and Implementation and a workshop in ENC Quality Assessment that is planned to be funded by IC-ENC.

He expressed that in his opinion the CB Funds should be allocated to phase 3. Since the S-100 should be the priority.

The Chair mentioned that CB is provided through different projects and Phase 2 and 3 are provided by the earmarked budget and the S-100 can be provided by the RENCs that already have several training courses.

Director Sinapi emphasized that the priority is to implement S-100 also from the RHCs, but the IHO is working on finding more funds to help the non-earmarked part of the CB.

Burak Inan mentioned that it is crucial to handle the extraordinary critical events with an approach different from the traditional CB approach and until 2026 the IHO CB Strategy should change and focus on the S-100 transition, since in a normal situation there are no approval of funds to Phase 3 CB training.

The Chair mentioned that this should be discussed internally in CBSC22, this topic was discussed before with the same challenge discussed here and the RENCs have training available and the CBSC needs to think if there is the need to change the Strategy since any Region has different challenges. He recommended to come up with the proposal if possible with contributes from other CB Coordinators.

Burak Inan informed that he will submit a paper to the next CBSC meeting, but the CBSC is losing time and for some Hydrographic Offices is very difficult to do the S-57 to S-101 transition.

3. IHO E-Learning Center

Doc: CBSC22 Int -03 IHO E-Learning Center (ELC SC Chair)

The Chair as Chair of the IHO E-Learning Center Steering Committee (ELC SC) informed on the developments of the ELC. One issue is that some members didn't participate in the meetings.

The roles were identified but there is no General Manager (GM) a relevant role for the ELC so, it was defined a phase 1 where existing e-learning courses can be identified and sign-posted to on the website until there is a GM in place. That approach was approved by C-7.

The ELC Reached out to US, UK, FR, SA to identify e-learning courses that can be sign-posted to the website.

The Secretary mentioned and demonstrated that a link was created in the IHO web Portal to the IHO ELC.

4. IHO Empowering Women in Hydrography (EWH) Project

Doc: CBSC22 Int -04 IHO Empowering Women in Hydrography Project (Secretary)

The Secretary presented the latest developments on the EWH Project informing that the 3rd amendment proposed was approved with the necessary budget to maintain the EWH Assistant. The Mentoring Programme is still in place supporting the hydrographers that asked to participate. It was mentioned the objective to transform the Project to a programme and that C-7 tasked the IRCC to define through CBSC the regulatory framework (M-3) for a continued activity on this social theme through a proposal for an IHO Resolution.

The project received two training and three on-board opportunities from SHOM (France), and financial contributes from Norway (20,000€) and Denmark (10,000€).

The Team is planning a webinar for 8 March with the World Maritime University and IC-ENC informed that will present other project in S-100 modules.

5. CB Contributes:

a. Outcomes of the IHO-ROK PMB Meeting

Doc: CBSC22 Int -05a Outcomes of the IHO-ROK PMB Meeting (Secretary)

Leonel Manteigas informed that the first IHO-ROK Cat. A Alumni Workshop was held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 12 to 14 September 2023. 12 Alumni presented at the Workshop a report on their educational and work experiences during the Master's programme at USM and at the national Hydrographic Services where they work. Additionally, several technical presentations were included on the programme.

During the 14th Programme Management Board for the IHO-ROK Programme (PMB14) nine applications for the Category "A" course at University of Southern Mississippi (USM) were reviewed and two students selected with two reserves for 2024-2025. It was approved the 2023 Financial Report and discussed the contribution for 2024 that is the highest since the beginning of this project. Included on the agenda there was a visit to USM facilities that allow the group to meet the current students.

On the contribution to 2024, that is the highest contribution ever with the intention to continue, it will be possible to fund the following activities:

- 10 participants, Cat B in Hydrography from 17 June to 1 November 2024 ROK (CL44/2023 deadline 19 February).
- 2 participants, Cat A in Hydrography at USM (already selected CL05/2024 next year is planned to have more).
- 60,000€ to the 2025 CBWP non-earmarked projects.

b. NF Project

Doc: CBSC22 Int -05b NF GEOMAC Project (IHO POJ)

Kazufumi Matsumoto IHO project officer of Japan presented on the GEOMAC Project given an overview of the project that had already three different names and started in 2008. The programme is recognized by the IBSC with Category “B” and is financially supported by the Nippon Foundation in a project renovated every three years with the training course delivered by the UKHO (in Taunton, UK). Normally seven students are funded every year to attend the courses. The 16th training course will be held from 15 July to 13 December 2024 for seven selected students. IHO CL03/2024 was issued to call for applications until next 4 March 2024.

The Chair asked if the GeoMAC programme is adapting to the S-100 transition and Director Sinapi informed that is aligned with the IBSC Standards. The Secretary informed that IBSC is revising the Standards and is expected to have more requirements on the S-100.

6. Other CB Contributors:

a. Portugal

Doc: CBSC22 Int -06a Portugal (IHPT João Vicente)

João Vicent from the Portuguese Hydrographic Office informed the meeting on the CB support provided to the African Portuguese speaking countries starting with an information on their status of Hydrographic Capacity. From the five mentioned countries: Angola, Mozambique, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau and S. Tome and Prince all present debilities on Phase 1 and only Mozambique have some poor capacities in Phase 2 and 3 (only paper charts). He mentioned the surveys executed in all and the CB activities and short courses as an MSI course in December 2023 in Angola. In relation with the long courses some students from those States had been supported to attend the Cat. A and Cat. B courses in Hydrographic Surveys. Also, a Technical visit is planned for this month to Guinea-Bissau. The Hydrographic Conferences for Portuguese-speaking Countries Community (CPLP) were mentioned with the first in Lisbon and the next planned this year for Mindelo (Cabo Verde).

He expressed the need to continue contributing to the CB, since many African countries doesn't have Hydrographic Offices so is necessary to continue with the phase 0 and 1 and to not leave anyone behind.

The Secretary informed that Portugal is now submitting a Cat A in Nautical Cartography, eventually the 4th recognized S-8A programme.

The Secretary highlighted that this shows important contributions to the CB that are not known by CBSC and asked other MS to provide information related with the developed CB activities, if possible before the respective execution.

The Chair mentioned the need to contact with the ports in some African countries.

Alberto Neves suggested that a way to call the attention is to approach through the IMO and call the attention to SOLAS convention.

James Harper highlighted the importance of the face-to-face contact and the example of the activity in Angola.

b. Kongsberg

The Secretary asked the meeting, in relation with the contribute from Kongsberg to SAIHC 7,500 Euros – How it should be included it in the CBWP? If SAIHC will be invited to present projects specifically for this value or how to proceed.

Lucy Fieldhouse informed that is necessary to talk in a separate meeting and decide the best way to understand the scope of the funding.

c. PRIMAR

Doc: CBSC22 Int -06c PRIMAR (Hans Lauritzen)

Hans Lauritzen informed the meeting on the contents of PRIMAR Training Portal that are available for the Members of PRIMAR. The contents on the Portal are focused on S-100 products and on the conversion to S-100. The 17 training modules available were already used by 409 students.

In a contribution to the CBWP, PRIMAR offer free access to the PRIMAR Training portal for 5 Non-RENC nations annually with up to 5 users each.

The application should be to CBSC and a selection process will be established.

CB coordinators are requested to inform on this possibility the nations of the respective Regions.

The Secretary asked if there is the possibility to have:

- a module free in the ELC.
- some courses available for individual applications related with the Gender Balance.

Hans mentioned that will discuss this and will report to CBSC by the end of March.

Action 01 - Secretary to send an email to CB Coordinators informing the offer from PRIMAR of free access to the PRIMAR's Training portal for 5 Non-RENC Nations annually with up to 5 users each, with a form to fill applications from Members of the RHCs.

d. IC-ENC

Doc: CBSC22 Int -06d IC-ENC CL01/2024 and Proposal Form (James Harper)

James Harper presented the IC-ENC Circular Letter and the scheme to use some revenue to finance projects. IC_ENC decided the funds should be invested on the following areas:

1. Production and maintenance of a national S-101 ENC folio.
2. Relevant upskilling in IC-ENC Members personnel.
3. International Standards and/or Product Specification development.
4. S-1XX technical infrastructure and co-ordination, testing, testbeds, trials, etc.
5. Foundational/structural and long-term infrastructure improvements.

The approved projects that are in Annex A of the letter were shown which includes the non funded 2024 CBWP activity P-16 Workshop on ENC Quality Assessment from MBSHC.

The next IC-ENC Steering Committee meeting will have a revision of the scheme and this “opt in” can be stopped or even scale up. The CBSC was asked if it is possible to collect activities for phase 3 in the next months to be presented to IC-ENC to eventually be approved.

The Chair asked if the eventual funds will be approved for 2025, but IC-ENC will decide that in the next meeting.

Lucy Fieldhouse asked if it will be possible to postpone the submissions because the CB Coordinators will not be ready to prepare them for April. James Harper mentioned that can be later and that the opportunities will benefit the interest of the IHO MS not being limited to only the IC-ENC MS.

Action 02 – Secretary to encourage CB Coordinators to submit good phase 3 projects on ENCs, S-57 to S-101 conversion and S-100 production to be presented to IC-ENC to be eventually approved and funded by IC-ENC “opt in” funds.

It was asked on how to proceed if the:

- 1- Projects will be presented to CBSC and IC-ENC will select from the projects on the CBWP?
- 2- Projects will be presented to IC-ENC and the approved ones will be inserted in the CBWP?
- 3- Other way?

Action 03 – CBSC Chair and IC-ENC to have a meeting to define the process to select the CB projects to eventually be funded by IC-ENC and the details on the respective collaboration.

The Secretary suggested that the RHCs CB Coordinators submit the proposals of CB activities to CBSC that during the CBMP process will prioritize the activities on the CBWP and then the IC-ENC will select the ones in relation with their objectives.

Burak Inan mentioned that IC-ENC can inform CBSC on the kind and number of activities that is able to fund but is necessary to see the results of the training in the MBSHC P-16 workshop that will work as a pilot.

The Chair informed that in the CBSC process the submissions will be received in April.

Cesar R. asked if the process will be managed as the other CB activities. J. Harper informed that IC-ENC won't just pass money for the IHO. The Chair asked to have a separate meeting to clarify the process.

7. Any other business

a. HLVs to Dominican Republic and Jamaica

Doc: CBSC22 Int -07a High-Level Visits to Dominican Republic and Jamaica (Lucy Fieldhouse)

Lucy Fieldhouse informed the meeting on the summary of the High-Level Visits (HLVs) to Dominican Republic and Jamaica executed by IHO Director Luigi Sinapi and her. The HLVs to Dominican Republic was conducted on 23 – 25 November 2023 and the HLV to Jamaica on 5– 7 December 2023 with the objective to raise the importance of Hydrography at the highest levels within the countries.

b. IHO Fund Generation Project Team

The Secretary informed the meeting that was issued the IHO CL 42/2023 asking for nominations but so far only 3 nominations were received, so the deadline will be extended for one more month.

c. CBWP execution issues

Since just a few CB Coordinators were present this agenda item was postponed for a future opportunity.

d. Future CBSC22

The Secretary informed CBSC that:

- The CBSC22 Meeting is planned for Galapagos, Ecuador.
- The agenda is expected to be ready soon and the logistic information was received yesterday from Ecuador.
- The meeting is in-person and the CB Coordinators should start the preparations of the submissions in advance and send them to cba@iho.int and ADCC@iho.int.

e. PCN Maritime

Doc: CBSC22 Int -07e PCN Maritime (Alberto Neves)

Alberto Costa Neves former IHO ADCC presented his consultancy company mentioning that he is available for an eventual collaboration and shared and provided some ideas on how he can contribute to the CBSC.

The Chair mentioned that is aware of his experience and thanked for the availability to help.

Burak Inan asked the Chair to have a meeting to discuss the details on the IC-ENC collaboration that should be discussed in a separate meeting.

8. Closure

The Chair thanked everyone for the participation and contribution and closed the meeting.