

**16TH MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (SWPHC16)
Alofi, Niue, 11 - 14 February 2019**

NATIONAL REPORT FROM VANUATU TO THE SWPHC16



Reference: IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended

Executive summary

1. Hydrographic Service:

The Vanuatu hydrographic service is under the Department of Lands and Survey. However, most of the duties and responsibilities are still shared among Maritime Boundary Division under the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Ports and Marine. The plan for the establishment of the hydrographic infrastructure was not approved by the council of ministers last year 2018 given the government priority on the displaced victims of the two volcanic islands.

There are two major challenges in which Vanuatu is facing which other countries may have a similar case.

1. The increase in the number of international and domestic ships every year.
2. The establishment of an infrastructure which will manage the hydrographic and aids to navigation to enhance the safety information provided to mariners.

A total of 144 international ships that arrived in Vanuatu in 2018.

2. Surveys:

No new surveys since the last SWPHC.

The national hydrographic committee has chosen 22 sites for survey. This is to be approved by the cabinet.

3. New charts & updates:

Vanuatu has updated paper charts for the Port of Port Vila funded by the SPC. These updates are basically done by the hydrographic notes to UKHO.

4. New publications & updates:

The IALA technical needs assessment is slowly implemented with the support of regional and International partners such as UKHO, IALA, SPC and NAVAREA X.

SPC funded a new sector light in Port Vila and Luganville through the cyclone Pam recovery project also assisted in the installations of the new light at the Pango light house on Efate.

5. MSI

Maritime safety Information, at present there is a national coordinator but the terms of references is yet to be approve by the council of Minister. However, the responsibilities are being carried out progressively by sending out Notice to Mariners within the coastal area as well as the NAVAERA X We have the ongoing support from the safety of navigation project by the SPC and IALA to train and also supported us to carry out the aids to navigation risk assessment and other technical support. Hydrographic Notes were also continuously send to UKHO for charting updates for Port Vila and Luganville.

The UKHO MSI workshop which was organised by LINZ in NZ has been helpful to us which provide us the opportunity enhance our knowledge in the MSI background.

The current coordination has its capacity which performs responsibilities by providing safety navigation information in links with the NAVAREA X coordinator as well as coastal warning. However it is yet to be fully supported by the national government in order to archive the MSI target under international obligations.

6. Capacity Building Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building

IALA level 1 Managers course have been achieved. Upgrading of the Aids to Navigation facilities such as Buoys. We have the ongoing support from the safety of navigation project by the SPC and IALA to train and also supported us to carry out the aids to navigation risk assessment and other technical support through the PRNI and Safety of Navigation Project.

We request the Assistance is on the following:

1. SPC to support us in the bathymetric survey of Lapistasi wharf in Port Vila and other
2. UKHO to support the survey of government Priority sites based on the demand of cruise liners
3. Assistance IHO in establishing the hydrographic & Aids to Navigation infrastructure to better manage the information desination to Mariners.
4. A 1 Cat B and 1 cat A hydrographic surveyor training and its establishment of resouces to be in the hydrographic unit.
5. We Request IHO to assist Vanuatu to negotiate its membership with IALA.
6. IHO to write directly to our government emphasising the importance to establish the hydrographic and Aids to Navigation Unit.

7. Oceanographic activities

Ocean Zone Placement for Marine Spatial Planning is a MACBIO Project (Marine and coastal biodiversity Management in the Pacific island countries) funded by the government of Italy. This to support the Vanuatu government vision is to conserve and sustain a healthy and wealthy ocean for the people and culture of Vanuatu today and tomorrow. By establishment of a nation wide marine spatial plan the No –Take MPA's with a set of socioeconomic, cultural and management principles of best practice.

The nation wide consultation will commence this year 2019 In order to educate the local people on the management and the benefits of the implementation of the Project.

8. Other activities

The Maritime Regulators office is responsible doing a great job in regulating the domestic vessels on safety of life at sea as an international obligation under SOLAS.

9. Conclusions

Vanuatu made efforts to achieve slowly but continuously the progress in MSI by strengthening the the relationships with AMSA or the NAVAREA X and also with the UKHO on the current harbour discrepancies for chart updates.

The major concern is the increasing number of ship every year and the establishment of the infrastructure that can manage the hydrographic and Aids to Navigation for better desination of rialible safety information to mariners

Input to the IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*)

Country: _____

Organization: _____

(Please provide the information in English)

Contact information/ Informations de contact / Información de contacto	
-National Hydrographer or equivalent -Directeur du service hydrographique ou équivalent -Director del Servicio Hidrográfico o equivalente	Post: Name: Postal address: Tel: Fax: Email:
-Head of the Hydrographic Office (if different from the person indicated above) -Directeur du Service Hydrographique (si différent de la personne indiquée ci-dessus) -Director del Servicio Hidrográfico (si diferente de la persona indicada anteriormente)	Post: Name: Postal address: Tel: Fax: Email:
-Other point(s) of contact -Autre(s) point(s) de contact -Otros punto(s) de contacto	Toney Tevi-Department of Foreign Affairs Robson Tari- Department of Ports and Marine Rodson Aru –Department of Lands and Survey
-Web site -site web -sitio web	
Country information / Informations sur le pays/ Información sobre el país	
-Declared National Tonnage -Tonnage national déclaré -Tonelaje Nacional Declarado	Tonnage: Date:
-National day -Fête nationale -Fiesta nacional	30 July
-Date of establishment and Relevant National Legislation -Date de mise en place et législation nationale pertinente -Fecha de constitución y	

legislación nacional pertinente	
-Date first joined IHO -Date d'adhésion à l'OHI -Fecha de adhesión a la OHI	2017
-Date ratification Convention -Date de ratification de la Convention -Fecha de ratificación de la Convención	
-Remarks on membership -Remarques sur l'adhésion -Comentarios sobre la adhesión	
Agency information/ Information sur l'agence/ Información sobre la agencia	
-Top level parent organisation -Organisme mère -Organización asociada de nivel superior	
-Principal functions of the organisation or the department -Attribution principales de l'organisme ou du département -Principales funciones de la Organización o departamento	
-Annual operating budget -Budget annuel -presupuesto anual	
-Total number of staff employed -Effectifs totaux -Número total de personal empleado	
-Number of INT charts published -Nombres de cartes INT publiées -Número de cartas INT publicadas	
-Total number of paper charts published-Nombre total de cartes papier	

publiées-Número total de cartas de papel publicadas				
-Number of ENC cells published -Nombres de cellules ENC publiées -Número de células ENC publicadas				
-Number of Other charts -Nombre d'Autres cartes -Número de Otras cartas				
-Type of publications produced -Type d'ouvrages produits -Tipo de publicaciones producidas				
-Detail of surveying vessels/ aircraft -Détail des bâtiments hydrographiques / aéronefs -Detalle de los buques hidrográficos / aeronaves	-Name -Nom -Nombre	-Displacement -Déplacement -Desplazamiento	-Date Launched -Date de mise en service -Fecha de botado	-Number of crew -Nombre de l'équipage -Tripulación
-Other information of interest -Autres informations utiles -Otra información de interés				

Input to the IHO Publication C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*)

Country: _____

(Please provide the information in English)

C-55 Summary for:				Comments on Charts:
Country:				
Country Iso Code:				
Country SubCode:				
INT Region:				
Country/Depend:				
Last updated:				
Provided by:				
Chart coverage	Passage (%)	Coastal (%)	Port (%)	Comments on Surveys:
INT				
RNC				
ENC				
Status of Paper Charts				
Paper charts with depths in meters (%)				
Paper charts referenced to a satellite datum (%)				
Status of surveys	Adequate (%)	Resurvey (%)	No survey (%)	
0-200m				
> 200m				

MSI	Y/N	Comments on MSI:
Local warning		
Coastal warning		
Nav warning		
Port warning		
GMDSS	Y/N	Comments on GMDSS:
Master Plan		
Area A1		
Area A2		
Area A3		
NAVTEX		
SafetyNet		

National MSI Self-Assessment

Country: Vanuatu
 Organization: Department of Ports and harbor

(Please provide the information in English)

1. Maritime area

Vanuatu is composed of 80 islands with 2,528 kilometers and 15, 571 mil of coastline, the geographic coordinates are 16 degrees South and 167 degrees East.

2. Operational Points of Contact for the National Coordinator

INSTITUTION	TELEPHONE	FACSIMILE	EMAIL
Department of Ports and Harbors	33600		trobson@vanuatu.gov.vu

3. GMDSS Master Plan

[Report on the status of the GMDSS Master Plan: Is it up to date? When was the last update?]

[Specifics of equipment used and software version with date up-dated]

Equipment Type for Ports and Local Area	Software Version	Date of Up-date

[Detail the number of warnings identified as immediate priority (requiring transmission within 30 minutes) and the average elapsed time for passing to NAVAREA coordinator, as reported to the last RHC meeting]:

Year Y-2		Year Y-1		Year Y	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time
xx	xx.x Mins	xx	xx.x Mins	xx	xx.x Mins

4. NAVTEX Coverage:

[Diagram of NAVTEX stations and service areas within maritime area; Contact details for NAVTEX Stations; Confirm operational status has been validated.]

5. Operational Issues:

[New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan; Problems encountered?]

6. Contingency Planning

The planning is to have the TOR for the national coordinator be approved by the council of Ministers

7. Capacity Building

MSI training in Port Vila under SPC and also in Wellington by LINZ

8. Other Activities

[Participation in other IHO or IMO Working Groups, Regional Hydrographic Commissions, regional conferences related to MSI over past year]

9. National Maritime Website

National Maritime Website is yet to be approved this year 2019.

10. Recommendations

Request UKHO to assist in setting a maritime infrastructure to manage hydrographic matters and also support the National coordinator roles and responsibilities to enhance the information to mariners.

11. Summary

Vanuatu's national coordinator duties and responsibilities are undertaken responsively. The terms of reference is yet to be approved by the cabinet for the full function of the position. To better manage the maritime issues, Vanuatu needs your support in setting up a proper infrastructure for the management of Maritime safety information.