

**17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC HYDROGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION (SWPHC17)  
Wollongong, 12-14 February 2020**

**NATIONAL REPORT FROM  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA  
TO THE SWPHC17**

References:

- A. IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended (see doc. C3-04.2A, [Appendix to Annex A](#))
- B. IHO Circular Letter 20/2019, The IHO Online Form System for responses to Circular Letters and input to IHO Publications (P-5 and C-55): [link](#)  
Online system for P-5 (Yearbook): [link](#)  
Online system for C-55 (Status of Surveys and Charting Worldwide): [link](#)

**Executive summary**

1. Hydrographic Office / Service:

- a) Name of the institution: *Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure (MWTI)*
- b) Description: *The MWTI is the Maritime Administration for the Independent State of Samoa, having legal mandate and oversight of all maritime activities in Samoa pursuant to the Ministry of Works Act 2002 and the Shipping Act 1998. Samoa's national hydrographer is the Secretary for Transport who is mandated by law as the Maritime Administrator. All hydrographic matters are referred to the Secretary for Transport.*
- c) Submitted by: *via email to the Secretariat of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission*

Detailed information to update IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*) is submitted in Annex A (alternatively, use the online system, reference B). Please indicate "no change" in Annex A if this is the case.

2. Surveys:

*[Describe any significant developments since the last RHC meeting in surveys related to the items below]*

- a) Coverage of new surveys: *Surveys were carried and completed by LINZ in October 2019 (9 sites on Upolu, 3 sites in Savaii).*
- b) New technologies and /or equipment: *Nil*
- c) New ships: *Nil*
- d) Crowdsourced and satellite-derived bathymetry - national policy: *Nil*
- e) Challenges and achievements: *Capacity constraints, absence of local competency in hydrographic matters. An achievement was the completion of the survey on the identified sites on Upolu and Savaii. LINZ will finalise the data obtained and will be completed sometime in the first half of 2020.*

Detailed information about surveys to update IHO Publications P-5 (*Yearbook*) and C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is submitted in Annexes A and B, respectively (alternatively, use the online system, reference B). Please indicate "no change" in Annexes A and B if this is the case.

3. New charts & updates: *At the completion of the surveys by LINZ in 2019, there will be an update of charts and notices to mariners will be prepared for publication.*

[Describe any significant developments since the last RHC meeting in charting related to the items below]

- a) ENC coverage, gaps and overlaps: *Gaps and overlaps will be identified when the survey report is completed*
- b) ENC distribution method: *Nil*
- c) RNCs: *None were issued.*
- d) INT charts: *No charts were issued.*
- e) National paper charts: *charts are provided by LINZ given their resources and capacity to obtain data and develop charts to reflect the data.*
- f) Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft: **No other charts have been issued to date.**
- g) Challenges and achievements: *Capacity issues, very little development opportunities and training for staff and personnel to take up regarding hydrographic, charting, etc. Hydrography seems new and unfamiliar hence the absence of expertise in this area.*

Detailed information about charting to update IHO Publications P-5 (*Yearbook*) and C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is submitted in Annexes A and B, respectively (alternatively, use the online system, reference B). Please indicate "no change" in Annexes A and B if this is the case.

4. New publications & updates:

[Describe any significant developments since the last SWPHC meeting in nautical publications related to the items below]

- a) New Publications: *no new publications to date*
- b) Updated publications: *Nil*
- c) Means of delivery, e.g. paper, digital: *Digital publication is not yet available. Charts on paper are commonly used.*
- d) Challenges and achievements: *Limited skills and capacity in nautical publication.*

Detailed information to update IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*) is submitted in Annex A (alternatively, use the online system, reference B). Please indicate "no change" in Annex A if this is the case.

5. MSI

[Describe the status of Maritime Safety Information (MSI) related to the items below]

- a) Existing infrastructure for MSI dissemination: *In development stages*
- b) Statistics on work of the National Coordinator: *MSI continues to liaise with RCCNZ and LINZ on submission of H-Notes of any changes in AtoN or hazards discovered within Samoa's navigable waters.*
- c) New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan: *Not available*
- d) Challenges and achievements: *Need to study similar jurisdictions having an infrastructure for dissemination of MSI, as well as obtaining the right capacity to develop new infrastructure in accordance with the GMDSS Master Plan. Public awareness on MSI is key to driving the setup of an infrastructure for MSI.*

Detailed information about MSI to update IHO Publication C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is submitted in Annex B (alternatively, use the online system, reference B). The national self-assessment of MSI is submitted in Annex C. Please indicate "no change" in Annexes B and C if this is the case.

## 6. C-55

The table with the latest information to update IHO Publication C-55 (*Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Charting Worldwide*) is provided in Annex B (alternatively, use the online system, reference B). Please indicate "no change" in Annex B if this is the case. *No changes to the last report.*

## 7. Capacity Building

[Describe the need for or ability to offer Capacity Building in relation to the items below]

- a) Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building: *There has only been 1 offer of training opportunity in hydrography in 2019*
- b) Training received, needed, offered: *Training Workshop hosted by the UK Hydrography Office in November 2019. An official from the Maritime Division, MWTI attended this training workshop. There needs to be more training and development initiatives in hydrographic matters particularly, insight into the IHO Convention, the technical requirements, etc.*
- c) Status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional development projects with a hydrographic component. (In progress, planned, under evaluation or study): *Samoa formally acceded the IHO Convention in 2019. Also became a full member of the SWPHC regional hydrography organisation in 2019.*
- d) Description of proposals and requests to the IHO/CBSC: *Training and development opportunities in the form of internships, secondments, scheduled training components throughout the year, organise in-country trainings for wider awareness of stakeholders – cost effective option given that with national in-country trainings, more officials from relevant agencies can attend.*

## 8. Oceanographic activities

[Describe any significant developments in oceanographic activity since the last SWPHC meeting related to the items below]

- a) General: *Not Available*
- b) GEBCO/IBC's activities, GEBCO Seabed 2030 activities: *Not Available*
- c) Tide gauge network: *In progress*
- d) New equipment: *None*
- e) Challenges and achievements: *Given the absence of local capacity, reliance is heavily placed on foreign development partners such as New Zealand to provide for the resources and assistance in hydrographic matters. Such as it is, that there needs to be national interest in hydrography to be able to push for capacity building initiatives in these areas through formal academic programs, etc. Oceanography is a very rare area of interest in Samoa and those few with oceanographic expertise are often very difficult to retain.*

## 9. Spatial data infrastructures

- a) Status of MSDI – *Not yet establish*
- b) Relationship with the NSDI
- c) Involvement in regional or global MSDI efforts
- d) National implementation of the Shared Data Principles – including any national data policy and impact on marine data.
- e) MSDI national portal
- f) Best practices and lessons learned
- g) Challenges and achievements

## 10. Innovation

- a) Use of new technologies: *Not Available*
- b) Risk assessment:
- c) Policy matters

## 11. Other activities

*[Describe any other significant developments of interest to the SWPHC since the last meeting related to the items below]*

- a) Participation in IHO meetings: *Samoa hopes to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> IHO Assembly in April 2020 however, due to no funding availability, there may not be representation. This year's Assembly is critical given that as Samoa acceded to the IHO Convention in 2019, Samoa became one of the newest member state of the IHO Convention. Unfortunately, financial limitations often pose an immense inability for delegations to attend.*
- b) Meteorological data collection: *No changes to the information provided in earlier national report.*
- c) Geospatial studies: *None*
- d) Preparation for responses to disasters: *The Disaster and Emergency Management Act 2007 is the legal framework to coordinate national responses to disasters. The Ministry is a member of the Disaster Advisory Council that meets to plan, lead, coordinate, manage and oversee any responses to a disaster.*
- e) Environmental protection: *There are several legislative instruments that are mandated with the protection of the environment. Environmental protection of biodiversity, mangrove ecosystem, land degradation, etc., are covered in a legislation managed and overseen by the agency responsible for environmental protection. In respect of protection of the marine environment, this is managed by the Ministry under the Marine Pollution Prevention Act 2008, Shipping Act 1998, and relevant regulations. There is also the National Oil Spill Response Plan which the Ministry intends to finalise this year.*
- f) Engagement with the Maritime Administration: *For Samoa, the Maritime Administration is tasked with hydrographic matters. There is no separate entity managing hydrography.*
- g) Aids to Navigation matters: *The Pacific Safety of Navigation project led by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) carried out a risk assessment of Samoa's existing aids to navigation devices. As a result, a risk management plan was discussed in the SPC visit. Samoa is in the process of constructing a new lighthouse to be on an elevated position. The location will be communicated to LINZ for updating nautical charts as well as promulgating notices to mariners.*
- h) Magnetic and gravity surveys: *Not Available*
- i) International engagements: *There has been no significant engagement on an international level in respect of hydrography.*
- j) Others: *None*

## 12. Conclusions

*[Provide a short summary statement that highlights any of the following:*

- a) Areas of significant achievement*
- b) Areas of particular concern*
- c) Any other matters of interest to the SWPHC]*

*No changes to the last report.*

Input to the IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*)Country: *SAMOA*Organization: *Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure*

(Please provide the information in English. Consider using the IHO Online Form System, see reference B)

| <b>Contact information/ Informations de contact / Información de contacto</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| -National Hydrographer or equivalent<br>-Directeur du service hydrographique ou équivalent<br>-Director del Servicio Hidrográfico o equivalente   | Post: <i>Chief Executive Officer/Secretary for Transport</i><br>Name: <i>Magele Hoe Viali</i><br>Postal address: <i>Private Bag</i><br>Tel: <i>21611</i><br>Fax:<br>Email: <i>hoe.viali@mwti.gov.ws</i> |
| -Head of the Hydrographic Office (if different from the person indicated above)<br>-Directeur du Service Hydrographique (si différent de la personne indiquée ci-dessus)<br>-Director del Servicio Hidrográfico (si diferente de la persona indicada anteriormente) | Post: <i>NONE</i><br>Name:<br>Postal address:<br>Tel:<br>Fax:<br>Email:   |
| -Other point(s) of contact<br>-Autre(s) point(s) de contact<br>-Otros punto(s) de contacto  | <i>No Change</i>  |
| -Web site<br>-site web<br>-sitio web  | <i>No Change</i>  |
| <b>Country information / Informations sur le pays/ Información sobre el país</b>  |   |
| -Declared National Tonnage<br>-Tonnage national déclaré<br>-Tonelaje Nacional Declarado   | Tonnage: <i>No Change</i><br>Date:  |
| -National day<br>-Fête nationale<br>-Fiesta nacional  |   |
| -Date of establishment and Relevant National Legislation<br>-Date de mise en place et législation nationale pertinente<br>-Fecha de constitución y  |   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| legislación nacional pertinente   |  |
| -Date first joined IHO<br>-Date d'adhésion à l'OHI<br>-Fecha de adhesión a la OHI   |  |
| -Date ratification Convention<br>-Date de ratification de la Convention<br>-Fecha de ratificación de la Convención  |  |
| -Remarks on membership<br>-Remarques sur l'adhésion<br>-Comentarios sobre la adhesión   |  |
| <b>Agency information/ Information sur l'agence/ Información sobre la agencia</b>   |  |
| -Top level parent organisation<br>-Organisme mère<br>-Organización asociada de nivel superior   |  |
| -Principal functions of the organisation or the department<br>-Attribution principales de l'organisme ou du département<br>-Principales funciones de la Organización o departamento |  |
| -Annual operating budget<br>-Budget annuel<br>-presupuesto anual  |  |
| -Total number of staff employed<br>-Effectifs totaux<br>-Número total de personal empleado  |  |
| -Number of INT charts published<br>-Nombres de cartes INT publiées<br>-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<br>-Nombres de cellules ENC publiées<br>-Número de células ENC publicadas  |                          |  |  |  |
| -Number of Other charts<br>-Nombre d'Autres cartes<br>-Número de Otras cartas   |                          |  |  |  |
| -Type of publications produced<br>-Type d'ouvrages produits<br>-Tipo de publicaciones producidas  |                          |  |  |  |
| -Detail of surveying vessels/<br>aircraft<br>-Détail des bâtiments hydrographiques / aéronefs<br>-Detalle de los buques hidrográficos / aeronaves | -Name<br>-Nom<br>-Nombre | -Displacement<br>-Déplacement<br>-Desplazamiento | -Date Launched<br>-Date de mise en service<br>-Fecha de botado | -Number of crew<br>-Nombre de l'équipage<br>-Tripulación |
|   |                          |  |  |  |
|   |                          |  |  |  |
|   |                          |  |  |  |
|   |                          |  |  |  |
| -Other information of interest<br>-Autres informations utiles<br>-Otra información de interés   |                          |  |  |  |

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

Country: **SAMOA**

(Please provide the information in English. Consider using the IHO Online Form System, see reference B)

| C-55 Summary for:                                |              |              |               | Comments on Charts:<br><i>No change from previous updates submitted to RCCNZ and LINZ in Dec 2019</i> |
|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| 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: **SAMOA**Organization: **Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure**

(Please provide the information in English)

## 1. Maritime area

*No changes to the information submitted in the last SWPHC meeting.*

## 2. Operational Points of Contact for the National Coordinator

| INSTITUTION  | TELEPHONE        | FACSIMILE        | EMAIL  |
|--|------------------|------------------|--|
| <b>Ministry of Works,<br/>Transport and<br/>Infrastructure</b> | <b>+68521611</b> | <b>+68521990</b> | <a href="mailto:hoe.viali@mwti.gov.ws">hoe.viali@mwti.gov.ws</a><br><a href="mailto:anastacia.amoa@mwti.gov.ws">anastacia.amoa@mwti.gov.ws</a> |

## 3. GMDSS Master Plan

**No plan in place. The last update was at the SWPHC16 in 2017.***[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.] No change to the information provided in the earlier report*5. Operational Issues: *No change to the information in the earlier report*

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

6. Contingency Planning *No change to the information provided earlier*

*[Provide information regarding contingency plans that have been established and future plans where appropriate. Also report on any testing of the plan that has been conducted]*

7. Capacity Building *No change to the information provided earlier*

*[Demands for Capacity Building, Training requested or received, any offered, status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional development projects with MSI component]*

8. Other Activities *No change to the information provided earlier*

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

9. National Maritime Website *The maritime information for Samoa is posted on the Ministry website. There is no single, specific website for national maritime information.*

*[(Address, statistics (if permitted by national legislation; how often is the information on your web site updated? Do you display the date and time of the last update on your web site?)]*

10. Recommendations

*There is a great need to build the capacity in hydrographic matters and this can be initiated by tailoring learning curriculum for students to gauge interest in hydrographic matters. Oceanography is a very rare area of learning and there are only a handful of qualified, competent persons in this area. Even more challenging, is the limited availability of jobs in this specific field. There is not much information on the study of hydrography and what it entails. Personnel currently in the Maritime Division can be trained in short term workshops however, hands-on experiences may also assist. Secondments, internships may also be a solution however, there is also the challenge of retaining highly skilled professionals. In any event, the reality for Samoa is the lack of, or little capacity in hydrography.*

11. Summary

*[Please provide a short summary of this paper which will be included in the final report of the meeting.]*

*Understanding hydrography and its contribution, relevance to the safety of navigation is critical. As such, there is a high demand for trainings.*