

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

**NATIONAL REPORTS FROM COOK ISLANDS 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: Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) – National Hydrographic & Geoscience
  - b) Description: The National Hydrographic and Geoscience unit were established 2016 and the organisational structure has been approved by the government of the Cook Islands to recruit technical personells to fill the vacancies in the division. Job descriptions have been developed to ensure technical personell meet the level of qualifications require to undertake the roles and responsibilities of the division and deliver the unit business plan for this financial year. The Cook Islands National Hydrographic Coordinating Committee in its monthly meetings updates the committee on its work plan and indentifying solutions and a way forward to achieve our work plan. The MSI roles sit under the Ministry of Transport and under its current structure the Director of Maritime automatically become the MSI officer, however these role needs to be clear on its responsibilities and commitment to deliver the MSI responsibilities. Mr Ngatokorua Ngatokorua (Junior) is the Director of Maritime and MSI officer for the Cook Islands.
  - c) Submitted by: Vaipo Mataora, Director of Hydrography and Geoscience, [vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck)

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 (No Change)
  - b) New technologies and /or equipment (No Change)
  - c) New ships (No Change)
  - d) Crowdsourced and satellite-derived bathymetry - national policy
    - New set of sattelite derive bathymetry where source by LINZ to assist with the Cook Islands PRNI and to update Cook Islands nautical charts.
  - e) Challenges and achievements
    - Lack of budget appropriation

- Lack of human resources, software/hardware and survey equipments
- Capacity building

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:

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

#### a) ENC coverage, gaps and overlaps

NUMBER	NAME	PUBLISHED DATE
ENC		
NZ409551	<a href="#">South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands - Mauke</a>	Jan 2019 as expected
NZ409552	<a href="#">South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands - Mangaia</a>	Jan 2019 as expected
NZ409554	<a href="#">South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands - Takutea</a>	Jan 2019 as expected
NZ409555	<a href="#">South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands - Manuae</a>	Jan 2019 as expected
NZ409556	<a href="#">South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands - Palmerston</a>	Jan 2019 as expected
NZ409557	<a href="#">South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands - Mitiaro</a>	Jan 2019 as expected
PAPER CHART		
NZ 945	<a href="#">Plans of the Cook Islands - Northern Sheet</a>	January 2019 as expected
NZ 955	<a href="#">Plans of the Cook Islands - Southern Sheet</a>	March 2019

Please note that

- The paper chart NZ 93 Cook Islands was withdrawn from circulation in August 2019. It was replaced with the international chart NZ 14628 (INT628) in August 2019.
- The ENC NZ200093 South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands was withdrawn from circulation in June 2019. Its coverage was incorporated into a new ENC NZ214628 South Pacific Ocean - Cook Islands

#### b) ENC distribution method

- Detailed information of Cook Islands ENC folio can be found on the LINZ website at <http://www.linz.govt.nz/sea/charts/electronic-navigational-charts> -encs and in the ENC Coverage Catalogue available on the IHO website [www.iho.int](http://www.iho.int).

#### c) RNCs

#### d) INT charts

#### e) National paper charts

#### f) Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft

#### g) Challenges and achievements

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
- b) Updated publications
- c) Means of delivery, e.g. paper, digital
- d) Challenges and achievements

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
  - LINZ on behalf of the Cook Islands publishes Annual Notices to Mariners (available in the Nautical Almanac and online) and fortnightly Notices to Mariners (NtM) distributed via an email subscription service (<http://www.linz.govt.nz/sea/maritime-safety/noticesmariners/> subscribe-fortnightly-edition-notices-mariners) and available online at <http://www.linz.govt.nz/sea/maritime-safety/notices-mariners> .

LINZ is the NAVAREA XIV Coordinator [navareaxiv@linz.govt.nz](mailto:navareaxiv@linz.govt.nz). The Cook Islands National Coordinator contact below:

Country	Telephone	Facsimile	e-mail
Cook Islands	+682 28810	+682 28816	<a href="mailto:junior.ngatokorua@cookislands.gov.ck">junior.ngatokorua@cookislands.gov.ck</a>

- b) Statistics on work of the National Coordinator
- c) New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan
- d) Challenges and achievements
  - High turn over of staff retiring and moving to other position within the ministry
  - Appointing a dedicated MSI officer to focus more on the MSI roles rather than the Director of Maritime which has other roles and responsibilities to undertake.

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.

## 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
  - The Cook Islands National Hydrographic and Geoscience division do require capacity building to enable to deliver and achieve its work plan, preferably in Cartography, CAT A and B.
- b) Training received, needed, offered
  - Due to the turn over in staff, training of staff in both ministry is very much required to deliver and achieve it work plan and activities.
- c) Status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional development projects with a hydrographic component. (In progress, planned, under evaluation or study)
  - In 2016 the Cook Islands and LINZ (Primary Charting Authority) have signed a bilateral arrangement.
- d) Description of proposals and requests to the IHO/CBSC

## 8. Oceanographic activities

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

- a) General
- b) GEBCO/IBC's activities, GEBCO Seabed 2030 activities
  - The Cook has discussion with OET on their permit in transitting through the Cook Islands EEZ from the northern high seas boundary collecting bathymetry data to support GEBCO 2030.
- c) Tide gauge network
- d) New equipment
- e) Challenges and achievements

## 9. Spatial data infrastructures

- a) Status of MSDI
  - The Cook Islands CookGeo portal a centralised government portal that will stored all the Cook Islands geospatial data sets will be launched this year and will be available to any users to utilise the data sets available.
- 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.
  - The Cook Islands Geospatial Users committee have developed a national policy on data sharing which is still under review and consultation with the relevant stakeholders.
- e) MSDI national portal
  - The CookGeo will become a government centralise portal on spatial data sets and can be access by any party or person to utilise the portal.
- f) Best practices and lessons learned
  - Geospatial standards require for consistency and accuracy of data sets before entering into the portal.
- g) Challenges and achievements
  - Taking too long for government to realise the important of such portal to assist in the economic development of the Cook Islands.

## 10. Innovation

- a) Use of new technologies
- 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
- b) Meteorological data collection
- c) Geospatial studies
- d) Preparation for responses to disasters
- e) Environmental protection
- f) Engagement with the Maritime Administration
- g) Aids to Navigation matters
- h) Magnetic and gravity surveys
- i) International engagements
- j) Others

#### 12. Conclusions

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

*a) Areas of significant achievement*

- In 2018 under the PRNI a chart improvement programme got underway to incorporate existing and new survey data.
- All Cook Islands charts will be renumbered and incorporate the two-digit country code.

*b) Areas of particular concern*

- The new ports around the Cook Islands require surveying for the purpose of the ongoing updates of the Cook Islands nautical charts.

*c) Any other matters of interest to the SWPHC]*

- The Cook Islands National Hydrographic and Geoscience unit require capacity building to built capacity in country to enable the Cook Islands to achieve its international obligations. The Cook Islands in its quest to become a full member of IHO is in progress with our government.

Input to the IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*)*Country: Cook Islands**Organization: Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI), National Hydrographic and GeoScience*

(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 -Directeur du service hydrographique ou équivalent -Director del Servicio Hidrográfico o equivalente	Post: Director Hydrography & GeoScience Name: Vaipo Mataora Postal address: PO Box 102, Rarotonga, Cook Islands Tel: +682 20321 Fax: +682 24321 Email: <a href="mailto:vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck">vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck</a>
-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: Director Hydrography & GeoScience Name: Vaipo Mataora Postal address: PO Box 102, Rarotonga, Cook Islands Tel: +682 20321 Fax: +682 24321 Email: <a href="mailto:vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck">vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck</a>
-Other point(s) of contact -Autre(s) point(s) de contact -Otros punto(s) de contacto	
-Web site -site web -sitio web	
<b>Country information / Informations sur le pays/ Información sobre el país</b>	
-Declared National Tonnage -Tonnage national déclaré -Tonelaje Nacional Declarado	Tonnage: 1,454,711.30 – 661 vessels registered Date: 30/01/2020 provided by Maritime Cook Islands the Cook Islands shipping registry agent.
-National day -Fête nationale -Fiesta nacional	
-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	
-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	
<b>Agency information/ Information sur l'agence/ Información sobre la agencia</b>	
-Top level parent organisation -Organisme mère -Organización asociada de nivel superior	Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI), National Hydrographic & GeoScience
-Principal functions of the organisation or the department -Attribution principales de l'organisme ou du département -Principales funciones de la Organización o departamento	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate hydrographic surveys</li> <li>• Reviewing and verifying charted information is correct and up to date;</li> <li>• Reviewing and verifying information in notices to mariners, sailing directions, lists or lights, etc. related to the Cook Islands is correct and up to date;</li> <li>• Verifying processes and procedures for MSI are implemented effectively;</li> </ul>
-Annual operating budget -Budget annuel -presupuesto anual	
-Total number of staff employed -Effectifs totaux -Número total de personal empleado	2
-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. Consider using the IHO Online Form System, see reference B)

C-55 Summary for:				Comments on Charts: 1. 2018 under the Pacific Regional Initiative (PRNI) a chart improvement programme got under way to incorporate existing and new survey data. 2. All Cook Islands charts will be renumbered and incorporate the two-digit country code.
Country:	Cook Islands			
Country Iso Code:	CK			
Country SubCode:				
INT Region:	L			
Country/Depend:	C			
Last updated:				
Provided by:	Cook Islands			
<b>Chart coverage</b>	<b>Passage (%)</b>	<b>Coastal (%)</b>	<b>Port (%)</b>	Comments on Surveys:
INT	100	100	0	
RNC	100	100	100	
ENC	100	100	100	
<b>Status of Paper Charts</b>				
Paper charts with depths in meters (%)			100	
Paper charts referenced to a satellite datum (%)			100	
<b>Status of surveys</b>	<b>Adequate (%)</b>	<b>Resurvey (%)</b>	<b>No survey (%)</b>	
0-200m	71	29	0	
> 200m	0	20	80	

MSI	Y/N	Comments on MSI:
Local warning	Partial	Provided by Ministry of Transport
Coastal warning	N	
Nav warning	Y	Through our NAVAREA XIV
Port warning	Partial	Changed passed to charting authority (NZ)
GMDSS	Y/N	Comments on GMDSS:
Master Plan	N	

Area A1	N	
Area A2	N	
Area A3	N	
NAVTEX	N	
SafetyNet	N	Through NAVAREA XIV

## National MSI Self-Assessment

*Country: Cook Islands*  
*Organization: Ministry of Transport*

(Please provide the information in English)

## 1. Maritime area

*RCC New Zealand covers the Cook Islands waters including the 200 nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)*

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

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>FACSIMILE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Ministry of Transport	+682 28810	+68228816	<a href="mailto:junior.ngatokorua@cookislands.gov.ck">junior.ngatokorua@cookislands.gov.ck</a>

## 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]*

<b>Equipment Type for Ports and Local Area</b>	<b>Software Version</b>	<b>Date of Up-date</b>

*[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]:*

<b>2017</b>		<b>2018</b>		<b>2019</b>	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time
0	Mins	0	2 Mins	3	Mins

## 4. NAVTEX Coverage:

*Cook Islands does not broadcast coastal warnings via NAVTEX*

## 5. Operational Issues:

*Receiving and transmitting becomes difficult the further you are away from the main islands, sometime very difficult to hear.*

#### 6. Contingency Planning

*Navigational warning affecting SOLAS ships are sent to the NAVAREA XIV Coordinator.*

#### 7. Capacity Building

*Ministry of Transport, as well as members of the Cook Islands Hydrographic Office have participated in the past MSI training courses in SWP region. Assistance is required for the continuation of this training.*

#### 8. Other Activities

*Ministry of Transport (MSI) provide assistance and supports the Cook Islands Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) for Search and Rescue (SAR) purpose.*

#### 9. National Maritime Website

[www.transport.gov.ck](http://www.transport.gov.ck)

#### 10. Recommendations

*It is strongly recommended that the Capacity Building Fund provides assistance in dispatching necessary experts to Cook Islands for conducting a feasibility study for the provision of GMDSS equipment for broadcasting of MSI under NZ guidance.*

#### 11. Summary

*This self-assessment report highlights the MSI activities for the year 2018. Cook Islands is very actively involved in providing MSI services to the maritime industry locally including local operations and RCC New Zealand and LINZ*