**18TH MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (SWPHC18)**

**VTC, 17-19 February 2021**

**NATIONAL REPORT FROM COOK ISLANDS TO THE SWPHC18**

References:

1. IHO Resolution 2/1997 as amended (see doc. C3-04.2A, [Appendix to Annex A](https://iho.int/uploads/user/About%20IHO/Council/council3/C3_2019_04.2_EN_AnxA-App-Proposal-Res2-1997_v1.pdf))
2. 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](https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/circular_letters/english/2019/CL20_2019_EN_v1.pdf)

Online system for P-5 (Yearbook): [link](https://iho.formstack.com/forms/web_form_p5)

Online system for C-55 (Status of Surveys and Charting Worldwide): [link](https://iho.formstack.com/forms/web_form_c55)

**Executive summary**

1. Hydrographic Office / Service:
2. Name of the institution: Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI) – National Hydrographic & Geoscience
3. 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, however with ongoing change in the MOT structure and staff movement the previous MSI office have move to another position within the ministry. The MSI officer position now is vacant and MOT require to go through the recruitment process, and also affected the MSI reporting for this meeting.

1. Submitted by: Vaipo Mataora, Director of Hydrography and Geoscience, 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.

1. Surveys:

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

1. Coverage of new surveys: (No Change due Covid-19 pendemic)
2. New technologies and /or equipment (No Change due Covid-19 pendemic)
3. New ships (No Change due Covid-19 pendemic)
4. Crowdsourced and satellite-derived bathymetry - national policy (No Change due Covid-19 pendemic)
5. Challenges and achievements
* Border lockdown due to Covid-19 pendemic
* PRNI nautical updates charts presented to the minister of Infrastructure Cook Islands and Ministry of Transport.

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.

1. New charts & updates:

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

1. ENC coverage, gaps and overlaps
2. 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).
1. RNCs
2. INT charts
3. National paper charts
4. Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft
5. 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.

1. New publications & updates:

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

1. New Publications
2. Updated publications
3. Means of delivery, e.g. paper, digital
4. 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.

1. MSI

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

1. 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. The Cook Islands National Coordinator contact below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Telephone | Facsimile | e-mail |
| Cook Islands |  |  |  |

* MSI officer position currently vacant previous officer have moved to another position within MOT structure.
1. Statistics on work of the National Coordinator
2. New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan
3. 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 and responsibilities.

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.

1. 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.

1. Capacity Building

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

1. Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building
* Cook Islands in its current position required capacity building offer by the SWPHC/IHO and IMO
1. Training received, needed, offered
* No training were undertaken by the Cook Islands due to the Covid-19 pendemic, however the Cook Islands will participate to any form of training programme offered by national and regional maritime institutions.
1. 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.
1. Description of proposals and requests to the IHO CBSC
2. Oceanographic activities

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

1. General (No Change)
2. GEBCO & Seabed 2030 (No Change)
3. Crowdsourced Bathymetry Activities (No Change)
4. Tide gauge network (No Change)
5. New equipment (No Change)
6. Challenges and achievements (No Change)
7. Spatial data infrastructures
8. Status of MSDI
* The Cook Islands CookGeo portal a repository of marine spatial data has been further delayed due to the onogoing border lockdown Covid-19 pendemic and consultant from SPC unable to travel to the Cook Islands to undertake the updates of the current version of the portal.
1. Relationship with the NSDI
2. Involvement in regional or global MSDI efforts
3. National implementation of the Shared Data Principles – including any national data policy and impact on marine data.
* The Cook Islands Geosptial Users committee have developed a national policy on data sharing which the government of the Cook Islands have endorsed in 2019 and policy have been made available to members of the Pacific Geospatial and Surveyor Council.
1. MSDI national portal
* The CookGeo portal once launched will become a repository for all Cook Islands marine spatial data and will be available for any one to access.
1. Best practices and lessons learned
* Standardisation and accuracy must be maintained.
1. 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.
1. Innovation
2. Use of new technologies
3. Risk assessment
4. Policy matters
5. Other activities

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

1. Participation in IHO meetings
2. Meteorological data collection
3. Geospatial studies
4. Preparation for responses to disasters
5. Environmental protection
6. Engagement with the Maritime Administration
7. Aids to Navigation matters
8. Magnetic and gravity surveys
9. International engagements
10. Others
11. Conclusions

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

* 2019 Cook Islands nautical charts were presented to the Government of the Cook Islands by the New Zealand High Commission to the Cook Islands funded by NZAid PRNI project.
1. *Areas of significant achievement*
2. *Areas of particular concern*
* Areas recommended by the Cook Islands under the Risk Assessment report by Marico Marine New Zealand Ltd is still pending for survey to updates the Cook Islands Nautical Charts.
1. *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)

|  |
| --- |
| **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: Director Hydrography & GeoScienceName: Vaipo MataoraPostal address: PO Box 102, Rarotonga, Cook IslandsTel: +682 20321Fax: +682 24321Email: vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck |
| -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 & GeoScienceName: Vaipo MataoraPostal address: PO Box 102, Rarotonga, Cook IslandsTel: +682 20321Fax: +682 24321Email: vaipo.mataora@cookislands.gov.ck |
| -Other point(s) of contact-Autre(s) point(s) de contact-Otros punto(s) de contacto |   |
| -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: 1,895,800.53 – 639 vessels registered Date: 4/02/2021 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 |   |
| **Agency information/ Information sur l'agence/ Información sobre la agencia** |
| -Top level parent organisation-Organisme mère-Organización asocieda 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 | * Coordinate hydrographic surveys
* Reviewing and verifying charted information is correct and up to date;
* 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;
* Verifying processes and procedures for MSI are implemented effectively;
 |
| -Annual operating budget-Budget annuel-presupuesto anual |   |
| -Total number of staff employed-Effectifs totaux-Número total de personal empleado |  3 |
| -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:** |
| Country: |  Cook Islands | 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 Iso Code: |  CK |   |
| Country SubCode: |   |   |
| INT Region: |  L |   |
| Country/Depend: |  C |   |
| Last updated: |   |   |
| Provided by: |  CooK Islands |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| **Chart coverage** | **Passage (%)** | **Coastal (%)** | **Port (%)** |   |
| INT |  100 |  100 |  0 | **Comments on Surveys:** |
| RNC |  100 |  100 |  100 |   |
| ENC |  100 |  100 |  100 |
| **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 | 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)*

1. Operational Points of Contact for the National Coordinator

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **INSTITUTION** | **TELEPHONE** | **FACSIMILE** | **EMAIL** |
|

|  |
| --- |
| Ministry of Transport  |

 | +682 28810 | +68228816 |  |

1. 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]:*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| Total | Average elapsed time | Total | Average elapsed time | Total | Average elapsed time |
| 0 | 2 Mins | 3 | xx.x Mins | xx | xx.x Mins |

1. NAVTEX Coverage:

*Cook Islands does not broadcast coastal warnings via NAVTEX*

1. Operational Issues:

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

1. Contingency Planning

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

1. 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.*

1. Other Activities

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

1. National Maritime Website

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

1. 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.*

1. Summary

*This self-assesment report highlights the MSI activities for the year 2019. Cook Islands is very actively involved in providing MSI services to the maritime industry locally including local operations and RCC New Zealand and LINZ*