

**21<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC HYDROGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION (SWPHC21)  
28,29 February and 1 March 2024, Nadi, Fiji**

**NATIONAL REPORT FROM KIRIBATI TO THE SWPHC21**

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](#)
- C. IHO Strategic Plan: [link](#)
- D. IHO IRCC CL 01/2021 IHO Strategic Plan for 2021-2026 – Procedure for measuring the Strategic Performance Indicator (SPI) allocated to IRCC: [link](#)

**Executive summary**

**1. Hydrographic Office / Service:**

- a) Name of the institution: Marine Division, Ministry of Information and Communications and Transport
- b) Description: Administration/Authority to deliver and enforce standards for all forms of transportation (air, land and sea) and telecommunications in accordance with national obligations under the relevant laws governing all forms of transport and information management.
- c) Submitted by: Tion Uriam email: [tion.uriam@mict.gov.ki](mailto:tion.uriam@mict.gov.ki)/ Eritaia Tauro, email: [eritaia.tauro@mict.gov.ki](mailto:eritaia.tauro@mict.gov.ki)

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:**

- a) Coverage of new surveys: **four outer islands Abaiang, Nonouti, Tabiteuea and Beru and the Tarawa, and Kanton (Phoenix Islands)**
- b) New technologies and /or equipment: In progress
- c) New ships:
- d) Crowdsourced and satellite-derived bathymetry - national policy: ***SDB data available data for all 33 islands in Kiribati***
- e) Challenges and achievements: **Data survey for the four outer islands from IIC**

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: **Not Available**

- a) ENC coverage, gaps and overlaps
- b) ENC distribution method
- c) RNCs
- d) INT charts
- e) National paper charts
- f) Other charts, e.g. for pleasure craft
- g) Challenges and achievements: **AtoNs for the four outer islands have yet to be installed at the main channels**

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:

- a) New Publications: **None**
- b) Updated publications: **None**
- 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

- a) Existing infrastructure for MSI dissemination:
  - **Six telecommunication towers for VHF's situated in Abaiang, Maiana, 4 in South Tarawa and 1 in North Tarawa operated by the Marine Division;**
  - **Tarawa Radio or the Marine Guard is operated by the Marine Division;**
  - **Local and Navigational Warnings are sent via VHF, HF and emails;**
  - **Daily Weather is sent via emails by the Kiribati MET Service and promulgated via VHF and HF by Marine Guard or Tarawa radio.**
  - **Internet access**
- b) Statistics on work of the National Coordinator
  - **Maritime Safety Information passes to NAVEAREA Coordinator and PCA**
- c) New infrastructure in accordance with GMDSS Master Plan: **None**
- d) Challenges and achievements:
  - **Maritime Safety Regulation is still in progress;**
  - **Monitoring and Maintenance of VHF telecommunication tower is in progress**
  - **Recruitment of 3 people and trained to be hydrographers**

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

- a) Offer of and/or demand for Capacity Building
  - **MSI capacity building from NAVAREA XI is required;**
  - 4 Cat B surveyor courses offered - 2 S5B Surveying, 2 S58 Cartography (AHO)
- b) Training received, needed, offered:
  - **Regional Tides training 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in Nadi Fiji, hosted by SPC;**
  - **MSI training 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in Nadi Fiji, hosted by SWPHC 2023**
- c) Status of national, bilateral, multilateral or regional development projects with a hydrographic component. (In progress, planned, under evaluation or study)
- d) Description of proposals and requests to the IHO CBSC

## 8. Oceanographic activities

- a) General
- b) GEBCO & Seabed 2030: **i) Submitted SDB data to Seabed 2030**
- c) Crowdsourced Bathymetry Activities: **Formulating implementation plan to carry out CSB**
- d) Tide gauge network: **5 Temp installed for survey project. 3 Permanently installed. 1 in Tarawa, 1 in Kiritimati and 1 in Kanton**
- e) New equipment: **To be procured this year, 2024 (Echo Sounder, GNSS, Portable Tide gauges)**
- f) Challenges and achievements: **i) Training of personnel to effectively carry out survey work**

## 9. Spatial data infrastructures

- a) Status of MSDI: **Budget approved to develop MSDI**
- b) Relationship with the NSDI: **MSDI to be incorporated into NSDI as part of Marine Spatial Planning Initiatives**
- c) Involvement in regional or global MSDI efforts: **SWPHC MSDI working group**
- d) National implementation of the [UN Statement of Shared Guiding Principles for Geospatial Information Management](#) – including any national data policy and impact on marine data. Ref: IHO Strategic Plan, Goal 2, Target 2.3, SPI 2.3.1 Number of HOs reporting success applying the principles in their national contexts.
- e) MSDI national portal: **Budget available**
- f) Best practices and lessons learned:
- g) Challenges and achievements: **Technical capacity to develop system**

## 10. Innovation

- a) Use of new technologies
- b) Risk assessment
- c) Policy matters

## 11. Other activities

- 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:
  - **Awaiting for AtoN equipments from SPC procured from SPX Aids To Navigation PTY LDT.**
- h) Magnetic and gravity surveys
- i) International engagements
- j) Others

## 12. Conclusions

Kiribati has made significant achievements in conducting surveys, particularly utilising advanced technologies such as LiDAR and MBES, to enhance maritime knowledge and safety. However, there are areas of concern, including the need for further development of maritime safety regulations and the installation of Aids to Navigation (AtoNs) at key channels. It's imperative to continue prioritising capacity building initiatives and strengthening partnerships to address these challenges effectively. Additionally, the integration of digital platforms for data management and dissemination can further enhance Kiribati's maritime capabilities. These efforts will contribute to safer and more efficient maritime operations in the South West Pacific region, aligning with the objectives of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission.

Input to the IHO Publication P-5 (*Yearbook*)*Country: KIRIBATI**Organization: MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT*

(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: National Coordinator for Hydrography Name: Tion Uriam Postal address: Ministry of Information, Communications and transport, Betio, Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati Tel: +686 73009976 Fax: Email: tion.uriam@mict.gov.ki
-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	
-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: Date:
-National day -Fête nationale -Fiesta nacional	12th July
-Date of establishment and Relevant National Legislation -Date de mise en place et législation nationale pertinente -Fecha de constitución y	Marine

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	Ministry of Information, Communications and Transport
-Principal functions of the organisation or the department -Attribution principales de l'organisme ou du département -Principales funciones de la Organización o departamento	ICT Development
-Annual operating budget -Budget annuel -presupuesto anual	
-Total number of staff employed -Effectifs totaux -Número total de personal empleado	4
-Number of INT charts published -Nombres de cartes INT publiées -Número de cartas INT publicadas	0
-Total number of paper charts published-Nombre total de cartes papier	0

publiées-Número total de cartas de papel publicadas				
-Number of ENC cells published -Nombres de cellules ENC publiées -Número de células ENC publicadas	0			
-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: *KIRIBATI*

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

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

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



SafetyNet		
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## National MSI Self-Assessment

Country: *KIRIBATI*Organization: *MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT*

(Please provide the information in English)

## 1. Maritime area

*[Describe maritime area including details of the geographic boundaries] Kiribati Group, Phoenix Group and Line Group*

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

<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>FACSIMILE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
MICT	686 74026003	Not available	eritaia.tauro@mict.gov.ki

## 3. GMDSS Master Plan

*[Report on the status of the GMDSS Master Plan: Is it up to date? When was the last update?]* **NOT AVAILABLE**

*[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>Year Y-2, 2022</b>		<b>Year Y-1, 2023</b>		<b>Year Y, 2024</b>	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time
110	xx.x Mins	3	xx.x Mins	0	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

*[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

- *training from NAVEAREA XI for MSI*
- *Hands on training:*
  - *Tidal stream modelling*
  - *geodesy*
  - *Oceanography*

## 8. Other Activities

- *Participation in deep sea exploration expeditions (Nova Canton campaign)*
- *Participation in local capacity building workshops*
  - *Safeguards training - ADB and WB*

## 9. National Maritime Website

*<https://www.mict.gov.ki>*

## 10. Recommendations

## 11. Summary

The national report from Kiribati to the 21st Meeting of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission highlights significant efforts in surveys and capacity building. Over the past year, surveys, including LiDAR and MBES Surveys, have been conducted on four islands in the Gilbert group and one in the Phoenix Islands. Notably, there has been a strong emphasis on capacity building, with the recruitment and training of new staff to serve as hydrographers. This investment in human resources underscores Kiribati's dedication to strengthening its maritime capabilities and ensuring adherence to international standards and practices.