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Hydrographic Office
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
11 December 2009

Our ref: FOF/HYD/R/320/19/2
Your ref:

By E-mail

Dear Chairmen of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions,

World-Wide Electronic Navigational Chart Database working group (WEND-WG)

1. The First Meeting of the IHO Inter Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) held in Monaco on 05 June 2009, approved the formation of the IRCC WEND Working Group as proposed by the WEND report. The IRCC Vice-Chair was tasked to coordinate by correspondence the composition of the IRCC WEND WG. The Terms of Reference, composition and method of work of the IRCC WEND WG was also approved by the IRCC and are attached for your information.

2. The Working Group will ideally be composed of representatives designated by the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHCs) and a representative from each RENC. Individual Member States may be represented if they wish. The Working Group will work mainly by correspondence (electronic) and face-to-face meetings will be decided by the group based on the needs and progress of the work. All the working documents will be available to all Member States on the IHO web site. Representatives to the Working Group should have an easy access to e-mail and internet facilities.

3. The IRCC 2010 Work Programme reflects the following task for the WEND WG for 2010:

TASK IRCC 2/2010 ENC Coverage.

Monitor and advise IRCC on the development of adequate ENC coverage to meet the SOLAS V/19 carriage requirements for ECDIS (Ref. IHO WP Tasks 1.1.17 and 1.1.18)

Action: IRCC WEND Working Group

4. Chairmen of RHCs are requested to select the member who will represent the Commission in the WEND WG and inform the Bureau <hgorziglia@ihb.mc> and IRCC Vice Chair <hydrosan@iafrica.com> by **22 January 2010** of the details and e-mail address of the representative. It will also be very helpful if indication can be given if the representative will be willing to serve as Chair of the WEND WG, keeping in mind that the Chair will have to represent the WG at the IRCC Meetings.

Yours sincerely

(A. KAMPFER)
HYDROGRAPHER SA NAVY: CAPTAIN
VICE-CHAIR IRCC