

12th Meeting of the Worldwide ENC Database Working Group (WENDWG), IHO Secretariat, Monaco, hybrid event, 22 – 24 February 2022

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2021	
Task 3.4.1	Organize, prepare and report annual meetings of the WEND Working Group - Foster the implementation of the WEND principles including WEND100 principles). Monitor progress and report to IRCC.

The 12th meeting of the Worldwide ENC Database Working Group (WENDWG), was held from 22 to 24 February 2022 at the IHO Secretariat in Monaco, in hybrid format, with eleven IHO Member States' representatives physically present out of 62 registered participants. The meeting was chaired by Dr John Nyberg (United States of America). Delegates from 27 Member States (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States of America), the Chairs of the S-100WG, MSDIWG¹, the Chairs of the IC-ENC Steering Committee and PRIMAR Advisory Committee and the directors/managers of the RENCs/RECC attended the meeting. Director Luigi Sinapi and Assistant Director Yves Guillam (Secretary) represented the IHO Secretariat.



Some participants of the WENDWG12 hybrid meeting.

Following the opening address by Director Luigi Sinapi who highlighted the responsibilities of the WENDWG in the broader context of the IHO Strategic Plan, of the IRCC role and the Roadmap for the S-100 Implementation Decade, the Chair welcomed the participants and went through the agenda to review the objectives of the meeting in particular those requested by the IRCC and the Council.

The WENDWG noted the outcome of the survey made in 2021 on High Density ENC's (HD ENC) and the possible impact of the development of S-102 (IHO CL 42/2021 refers). This outcome was questioned through a joint proposal (Australia, UK) promoting the urgent production of HD ENC's now, since the S-1xx products and S-100 ECDIS will unlikely be operational before 5 to 10 years. While considering that HD ENC's was not an IHO strategic objective, the meeting acknowledged the important user needs for improved safety contour

¹ Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group.

usability and invited Member States to consider the role that HD ENC's can play before S-100 ECDIS becomes widely available as well as S-102.

Following the adoption of the WEND-100 Principles in 2021, two main topics were considered:

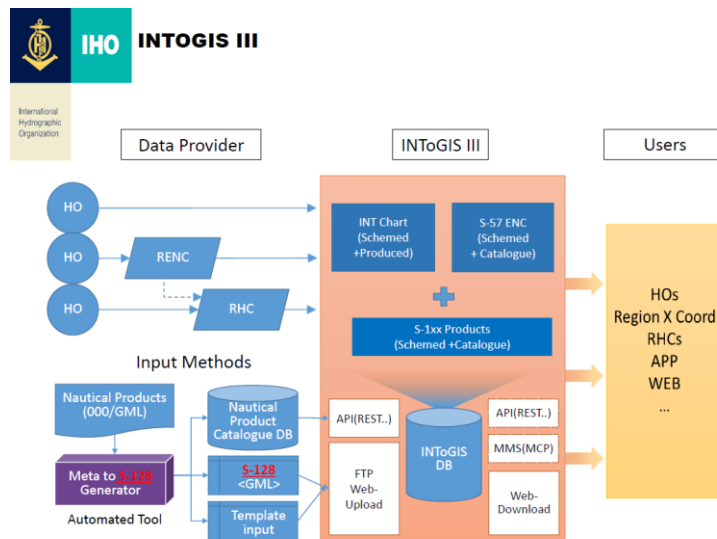
- The development of S-101 ENC Scheming Guidelines;
- The development of S-1xx Products Implementation Guidelines.

In order to put these questions in context before discussion, the S-100WG Chair was first invited to update the participants on a structural study, still in progress before submission to HSSC: the *Dual Fuel Concept Governance Document*. Once endorsed by the relevant Committee(s), this document is intended to become a component of the *Roadmap*.

The lead of one drafting group (Japan) provided a status report of the intersessional work on S-101 ENC Scheming Guidelines. It was acknowledged that consensus for a Global Common Grid Scheme, as long term objective, could not be reached yet due to significant objections. The meeting agreed that representatives of Regional Hydrographic Commissions in the WENDWG should beforehand address the issue in their regions, and then report on their regional S-101 ENC's production/distribution strategies (status quo, new grid, etc.) at the next meeting.

The status on the complex task for developing the S-1xx Implementation Guidelines was reported by the lead (Netherlands) of the second drafting group. A face-to-face side meeting and a working hybrid session were very beneficial to progress. It was agreed to focus and prioritize the remaining work on the "SOLAS" user category and on the top priority S-1xx products as defined in the *Roadmap* (S-101, S-102, S-104, S-111,... and S-128). This is expected to be done for submission prior to IRCC-14.

The importance of implementing S-128-compliant cataloguing functions in the *Roadmap* was recognized by the participants. For the IHO Secretariat's GIS infrastructure, this will be done through the next version of INTOGIS webservices, namely INTOGIS III, thanks to the support provided by KHOA (Republic of Korea). It was noted that this concept was also in the interest of the MSDIWG.



Towards INTOGIS III for an IHO discovery interoperable webservice of S-1xx products

In conclusion of very fruitful discussions, the WENDWG agreed to recommend in its report to IRCC that RHCs should now include a standing agenda item in their forthcoming Conferences/Meetings, by which they engage in the development of a regional organizational pathway (UN-GGIM IGIF compliant² for every S-1xx top priority products).

² Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF): <https://ggim.un.org/IGIF/>

The WENDWG acknowledged that the combined effort by the RHCs (possible nomination of a S-100 Coordinator by Region for instance + development of IGIF / per RHCs / per S-1-xx Product) is an important way forward to contribute to the *Roadmap* to reach a worldwide coverage soon after the standards are adopted in their operational version.

Dates and venue of the 13th meeting of the WENDWG in February 2023 are still to be decided.

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