**Paper for Consideration by HSSC 13**

Proposal for Establishment of S-130 PT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Submitted by:*** | IHO Secretariat |
| ***Related Documents:*** | Decision A1/04  Proposal A2/1.9 - Report on the informal consultation process for the future of S-23  Decisions A2/24 & 25  Decision and Action IHO Council C4/07 |
| ***Related Projects:*** | Action IHO Council C1/05 (for IRCC TORs and ROPs).  Decision A1/12 – Review of IHO Resolution 2/2007. |

Introduction/Background

At its first Session, the Assembly tasked the Secretary-General to facilitate an informal consultation process regarding the future of S-23 among interested Member States, including determining mutually agreed modalities of work, and to report the result of the consultations to the Assembly at the next ordinary session (Decision A1/04).

The resulting Proposal A2/1.9 - Report on the informal consultation process for the future of S-23 called for the modernization of standardization of the limits of the oceans and seas. The core of the proposal was to make S-23 content fit for digital dissemination through the transformation of information contained in a database of attributed area feature objects with global coverage.

Analysis / Discussion

Under Decisions A2/24 and A2/25, A-2 approved proposal A-2 PRO-1.9 on the future of S-23, made as a package, and tasked the Secretary-General with the implementation of the proposal.

Through PRO 1.9.2 the appropriate IHO subordinate technical body is tasked:

* to develop a dataset named “Polygonal demarcations of global sea areas” to designate geographic sea areas by a system of unique numerical identifiers only, and
* to profile or adapt appropriate IHO S-100-based standards through a new S-130 dataset, to facilitate the digital provision of the “Polygonal demarcations of global sea areas”.

Council noted the decision of A2 and suggested that the Secretary-General should report on the progress made on this matter at the next session of the Council.

Justification and Impacts

Implementation of the decision made by IHO Member States by A2/24 and A2/25 and endorsed by IHO Council C4/07.

Conclusions and Recommended Actions

The 3rd Edition of S-23 “Limits of the Oceans and Seas” is not suitable for use in a digital environment. A transformation into a digital dataset named “Polygonal demarcations of global sea areas” would facilitate the joint standardization and service activities of IHO and other adjacent domains to support the e-Navigation concept of the IMO.

The decision by A2 and endorsed by C4 is quite clear that HSSC as the responsible technical body take actions to develop a new S-130 Polygonal Demarcations of Global Sea Areas Dataset. The technical production of this authoritative Dataset however, needs the preceding development of the S-130 Product Specification. Following previous practise in the development of S-100 product specifications, it is proposed that a HSSC Project team be established to conduct the development of both the S-130 Product Specification and Dataset in a sequential approach. Draft Terms of Reference are attached.

Action Required of HSSC

HSSC13 is invited to:

* take note of the paper,
* endorse the requirement for a Project Team to develop an S-130 Product Specification as dataset model for the subsequent production of the authoritative S-130 Dataset.
* take, as a second step, the appropriate actions to establish an S-130PT that should be established ideally before C-5.

**Annex**

**HSSC S-130 Project Team  
POLYGONAL DEMARCATIONS OF GLOBAL SEA AREAS PRODUCT specification and DATASET**

**Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure**

**1. Objective**

To develop the S-130 Polygonal Demarcations of Global Sea Areas Product Specification and Dataset.

1.1 The definition of S-130 should take into account the following:

1. Define a proposed dataset model using a system of unique numerical identifiers only;
2. Create an S-100 conformant product specification for Polygonal Demarcations of Global Sea Areas, through the profiling or adaptation of existing IHO S-100-based product specifications (such as S-121, S-122 for instance).

1.2 Once the dataset model is approved, to propose recommendations for the subsequent production and distribution of this S-130 dataset including quality control, maintenance procedure and a basic user/information manual.

The scope of this Project Team under HSSC is strictly limited to technical issues only (items 1.9.1 to 1.9.3) in support of the implementation of Proposal 1.9 made at A-2.

**2. Authority**

This Project Team is a subsidiary of the HSSC. Its work will be guided by the 2021-2023 Work Plan established by the HSSC and subject to its approval.

**3. Composition and Chair**

a) The Project Team shall comprise representatives of IHO Member States (MS), Expert Contributors (EC), observers from accredited NGIOs, and a representative from the IHO Secretariat. A membership list shall be maintained and posted on the IHO website.

b) EC membership is open to entities and organizations that can provide a relevant and constructive contribution to the work of the WG.

c) The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be a representative of an MS. The election of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be decided at the first meeting of the PT after each ordinary session of the Assembly and shall be determined by vote of the MS present and voting.

d) If a secretary is required, it should normally be drawn from a member of the Project Team.

e) If the Chair is unable to carry out the duties of the office, the Vice-Chair shall act as the Chair with the same powers and duties.

f) ECs shall seek approval for membership from the Chair.

g) EC membership may be withdrawn in the event that a majority of the MS represented in the PT agrees that an EC's continued participation is irrelevant or unconstructive to the work of the WG.

h) All members shall inform the Chair in advance of their intention or inability to attend meetings of the PT.

i) In the event that a large number of EC members seek to attend a meeting, the Chair may restrict attendance by inviting ECs to act through one or more collective representatives.

**4. Procedures**

a) The PT should work by a combination of correspondence, teleconferences, group meetings, workshops or symposia. The PT should meet at least once a year. When meetings are scheduled, and in order to allow any PT submissions and reports to be submitted to HSSC, meetings should not normally occur later than nine weeks before a meeting of HSSC.

b) Decisions should generally be made by consensus. If votes are required on issues or to endorse proposals presented to the PT, only Members may cast a vote. Votes at meetings shall be on the basis of one vote per Member represented at the meeting. Votes by correspondence shall be on the basis of one vote per Member represented in the PT. Issues other than technical should not be considered at the PT level.

c) The PT should liaise with other IHO bodies, international organizations and industry representatives to ensure the relevance of its work and timely notice of changes to the standards.

d) The PT should report to HSSC on its activities and submit a rolling two-year work plan, including expected time frame.

e) Once the objectives listed in section are met, then the project team should be dissolved.