

2ND MEETING OF THE IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS WORKING GROUP

Virtual Online Meeting, 15-18 February

Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2022	
Task 2.1.2.9	Attendance of HSWG2 meeting

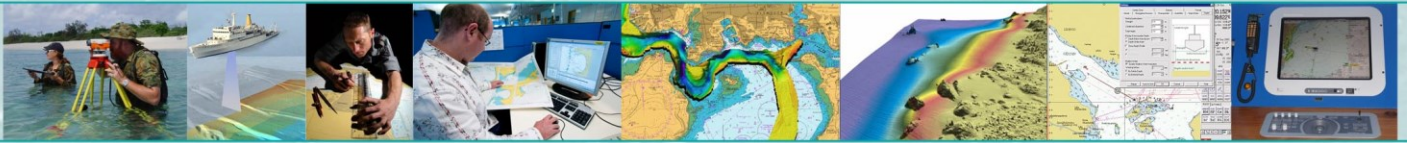
The Hydrographic Surveys Working Group (HSWG) has been tasked by the IHO Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) to act as the focal point for hydrographic surveying industry engagement with the IHO and maintain and promote the use of IHO publications S-44 *Standards for Hydrographic Surveys* and C-13 *Manual on Hydrography*.

Due to the ongoing global COVID19 pandemic and the associated travel restrictions in place, the 2nd meeting of the Hydrographic Surveys Working Group (HSWG2) was conducted as a fully virtual meeting from 15 to 18 February 2022 under the chairmanship of Mr David Parker (UK). The meeting was attended by 55 delegates from 22 IHO Member States (Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, UK and USA) and a range of Expert Contributors from industry and academia. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Director Abri Kampfer and Assistant Director Sam Harper.

The primary focus of the meeting was to develop an updated version of S44, progress the development of a new version of C-13 Manual on Hydrography, and progress development of Satellite-Derived Bathymetry Best Practice Guidelines. Plenary sessions ran for all of days one and four, and a part of days two and three, which also included significant break-out sessions for the S44 Drafting Team, Manual on Hydrography Project Team and Satellite Derived Bathymetry Project Team.

The S-44 Drafting Team, led by Megan Greenaway (USA), met for the first time at two breakout sessions during the HSWG2 meeting. The main objectives were to identify which S-44 proposed updates should be applied and to make a recommendation for editorial implementation. There were a total of 35 updates and most were implemented. The next steps will be to distribute an updated edition 6.1.0 to HSWG for final review ahead of submission to HSSC14 for endorsement in May 2022 before onward promulgation to IHO member states for approval.

The C-13 Manual on Hydrography Project Team (MHPT), led by Nikolas Rocher (Brazil), met for the first time during HSWG2, holding two dedicated breakout sessions. The principle aim of the sessions was to discuss and plan the update of C-13. The MHPT noted that this will be



a significant undertaking and agreed that taking a modular approach would be the most efficient means of tackling the task. The MHPT also recognised the need for cross-referencing C-13 updates with the other IHO publications, particularly in this instance, the IBSC’s S-5B standards. In order to further understand what the stakeholders expect from the coming C-13 document, the MHPT has drafted a comprehensive questionnaire, the results of which will guide the intended scope of readership, the depth of the technical details and which new technologies should be referenced.

The Satellite-Derived Bathymetry best practice Project Team (SDBPT), chaired by Knut Hartmann (Eomap), held two breakout sessions during HSWG2. It was the 3rd SDBPT meeting with the main objective being to structure the activities and responsibilities for developing the Satellite-Derived Bathymetry Best Practice Guidelines. Teams of subject matter experts, timelines and structure were defined and good progress is expected within Q1 and Q2 2022. Both sessions were well attended with more than 20 participants each from 16 countries. The breakout session hosted guest speakers from the satellite providers Planet and Airbus who provided a valuable overview of the current capabilities of the satellite fleets.



Some of the participants at the HSWG2 meeting

In closing the meeting, the Chair thanked the participants, the Project Teams and Drafting team for all the hard work put through the meeting. He emphasized the good progress that HSWG is making with S44, C13 and SDB. Intersessional works will follow and HSWG3 will be scheduled soon. Preference was expressed for future meetings to be in-person and it was concluded that, if possible, HSWG3 will be held in an in-person-format with an online attendance available. The planned timeframe for the next meeting will be in September or October, date and venue still to be confirmed.