

**9<sup>TH</sup> EAST ASIA HYDROGRAPHIC COMMISSION (EAHC)  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 15 - 17 February**

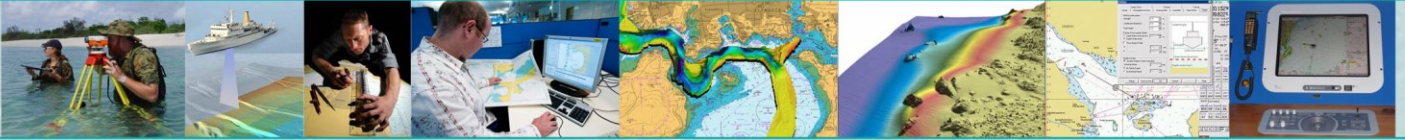
<b>Contribution to the IHO Work Programme 2023</b>	
Task 3.2.1.3	Prepare for and report meetings of the Regional Hydrographic Commissions (RHC): EAHC

The 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC) was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, as a hybrid meeting from 15 to 17 February, under the chairmanship of Vice Admiral Nurhidayat, National Hydrographer of Indonesia. Representatives from Brunei Darussalam, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea (RoK), Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand were represented at the meeting. Vietnam, United Kingdom and United States of America were represented as Observer States. Several industry stakeholders also attended as invited observers. Director Abri Kampfer represented the IHO Secretariat.

Director Kampfer briefed the Commission on current IHO activities and the preparations for the forthcoming third session of the IHO Assembly. Particular emphasis was placed on the outcomes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting noting the focus on S-100 Implementation. Director Kampfer reminded on the adoption by IMO of the new ECDIS Performance Standard which includes S-100. S-100 is now a reality and to deliver on the expectations of the maritime world will have an impact on individual Member States and also on the Regional Hydrographic Commissions. He stressed the requirement to have discussions on the needs of each MS and what can be done in the region to assist those that may need assistance. A plan of action is required to be in a position to provide S-101 ENC's and related S-100 product coverage for the region by 01 January 2026 when the S-100 ECDIS will become legal to be used for primary navigation.

The Member States present delivered their respective national reports and addressed the full range of activities covered by the duties of hydrographic offices in the region. Special emphasis was given to capacity building and the uptake of S-101 ENC production in the years to come. Discussions for regional coordination for this new production line is underway.

The outcomes of the EAHC Training and Research Development Center Board of Directors (TRDC-BOD) meeting that preceded the 9<sup>th</sup> SC Meeting was discussed. The current TRDC-BOD Chair announced his retirement and it was agreed for Indonesia to be the new TRDC-BOD Chair. The Outgoing TRDC-BOD Chair advised that the incoming TRDC-BOD Chair, and EAHC Capacity Building Coordinator position should be handled by different member states. The selection of the new Vice-Chair and coordinator of EAHC Capacity Building will be determined at the next TRDC-BOD meeting. TRDC BOD agreed to deliver S-100 training for the member states to implement S-100. China will conduct a capacity building on Hydrography for Disaster Mitigation and Humanitarian Support (P-11) during the year with exact dates to be confirmed later.



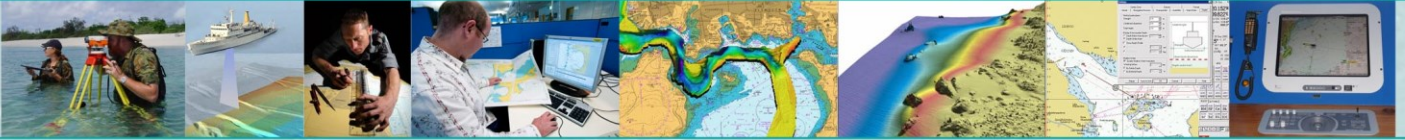
The meeting considered the report of the Strategic Team Advance Roadmap (STAR) Task Group. This group is tasked to identify strategic directions for the future targets of EAHC. The STAR coordinator was tasked to reconsider all projects, and working groups under EAHC as to where in the structure the projects and the WG would sit and a working group was established with Japan as lead with Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, and Thailand participating.

Discussions on a Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Management and Mitigation concluded that it was essential, however, Members noted the need to take into consideration that it may overlap with other agencies' responsibilities. Each member state needs to examine which aspect they can support the framework and report back at the next meeting. Further items of note were the reports reflecting the work of the EAHC subordinate Working Groups, for example in MSDI. The MSDI WG had difficulties to meet in person, but it was confirmed that the next meeting of the MSDI WG will be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, 12 - 14 September 2023 Supported by NAVAL COMMAND of Vietnam.

The East Asia Regional Electronic Navigational Charts Coordination Centre (EA-RECC) reported on their activities since the last SC meeting. EA-RECC participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> WENDWG Meeting in 2022, the 12<sup>th</sup> HSSC Meeting in 2022 and in the PRIMAR Technical Experts Working Group Meeting in 2022. Capacity building was conducted for new staff and an initial study of conversion of S-57 ENC to S-101 ENC with commercial software and KHOA S-100 Viewer was undertaken. The head of the EA RENC renewed the offer to collaborate with all members of the region in ENC distribution and informed that efforts will be made to establish a Board of Directors and to confirm the financial arrangements.

Malaysia reported on the revision of the EAHC Statutes with recommendations to address issues identified with regards to Locality (Article I.1 – Sea areas), Nature of the Commission (Article I.1 - Technical) Admission of Membership. (Article II.2 – Admission decision), Timeframe of the Next Session Conference. (Article III.2 – Time for informing the Conference) and Unanimity (Article VII.1 – Vote for the Conference & Article X.4 – Vote for Statutes Amendments). The member states present agreed to the amendments of the Article I.1 (both region K and keep ocean and seas name), Article II.2, Article III.2. (with the 3 months notification), the recommendation for Article VII.1, Article X.4. The EAHC Secretariat will circulate the amendments to all member states for endorsement. There was no objection from MS to include associate members into EAHC Statutes.

The meeting received a presentation from an industry representative highlighting new technologies. A presentation on the IHO Crowdsourced Bathymetry (CSB) initiative provided feedback on the current status of participation and new developments. The meeting was informed that the DCDB began working on an automated notification and approval system for data collected in the areas of jurisdiction of coastal states that provided positive responses but also requested in their caveats the right to pre-approve the data before it is publicly distributed through the DCDB. The vision here is that the DCDB would provide login credentials to an HO, allowing them to log into the system and accept or reject the public release of data within their waters. The EAHC members were invited to participate in the CSBWG to stay informed of the new technology, the progress of ongoing projects and new projects. Participation will allow for obtaining clarification on concerns about CSB data collection or sharing.



The IHO CSB initiative is also working directly with the Seabed 2030 Project. SB2030 intends to not only accelerate CSB activity around the world, but to also serve as a Trusted Node to help in the setup of data collection and data assembly. A presentation on Seabed 2030 re-enforced this message and the EAHC members were requested to share bathymetry data with Seabed 2030 to complete the GEBCO map. The GEBCO 2022 grid stands at 23.4 % of the world's seafloor mapped.



**Participants of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC)**

The meeting confirmed that Indonesia and Thailand will occupy the two Council seats allocated to the EAHC for the period 2023 to 2026. The next EAHC SC meeting will be held in Manado, Indonesia on 14 to 15 February 2024 where at the closure the Chair of EAHC will be formally handed over to Thailand and China will become Vice-Chair.



**Historic first time joint excursion for NIOHC and EAHC delegates**