

## Paper for Consideration by HSCC

Promote technical exchange between member states by providing collaborative discussion space

<b>Submitted by:</b>	France (Shom), US (NOAA), UK (UKHO)
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	Build a space for exchange around data processing.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	Circular letter 26/2017 (IHO File No. S3/7198)
<b>Related Projects:</b>	HSCC; capacity building; HSPT.

### Introduction / Background

1. IHO's mission is to create a global environment for member states enabling and facilitating the production of standardized hydrographic data, products and services. In order to fulfil this mission, IHO has established a number of working groups and project team focusing, for example, on the acquisition (HSPT), the data quality (DQWG), cartographic product formats (ENCWG for S-57 and S-100WG for future S-100 standards). The main targeted objective is to ensure that users of nautical products can use the generated nautical information with the same level of understanding.

### Analysis/Discussion

2. However, it is a view originating from various member states that an essential link is still missing between the acquisition (namely the HSPT) and the use of hydrographic data (namely DQWG or other nautical product related working group). At present, member states do not have a space of discussion (as for example a forum) in which they could deal with bathymetric data processing (between the acquisition and data used for nautical chart production) and associated methodologies, procedures or standards that could be associated with this step in the life cycle of the data.

3. This exchange space could be the place where the following topics could be examined (non-exhaustive list identified to date by the SHC, NOAA, UKHO and Shom):

- ❖ Processing (detect and flag systematics errors / detect and flag outliers)
- ❖ Quality control methodologies and tools adapted to bathymetric data (a priori and a posteriori uncertainty)
- ❖ Collection / bathymetric data standards (data archiving standards, common attribution, data sharing/formats)
- ❖ QA, verification, trusted data sources.
- ❖ Processing applications/limitations
- ❖ Common practices that we could adopt
- ❖ Automation (data processing with IA and workflow)
- ❖ VR Surfaces

4. These exchanges should be carried out under the coordination of a working group or project team, for the topics which can be linked to a current group. For the other topics, create a project team could play an important role as part of IHO's ambitions on capacity building and knowledge transfer between hydrographic services.

In any ways, an online exchange tool will make it possible to facilitate the communication between members through an IHO structure or not.

5. In order to maintain the neutrality of the debates on these topics, it would be preferable if the collaborative tools were hosted by IHO.

### Conclusions

It seems important to have an online exchange space and if needed, create a project team in a working group to discuss bathymetric data processing issues, or join the future working group resulting from the HSPT.

### Recommendations

- Sourcing from member states to find the best collaborative tools (wiki, forum, instant messaging...);

- Defining the rules of use of the tools (responsibility of the topic, moderator) within the framework of the HSPT;
- Advertise this place of exchange once it has been created.

### **Justification and Impacts**

These recommendations will allow us to discuss in a quick and relevant way while maintaining the most relevant solutions for a capacity building framework.

### **Action Required of HSCC**

The HSCC is invited to:

- a. **Note** this paper;
- b. **Discuss** the recommendations;
- c. **Endorse** the principle of creating a collaborative tool;
- d. **Task HSCC** to take any other actions that may be required;
- e. **Task the WG** resulting from the HSPT to specify, in collaboration with the IHO Secretariat, this collaborative tool.