



IHO HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Monaco, 6 May 2020

HSSC Letter 03/2020

HSSC guidance about business continuity and preparation of HSSC-12

Reference:

- A. *IHO Secretariat's email dated 2 April – Postponement of HSSC-12;*
- B. *HSSC CL 01/2020 dated 7th April 2020.*

Dear HSSC Members and WGs/PTs Chairs,

1. Following the postponement of the HSSC-12 to October 2020 and HSSC CL 01/2020, WGs and PTs Chairs have informed the Secretariat and myself about those activities that are of particular interest for the HSSC to consider in order to give continuity to the remarkable effort already done by all its Members.
2. In particular, I am keen to inform HSSC Members about some of the following actions of interest carried out or under way by WGs/PTs:

S-100 WG/PTs:

- S-100 PTs new Terms or Reference, approved by S-100 WG, are available at <https://iho.int/en/basic-wg-documents>.
- S-100 presentation to HSSC-12 is already uploaded on the IHO Web site (https://iho.int/uploads/user/Services%20and%20Standards/HSSC/HSSC12/HSSC_12_2020_05.1A_EN_S100WG%20report.pptx) for consultation by Members and consideration by WGs' Chairs, prior to the meeting.
- This working group is also kindly invited to prepare an educative and pragmatic overview of the possible scenarios, together with their pros and cons, for the transition to S-101 (clarification on S-57/S-101 conversion, new S-101 grid schemes, dual fuel S-100 ECDIS, etc.).

NCWG:

- The NCWG has recently completed the revision of the "Future of Nautical Paper Chart Report". The final version of the document and its recommendations need to be considered carefully by the HSSC at the next meeting. In order to do so, it is proposed that the final report is made available to HSSC Members **no later than 7 September**.

- The amendments to the TORs and ROPs of the NCWG are already available in Annex of the NCWG report to HSSC-12 available on-line. This will be considered at HSSC-12.

HSPT:

- The HSPT started the drafting process of the new Terms of Reference (https://iho.int/uploads/user/Services%20and%20Standards/HSSC/Project%20Team%20HSPT/HSPT5/HSPT5_2020_7_EN_Draft_ToRs_and_RoPs_v1.0.pdf) to be considered for the establishment of a Hydrographic Standards Working Group (HSWG). It is suggested that this important proposal is discussed at HSSC-12.

ENCWG:

- A draft informative paper on “ENC Generalization, Over-Scaling and safety checking Functions in ECIDS” is available for HSSC consideration (https://iho.int/uploads/user/Services%20and%20Standards/HSSC/HSSC12/HSSC12_2020_05.2B_EN_ENC%20Generalisation%20over%20scaling%20and%20safety%20functions%20in%20ECDIS_Clean.pdf) before discussion at HSSC-12. As the IHO cannot maintain stand-alone stacked papers, it is also expected that the ENCWG makes proposals to be considered at HSSC-12 on the following:
 - o With the endorsement of S-67 (in progress), is there a need to amend the information paper, so it is synchronized with S-67, before it is made publicly available at least for consistency purposes?
 - o What is the information included in this paper that is missing in existing standards and publications (same for the stand-alone paper on “IHO Advice for PSC Inspectors Concerning IHO Standards”)? Could this information be incorporated in any of the already existing standards or publications, e.g. S-66?
- In January 2020, S-65 Annex A “High Density (HD) ENC Production and Maintenance Guidance Ed. 1.0.0” was published (https://iho.int/uploads/user/pubs/standards/s-65/S-65%20Annex%20A_Ed%201.0.0_Clean_Final.pdf). The document provides valuable processing and production guidance to enable the effective creation of HD ENCs.

DQWG:

- The following papers to be considered by other WGs/PTs prior to and then discussed at HSSC-12 are available on the DQWG web page for MSs consideration:
 - o Paper HSSC12-05.5B “Report of the outcome of the 15th meeting of the HSSC-Data Quality Working Group”
https://iho.int/uploads/user/Services%20and%20Standards/HSSC/HSSC12/HSSC12_2020_05.5B_EN_Paper%20for%20consideration%20of%20S-101PT.docx
 - o Paper HSSC12-05.5C “conversion of M_QUAL CATZOC to S-101”
https://iho.int/uploads/user/Services%20and%20Standards/HSSC/HSSC12/HSSC12_2020_05.5C_EN_Conversion%20of%20M_QUAL-CATZOC%20to%20S-101.pptx
- NLHO developed a validation software to crosscheck automatically the feature catalogues (FCs) of different product specifications that will be discussed in detail

during HSSC-12. Even though it is independent from the IHO Geospatial Information Registry, the tool represents a promising support for S-100 framework development.

NIPWG:

- NIPWG reported on its intention to continue its product specifications drafting activity of nautical publications, with the development of S-126 “Marine Physical Environment” and “S-12x” Marine Harbour Infrastructure. This will be discussed at HSSC-12.
3. Furthermore, as HSSC Chair, I strongly support the action items proposed by WGs/PTs Chairs in response to HSSC CL 01/2020, to be achieved by correspondence during the next 6 months. Moreover, in any case deemed necessary by WGs/PTs Chairs, the selection process of Chairs and Vice-Chairs can be conducted in accordance with the procedures in force.
 4. Finally, in accordance with the evolving situation, I also take this occasion to advise you that an IHO Circular Letter will be issued in the near future to update you about the organization of the next HSSC-12 meeting. In the meantime, I remind all the WGs and PTs Chairs of the importance of keeping the Work-programme 2 (2021-2023) up to date, in view of aligning it once the IHO Revised Strategic plan is approved. To ensure WGs/PTs business continuity, I am also pleased to inform you that the IHO Secretariat can make available, on request only, 2 video teleconference slots, through Go-to-Meeting and/or Zoom Pro to be used by WGs/PTs. Reservations to be made by WGs/PTs Chairs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luigi Sinapi', written in a cursive style.

Rear Admiral Luigi SINAPI

Chair, HSSC