

DRAFT REPORT OF THE XVth MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD OF STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS

1. Location and attendance

The XVth meeting of the FIG/IHO Advisory Board was held at the "Guia Lighthouse", Cascais, Portugal, from 22 to 26 March 1993. The following were present :

Mr. Razali B. Ahmad (FIG)
Captain José Cardoso (IHO)
Captain Hugo Gorziglia (IHO)
Mr. Roger Lott (FIG)
Commander Gerald Mills (Chairman) (IHO)
Dr. David Wells (FIG)
Mr. Alan Yardley (FIG) (Vice-chairman)
Commander Federico Bermejo (Secretary) (IHB)

The Board regretted the absence of Mr. Peter Andree for second consecutive time.

Capt. José G. Cardoso welcomed the participants on behalf of the Vice Admiral José Sarmiento Gouveia, Director General of the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute, wishing them a successful meeting.

2. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The chairman opened the meeting and introduced the Board to Mr. Razali B. Ahmad, new member from FIG. The Agenda was adopted.

3. Administrative Arrangements

A conference room, secretarial and transportation facilities were provided by the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute. Capt. Cardoso explained the administrative arrangements and social events scheduled.

On Thursday 25 March, the Board members visited the Hydrographic Institute facilities.

4. Matters arising from previous meetings

a) The Board discussed the means available to publicize to the relevant communities the tasks carried out by the Board and its Terms of reference.

b) An amended version of the IHB Info. Paper N 2 was considered. The amended version includes the list of recognized courses, which will constitute the Board Register of Courses, and will be issued annually with the corresponding amendments, following decisions taken at each annual meeting.

The distribution of this Info. paper will be made, in addition to the IHO Member States National Focal Points, to the addresses included in a list that the Board will build up for this purpose. The Statutes of the Board will also be included in Info Paper N 2.

c) The Board also discussed the draft of Guidelines for the computerized format of the Standard Syllabus and the procedure for the exchange of floppy disks between the Board and related Institutions. It was also decided that the re-recognition of courses required a new Certificate of Recognition signed by the Chairman.

d) The Board discussed a request of the Australian Maritime College about exemption of Essential subjects of the Syllabus for its Course in Hydrography, and decided that it was adequate, except for those applicants who do not satisfy the College pre-requisites with a formal course in Land Survey. The University of Tasmania will be encouraged to submit separately their course "Bachelor of Surveying (Hydrographic Stream)" for Category A recognition against the 6th edition.

e) The Board approved the new layout for Appendix D (Model Student Certificate), to the IHO publication MP-005 "Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors".

5. Review of courses

a) IMA Course in Hydrography from Trieste (Italy)

The Board was greatly assisted in the reviewing of this course by the introductory remarks and explanations provided by Rear Admiral Giuseppe Angrisano (ret.). It was found that the course fulfilled most of the requirements for accreditation at Category B Academic, with Specialism in Nautical Charting. The Board considered, however, that some topics were missing or were insufficiently covered, and that the total time devoted to the course was not enough to reach the minimum standards for the Category. A letter will be sent to the agency responsible for the course and the National Focal point, inviting them to submit a strategy to deal with the points identified. The Board will attempt to review the response by correspondence.

b) Course from the Indonesian Hydrographic Service of the Navy (SEHIDRAL)

The Board decided to award Category B, Academic recognition to this course, with specialism in Nautical Charting.

A recommendation to strengthen some topics of the course, as well as encouraging them to implement the procedures described in Section 2.7.2. of the Standards (6th ed.) will be communicated by letter to the National Focal Point.

c) Basic Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers of the Royal Navy (UK)

The Board decided to award recognition at Category B, Full to the Basic Course on written confirmation that some topics missing will be included in the future.

d) Basic + Long Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers of the Royal Navy (UK)

The combination of the Basic and Long Courses was submitted for re-recognition as a Category A Full Course. The Board decided that the combined courses contained several deficiencies. Additional documentation will be required before the Board members can complete their evaluation.

e) Course of Specialization in Hydrography of the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute.

The course was awarded re-recognition at Category A Academic with specialism in Nautical Charting and Surveys for Coastal Management. A further Full re-recognition may be awarded if the Portuguese Hydrographic Institute confirms that a mechanism has been implemented to assure the two years of practical experience required by the standards to this respect, for the civilians who graduate from the course.

f) Course of Hydrography for Naval Officers of the Peruvian Hydrographic Service

The Board decided to award recognition at Category B Full, with specialism in Nautical Charting to this course on written confirmation that some items identified by the Board, are actually included in the programme or will be in the future.

6. Review of the Standards of Competence

The Board reviewed the problems for institutions in providing adequate field experience within their course structures to meet Full recognition requirements. It was noted that the international hydrographic surveying community is generally unaware of the distinction between Full and Academic recognition. A

proposal was made to eliminate the Full recognition category and replace it with a Field proficiency recognition in addition to the existing Academic recognition. Comments will be solicited from the community and this matter will be discussed at the XVIIth meeting.

7. Other matters

a) Certificates of New Brunswick University

Approval was given to the above mentioned University to issue certificates to students successfully completing requirements for Academic and Field Proficiency in Hydrographic Surveying.

8. Date/Venue of the next meeting

Following the invitation of Mr. Alan Yardley, it was decided that the next meeting will be held in Fremantle (Australia), provisionally from 28 February to 4 March 1994. These dates will be officially confirmed at a later date.

9. Close of the meeting

There being no other points to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1730 on 26th March 1993.