

REPORT OF THE XIXth MEETING OF THE FIG/IHO INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON STANDARDS OF COMPETENCE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYORS

Fredericton, Canada, 7-13 June 1996

1. Location and attendance

The XIXth Meeting of the FIG/IHO Advisory Board was held at the "Hotel Lord Beaverbrook", Fredericton, Canada from 7 to 13 June 1996. The following were present :

Mr. Svante Astermo (FIG) (Vice-Chairman)
Mr. Razali B. Ahmad (FIG),
Captain Hugo Gorziglia (IHO) (Chairman)
Commander Gerald Mills (IHO)
Lt. Cdr. Steve Shipman (IHO)
Commodore K.R. Srinivasan (IHO)
Mr. Tadao Tatsuno (IHO)
Dr. David Wells (FIG)
Mr. Alan Yardley (FIG)
Commander Federico Bermejo (Secretary) (IHB)

Opening addresses were given by Mr. Brad Woodside, Mayor of Fredericton, Mr. Paul Bellemare, Head CHS Atlantic Region, Mr. Karl Kieninger, The Hydrographic Society and Dr. Frank Wilson, Vice President of the University of New Brunswick, who wished the participants a successful meeting.

2. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The Chairman opened the meeting and introduced the Board to the new members, Commodore K.R. Srinivasan (IHO) Chief Hydrographer of India, who replaced Cdr. Paolo Gianetti and Lt. Cdr. Steve Shipman, (IHO) from U.K. who would replace Cdr. Mills after the meeting.

3. Administrative arrangements

A conference room, secretarial and transportation facilities were provided by Dr. David Wells, the host member, who explained the administrative arrangements and social events scheduled. On Sunday 9, the Board members visited the Department of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering of the University of New Brunswick and on Monday 10 they participated in a practical demonstration of the multibeam equipment EM-3000 on board the CHS launch PETREL.

4. Minutes of the XVIIIth Meeting and Matters arising from previous meetings

The Chairman presented a Report to the Board including the proposed Agenda, the minutes of the XVIIIth Meeting, the Matters arising from previous meetings, and other draft documents to be considered at the meeting. The Agenda was approved with some minor amendments. The request from the Italian Hydrographer to delay one year the re-submission of the Course in Hydrography of the Italian Hydrographic Office was officially approved.

4.1 Guidelines for new members of the Board

This document was presented to the members and approved with some minor amendments. It was decided that it will be included in the documentation to be sent by the Secretary to new Board members.

4.2 Guidelines for Practical Exercises and Field Training

The text of this subsection of the Standards was completed during the meeting and finally approved. It will be added as an Annex to the Standards.

4.3 Mission of the Advisory Board

The definition of the "Mission of the Advisory Board", had been approved as a task to be presented at the meeting. The Board examined various texts proposed and adopted the following definitions :

Vision of the Advisory Board - To improve the level of international hydrographic competence

Mission of the Advisory Board - To provide guidance to the international hydrographic community about hydrographic education.

These definitions will be included in the Standards.

4.4. Status of The Hydrographic Society

The Board reviewed a presentation from The Hydrographic Society (THS) in which they outlined their desire to attain full membership of the Board and indicated that they would provide financial support for their representative. The Board welcomed the proposal and having discussed the matter sent a fax to the President of The Hydrographic Society setting out 4 possible routes to achieving their aim, including both short and long term approaches. The President of THS thanked the Board for its swift response.

4.5. Establishment of a FIG Commission 4 Working group on Education/Training in Hydrographic Surveying

The Board considered a letter received from FIG on the project to determine the future of hydrographic education and training requirements at both professional and academic levels and to determine the most cost effective teaching/training methods, handed over by the UK national delegate at the FIG 63rd PC Meeting held in Buenos Aires. Whilst any initiative to foster Training in Hydrography should be supported, concern was expressed over the possible duplication of tasks with the FIG/IHO International Advisory Board. It was therefore decided to voice this concern to FIG Commission IV, asking for the integration of their ideas into FIG/IHO Advisory Board through FIG members representing FIG at the Board or through written report to the A. Board's Chairman.

5. Reviewing of courses

5.1. 4-Year Course Programme in Hydrography of "Hogere Zeevaartschool", Amsterdam.

The Board reviewed the additional documentation presented and found that it still presented some inconsistencies. It was therefore decided to invite the Hogeschool of Amsterdam to provide the missing items at its earliest convenience. The Board will attempt to complete the review by correspondence prior to the next meeting in 1997.

5.2. Course in Physical Oceanography and Hydrography from the Naval Academy of the Colombian Navy

The Board recognized the considerable time devoted to producing such a large amount of documentation and have it translated into English, but noticed that the course was focused on oceanography rather than on hydrography and that important areas such as Multibeam systems, Sidescan Sonar, Electronic Chart, Data management and others were insufficiently covered. It was therefore found that a resubmission was necessary and the Naval Academy will be informed of this decision.

5.3. Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers of the Argentine Navy

The Board decided to award recognition to this course at Category B with Specialism in Surveys for Nautical Charting upon receiving additional satisfactory information on some topics apparently not covered by the course programme.

5.4. Course in Hydrography for Naval Officers of the Tunisian Navy

The Board reviewed the above course and after careful consideration found that it was not possible to award recognition this time, due to several deficiencies in the documentation. A letter will be sent to the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of Tunisia, including a list of the topics and other information missing and encouraging the resubmission of the course to the next Board meeting.

5.5. Course in Hydrographic surveying of the Department of Geometrics & Geomatics of the University of Melbourne (Australia)

The Board commended the University of Melbourne for initiating a new course in hydrography to address the educational needs of the hydrographic surveying community.

It was found that in general, the time allocated for the topics was insufficient to cover the necessary material in depth specified for a Category A course. It was also found that other matters required to be emphasized or covered more in detail. These subjects, together with some concern about the policy regarding prerequisites for other courses did not allow the Board to award recognition to the course, which will be required to submit additional information. The Board will attempt to review the response by correspondence before the next meeting.

6. Review of the Standards

The Board considered a project of reorganization of the Standards presented by Mr. Alan Yardley (FIG). The proposal included two main steps :

1. Re-structure the Essential Part of the course by bringing in from the Specialisms those parts which are considered to be of general educational value

and

2. Aggregate those parts of the Specialisms not moved into the Essential areas into suggested supplementary Options to be provided as determined by the requirements and resources of the educational institution.

Considerable discussion was held on this project and it was finally decided that the Board would carry out the task proposed in the first step of the project, the reorganization of the Essential part, maintaining for the time being the 3 Specialisms. Further work will be carried out by correspondence, with the participation of National Focal Points and other related institutions on the second proposed step with an aim to building up a proposal to be considered at the next meeting.

In accordance with the decision taken, the Board carried out a reviewing of the Essential part of the Syllabus which resulted in the amendments included as Annex to this report.

Amendments were also produced to Sections 1 to 4 of the Standards.

7. Date/Venue of the next meeting

It was decided that the next meeting will be held in Stockholm/Nörrköping, Sweden, from 31 July to 6 August 1997. The Board thanked Mr. Svante Astermo, Hydrographer of Sweden for his offer to host the meeting. Mr. Tadao Tatsuno was also thanked by the Board for his invitation to hold the XXIth meeting in Tokyo, Japan, in June or later in 1998.

8. Close of the meeting

Before closing the meeting, the Board thanked Cdr. Jerry Mills (USA), who left the Board, for his outstanding contribution during six years, first as a member and afterwards as the Board's Chairman (1992-1995). There being no other points to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1200 on 12 June 1996.

Action Item	Action	Due date/ completed
I. Notes of Appreciation		
a) Frank WILSON, VP R & Ex. Rel. UNB	HG	12/JUL.
b) Brad WOODSIDE, Mayor of Fredericton	HG	12/JUL.
c) Ross DOUGLAS, President of the H.S.	HG	12/JUL.
d) Paul BELLEMARE, Director CHS Atl. Reg.	HG	12/JUL.
e) Dave WELLS, Local Organizer UNB	HG	12/JUL.
f) Derrick R. PEYTON, USL	HG	12/JUL.
g) Wayne WALSH, Chairman Local CIG Branch	HG	12/JUL.
h) Karl KIENINGER, T.H.S.	HG	12/JUL.
i) Robin ARMSTRONG, President of UNB	HG	12/JUL.
j) Albert KLEUSBERG, Chairman Geodesy and Geomatic Department, UNB.	HG	12/JUL.ALL DONE
II. Meeting Minutes		
a) Draft to Board Members for comments	FB	23/JUN.DONE
b) Responses from Board Members	ALL	15/JUL.DONE
c) Final draft to HG	FB	20/JUL.DONE
d) Issue Final Minute to Board Members with Action Items.	FB	30/JUL.DONE
e) Issue Final Minutes to IHO and FIG	HG	30/JUL.
f) Issue Final Minutes to HS	HG	30/JUL.
g) Issue Final Minutes to:		
* institutions with recognized courses	FB	30/SEP.
* institutions submitting courses 1997	FB	30/SEP.
* institutions with courses under rev.	FB	30/SEP.
III. Course Review		
a) letter to Netherlands	HG	20/JUN.DONE
b) letter to Colombia	HG	20/JUN.DONE
c) letter to Argentina	HG	20/JUN.DONE
* upon receiving response, advise B.M.	HG	
* grant certificate if appropriate	FB/HG	DONE
d) letter to Tunisia	HG	20/JUN.DONE
e) letter to Australia	HG	20/JUN.DONE
* upon receiving response, advise B.M.	HG	
* B.M. report views and advise Chairman		
* grant certificate if appropriate	FB/HG	
IV. Standards (being worked)		
a) Compile and circulate new version of Ess.	FB	15/JUL.
b) Comments to HG	ALL	30/AUG.
c) Final draft of Essentials to ALL	HG	15/SEP.
d) Comments/contents of SP's/Options to HG	ALL	30/OCT.
e) Compile and circulate to ALL for comments	HG	30/NOV.
f) Circulate new draft of sillaby & proposed corrections to standards (Parts 1/4)	HG/FG	30/JAN.97
g) Deadline for input to new version of		

Standards to HG.		ALL	30/APR.97
h) Draft new version of Standards to ALL		HG/FB	30/JUN.97
i) Approve new Standards. To IHB for edition Meeting.		HG	XXth

V. Bibliography (being worked)

a) References to FB		ALL	Ongoing
b) Analyze contents of M-6 (forming teams)	HG		XXth Meeting.

VI. Future Submissions, advise on the need to resubmit (being worked)

a) Japan		HG	25/JUL.
b) Canada, CHS and UNB		HG	25/JUL.
c) U.K., Plymouth University	HG		25/JUL.

VII. Miscellaneous

a) Update comparative hours and distribute		FB	30/OCT.
b) Compile guidelines for new members		FB	30/AUG.
c) Letter of response to H.S. (see Ic)		HG	20/JUN.DONE
d) Letter of response to FIG COMM. 4		HG	20/JUN.DONE