

**2<sup>nd</sup> IHO-HSSC Meeting  
Rostock, Germany, 26-29 October 2010**

**Paper for Consideration by HSSC**

**ECDIS Stakeholders' Forum**

<b>Submitted by:</b>	IRCC
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	Noting the need to continue allowing for a timely input from industry regarding ECDIS issues, the IRCC invites the HSSC to consider the way forward for the ECDIS Stakeholders' Forum.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	IHO Strategic Plan 2009 Terms of reference of the WEND WG (June 2009) Minutes of IHO-IRCC2 - New Orleans, USA, 17-18 June 2010 (§ 3.3.6) IHO 5-year Work Programme 2008-2012 Proposed IHO Work Program for 2011 (CL 44/2010 of 26 July 2010)

### **Introduction / Background**

The World-wide Electronic Navigational chart Database Working Group (WEND WG) was established at the first meeting of the IHO Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) in June 2009, with the objective to monitor the development of adequate ENC coverage to meet the SOLAS V/19 carriage requirements for ECDIS and advise IRCC accordingly. In discussing the report presented by the WEND WG at the second meeting of the IRCC in June 2010, IRCC members acknowledged the need to continue allowing for a timely input from industry in relation to ECDIS issues.

### **Analysis/Discussion/Recommendation**

The IHO Strategic Plan adopted by the International Hydrographic Conference (IHC) in 2009 identifies as one of its four strategic directions the strengthening of the role and efficiency of the IHO as the competent international organization on all hydrographic matters. Engaging the various stakeholders<sup>1</sup> in the technical work of its bodies is one of the main ingredients to pursue that strategic direction. It is covered by Task 4.2.3 - *Communication with Hydrographic Industry* of the IHO 5-year Work Programme 2008-2012. This is reflected as Task 1.3.3 - *Outreach to IHO Stakeholders* in the proposed IHO WP for 2011.

The implementation and promotion of ECDIS, the development of the relevant standards and the availability of ENCs have been the main issues of interest with non IHO stakeholders since the late 1990s. This background led to arranging ECDIS Stakeholders' Forums (ESF) which have been held four times either in conjunction with CHRIS meetings (ESF1 and CHRIS17 in 2005, ESF3 and CHRIS19 in 2007) or with WEND meetings (ESF2 and WEND10 in 2006, ESF4 and WEND11 in 2008). An independent Open ECDIS Forum site was established in 1997 and a report on its activities is presented at HSSC meetings. A list of ECDIS Stakeholders is maintained by the IHB ([www.iho-ohi.net/mtg\\_docs/industry/ECDIS\\_Stakeholders.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/industry/ECDIS_Stakeholders.pdf)).

Since the last HSSC meeting was preceded by the 3<sup>rd</sup> International ECDIS Conference in the series sponsored by the UKHO and the MPA of Singapore<sup>2</sup>, no formal arrangement has been made so far to continue the activities of the ESF. As the implementation of ECDIS carriage requirements, the work on e-navigation and the work on new standards is developing, IRCC acknowledges the need to continue allowing for a timely input from industry

<sup>1</sup> The stakeholders include non-governmental international organizations, government, industry, academia and others.

<sup>2</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> International ECDIS Conference took place in Singapore in 1998 and 2003.

and other stakeholders with regard to ECDIS issues and invites the HSSC to consider the way forward for the ECDIS Stakeholders' Forum in line with Task 4.2.3 of the IHO 5-year Work Programme (Reflected nowadays as Task 1.3.3 - *Outreach to IHO Stakeholders* in the proposed IHO WP for 2011) and within the scope of its own Work Plan.

#### **Action Required of HSSC**

The HSSC is invited to note this report and take action as it considers appropriate.

#### Note by IHB:

The previous ECDIS Stakeholders' Forums have been organised in direct support of Task 4.2.3 of the IHO 5-year Work Programme – *Communication with Hydrographic Industry*.

*4.2.3 The IHO and IHO Member States to facilitate the communication with, and encourage the participation of, Hydrographic Industry stakeholders on topics of the Organization's interest (2008/2012). The IHB with the support of the relevant IHO bodies, to organize each two years the "Industry Days" event (2009-2011).*

The Directing Committee recognises that ECDIS and related matters continue to be of high interest for many IHO Stakeholders. At the same time, other stakeholders and other issues should also be open for discussion. In order to achieve this, the IHB is planning to convene an IHO Stakeholders' Forum to be held at the IMO Headquarters in London immediately prior to the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IMO Sub Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV57) in June 2011. This will provide an easily accessible venue for the many global shipping interests located in London, together with the delegates arriving for NAV57.

Confirmation from the IMO to use the IMO Headquarters is expected soon.