

# **SURFACE CURRENT WORKING GROUP (SCWG)**

## **Terms of Reference**

- Ref: 1) 4<sup>th</sup> HSSC Meeting (Taunton, UK, September 2012)  
2) 5<sup>th</sup> HSSC Meeting (Shanghai, China, November 2013)

### **1. Objective**

To develop standards for the delivery and presentation of navigationally significant surface current information.

### **2. Authority**

The Working Group (WG) is a subsidiary of the Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) and its work is subject to HSSC approval.

### **3. Procedures**

- a. The WG should:
  - (1) develop S-100 based product specifications for navigationally significant currents, including definitions and content, and display requirements with technical characteristics;
  - (2) advise IHO on matters concerning the exchange, distribution, display and use of navigationally significant current data;
  - (3) liaise with relevant IHO WG's to ensure technical feasibility and compatibility of relevant developed proposals.
- b. The WG should work primarily by correspondence, although face to face meetings at the project start, and thereafter may be convenient when held in conjunction with another convenient IHO forum.
- c. The WG should liaise with other international bodies as appropriate.

### **4. Composition and Chairmanship**

- a. The WG shall be comprised of representatives of IHO Member States (MS), Expert Contributors and accredited Non-Governmental International Organization (NGIO) Observers, all of whom have expressed their willingness to participate, and a representative of the IHB.
- b. Member States, Expert Contributors and accredited NGIO Observers may indicate their willingness to participate at any time. A membership list shall be maintained and confirmed annually.
- c. Expert Contributor membership is open to entities and organizations that can provide a relevant and constructive contribution to the work of the WG.
- d. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be a representative of a Member State. The election of the Chair and Vice-Chair should normally be decided at the first meeting following each ordinary session of the Conference (Conference to be replaced by Assembly when the revised IHO Convention enters force) and, in such case, shall be determined by vote of the Member States present and voting.
- e. Decisions should generally be made by consensus. If votes are required on issues or to endorse proposals presented to the WG, only MS may cast a vote. Votes shall be on the basis of one vote per MS represented. In the event that votes are required between meetings or in the absence of meetings, including for elections of the Chair and Vice-Chair, this shall be achieved through a

postal ballot of those MS on the current membership list.

- f. If a secretary is required it should normally be drawn from a member of the WG.
- g. If the Chair is unable to carry out the duties of the office, the Vice-Chair shall act as the Chair with the same powers and duties.
- h. Expert Contributors shall seek approval of membership from the Chair.
- i. Expert Contributor membership may be withdrawn in the event that a majority of the MS represented in the WG agree that an Expert Contributor's continued participation is irrelevant or unconstructive to the work of the WG.
- j. All members shall inform the Chair in advance of their intention to attend meetings of the WG.
- k. In the event that a large number of Expert Contributor members seek to attend a meeting, the Chair may restrict attendance by inviting Expert Contributors to act through one or more collective representatives.