

## Revision of the IHO S-44

(29 May 2007)

### Introduction

The revision of S-44 was initiated and the IHO S-44WG was established by the IHO CL 13/2005. BSHC Member states Finland, Germany, Russia and Sweden are members of the IHO S-44WG

The IHO S-44WG has had two meetings; in Monaco 28-30 August 2006 and in Antwerp 10 November 2006.

The NHC Member states Finland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden established a Nordic S-44WG to define Nordic opinions and proposals to this work. Mr. *Jukka Varonen* has chaired the WG. The Nordic S-44WG has had three meetings in 2006 – 2007 in order to discuss the Nordic opinions and proposals to the IHO S-44WG.

S-44 WG has worked towards a short and clear standard, independent on the survey equipment and survey methods. The requirements for the accuracy of surveys will remain comparable to the existing Edition 4. However the text of Ed.4 have been shortened by moving several part of text, which have a descriptive or explanatory nature, to an Annex and intended to be published later in the new edition of M-13.

The Nordic group has put much value on the significance of the full bottom search and the safety issue related to this. The Nordic opinion has been that the revised S-44 standard should reflect more the future needs for surveys.

At the moment of this report, the work schedule of the IHO S-44WG and the final results are still open. It is likely that at least one S-44WG meeting will be needed, perhaps during summer 2007, where the still open issues of Ed.5 should be fixed and finalised. The latest information will be given at the BSHC 12<sup>th</sup> Conference.

It is appreciated if the IHB representative will clarify at the meeting the future work and time schedule for the S-44WG.

### Actions required from the BSHC 12<sup>th</sup> Conference:

The BSHC 12<sup>th</sup> Conference is asked to take note on this report.

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