

**19<sup>th</sup> Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission  
Meeting  
25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2018  
Columbia  
The Co-operative Republic of Guyana National Report**

**Hydrographic Office/ Service:**

The Maritime Administration Department defined as MARAD was established as a legal entity on July 01, 1999 to administer the Guyana Shipping Act of 1998. This Act also amended other Maritime Legislation so that the administration of such Acts now falls under the ambit of the Maritime Administration Department of which the Hydrographic Office is a part of.

These are;

- The Passenger Act Ch.: 49:03
- The Transport and Harbours Act Ch. 49:05
- The Government Wharves Act, Ch. 49:05
- The Shipping Casualty( Investigation and Prevention) Act Ch.: 49:09
- The River Navigation Act Ch.: 50:01

**MARAD**, which is a regulatory agency for the implementation of SOLAS, became fully operational on January 01 2003 when the functions of the administration were separated from Transport and Harbours Department.

**MARAD** seeks to ensure that quality standards are applied for the effective management and safe and secure operations of ships and ports within the industry. The administration also endorses the ongoing enhancement of the Port Security, Maritime Safety and the development of a safety culture within the Maritime industry.

The primary objectives of the **MARAD** are the safety, security of vessels and the protection of the marine environment through the implementation of the relevant codes and conventions into local legislation.

Website: [www.marad.gov.gy.com](http://www.marad.gov.gy.com)

Email: [ports@marad.gov.gy](mailto:ports@marad.gov.gy)

**The Guyana Lands and Survey Commission (GLSC)** established under Chapter 59:05 Laws of Guyana on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2001. The Commission is a successor of the Lands and Surveys Department. The GLSC by virtue of function (b) mandates that the commission execute geodetic, topographic, hydrographic and cadastral surveys in relation to the land and water resources of Guyana. Function (c) also mandates that the commission publish maps and charts of Guyana or parts thereof.

Website: <https://glsc.gov.gy/>

### **Surveys:**

### **Coverage of New Surveys**

- Order 1A surveys were conducted at the approaches to the Demerara River ( the main port of Guyana - GEORGETOWN) through assistance from the first phase of the CME Project which is funded by the UK Government ( 0.1 percent of EEZ)

### **New Technologies and/Equipment**

- One (1) Valeport Current Meter
- One (1) Edge Tech Side Scan Sonar

### **New Ships**

- **M/T Aruka** was commissioned in November 2018 to be used as a platform for the conducting future surveys with multi beam equipment from the CME Project

## **Problems encountered**

- Lack of professionally trained and qualified staff in hydrography and nautical cartography
- Lack of training in data processing, Computer modeling and Quality control.
- Lack of training to create digital databases for use in a Geographic Information System.

## **New Charts & Updates:**

### **ENCs**

- NA

## **ENC Distribution Method**

- NA

### **RNCs**

- NA

## **INT Charts**

- NA

## **National Paper Charts**

- Three new Navigational charts are currently being compiled using the data that was recently acquired from the first phase of the CME Project

### **Other Charts, e.g. for pleasure craft**

- NA

### **Problems encountered**

- The lack of adequate training in the field of Nautical Cartography for personnel of the Hydrographic Office
- Lack of training in river and sea bed sampling.

### **New Publications & Updates:**

#### **New Publications**

- NA

#### **Updated Publications**

- Tide Tables and List of Lights are updated annually

#### **Means of Delivery, e.g. paper, digital**

- Paper booklet and digital format sent to UKHO periodically

#### **Problems encountered**

- Lack of training in Tidal Analysis so as to interpret the tidal data that was recorded by the hydrographic office for Coastal Zone

**Capacity Building**  
**Capacity Building**

**Offer of and/or demand for**

- Second phase of the CME Project is scheduled to concluded by the end of first quarter of 2019, which will provide assistance in the field of hydrography, nautical cartography training and new surveying equipment (Multi Beam)

**Training received, needed, offered**

**Received**

Maritime Safety Information Training  
(3 Days) in Brazil

**Needed**

- Cat A in Hydrography (Needed for next two years)
- Cat B in Hydrography (Needed over the next four years)
- Hydrographic Governance ( Needed)
- Marine/Nautical Cartography (Needed for next two years)
- Maritime Safety Information (Needed annually)
- Tidal Analysis( Needed)

**Status of National, Bilateral, Multilateral or Regional development projects with hydrographic component. (In progress, planned, under evaluation or Study)**

- Possible training to be offered by DHN (Brazil ) after agreement was signed for assistance in the field of hydrography and marine/ nautical cartography training

**Definition of Bids to IHOCBC**

- NA

**Oceanographic Activities**

**General**

**GEBCO/IBC's Activities**

**Tide Gauge Network**

- Three tide gauges are installed at the mouths of three (3) of Main Rivers of Guyana ( Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo)

**New Equipment**

- One (1) Valeport Current Meter
- One (1) EdgeTech Side Scan Sonar

## **Problems Encountered**

Need for a national consensus on the importance of Hydrography as it relates to the economic development of Guyana

## **Other Activities Groups**

### **Participation in IHO Working**

#### **Meteorological Data Collection**

- This is a function of the Hydro met Office, Ministry of Agriculture but the Hydrographic Office offers assistance in tidal data collection (current member of the NHCC)

#### **Geospatial Studies**

- This a function of the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission who is currently developing a National Spatial Data Infrastructure, of which MSDI is a critical component

#### **Disaster Prevention**

- This is a function of the Guyana Civil Defense Commission (**MARAD** hydrographic office is represented at workshops and provides assistance or guidance in cases of emergency) while GLSC has a representative on the Civil Commission Board.

## **Environmental Protection**

- This a function of the Environmental Protection Agency but MARAD has the responsibility for MARPOL

## **Astronomical Observations**

- NA

## **Magnetic/Gravity Surveys**

- NA

## **MSDI Progress**

A National Spatial Data Infrastructure Plan is currently being developed, of which MSDI is a critical component

## **IHO Memberships**

The Cooperative Republic of Guyana is currently in the process of making an application for membership to the IHO (Process is expected to be completed by second quarter 2019)

## **Total Tonnage**

One hundred and forty two thousand six hundred and twenty four decimal eight nine five **(142,624.895)** tons

## **Conclusions:**

While the some staff of the Hydrographic Office in Guyana has experience in hydrographic surveying, more should be done in terms of training which is urgently needed in the field of Hydrography, Marine/ Nautical Cartography, etc. This is to provide accurate and up to date hydrographic data, which will fulfill our SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 9 obligations. The following are some of the present needs of the Hydrographic Office;

- Hydrographic Governance/ Hydrographic Awareness
- Hydrography Training
- Nautical Cartography Training
- Maritime Safety Information Training **(MSI)**
- Maritime Spatial Data Infrastructure **(MSDI)**
- Hydrographic / Cartographic Database Management
- Technical Assistance
- Information Sharing Network
- Hydrographic Data Processing
- Digital Recording
- Sea/Riverbed sampling
- Lidar (Land Based ) application to hydrographic surveys