

FIRST WEND COMMITTEE HELD IN USA

The first meeting of the reconstituted WEND Committee, which restructured from IHO Special Committee on Worldwide Electronic Navigational Chart Data Base (WEND) in accordance with the Decision No.6 of the 14th IH Conference, was held in New Orleans, USA, from 8 to 10 March, chaired by Dr. P. Ehlers (Germany).

The meeting was attended by 39 delegates of 18 Member States, including China and Japan, members of the EAHC.

At the first half of the meeting, presented the reports on the progress of digitization of nautical charts and production of ENC by each country, and carried out following discussion:

Especially these actions were in progress in Northern Europe, Canada, Australia and Japan.

The United Kingdom has a policy to proceed the development of ENC, and also to proceed the production of Raster Charts precede ENC.

DMA intends to provide the data which is developed and produced for military use, edited by digital-format different from format-S-57, and several participants pointed out that DMA should be settled a problem on the copyright, concerned this matter.

And at the second half, discussed the matters on the duties of the regional ENC Coordinating Center, copyright and updating of ENC.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in Japan from 27 to 29 February 1996.

ENC SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN TOKYO

IN OCTOBER 1995

The East Asian Seminar on Electronic Navigational Chart (ENC) Technology is now being arranged by Hydrographic Department of Japan (JHD), to be held in Tokyo from 17 to 19 October 1995.

The purpose of the seminar is aimed at sharing views and information on the present status and technical aspects on ENC and its development as well as promoting mutual understanding and cooperation especially among those countries of the East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC).

JHD has planed to hold the seminar in three years series; one each in 1994, 95 and 96. The first seminar was held in December last year, and this seminar is scheduled as the second of the series.

For the second seminar, invitations have been sent to four countries, China, Indonesia, Korea and Singapore. Presentations and discussion will be made on the subjects concerning the international trend of ENC, present status and future scheme on ENC of each country as well as study tour will also be conducted.

The seminar is expected to contribute to early completion and future development on ENC of the East Asian Region.

JICA EXPERT IN OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA MANAGEMENT

The Government of Malaysia is now proceeding with establishment of the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC) in cooperation with the Hydrographic Directorate of the Royal Malaysian Navy and the University of Technology Malaysia. Oceanographic data are now being collected and retained by various government departments and agencies within their respective facilities in their own form. In order to increase their utilization of these data for the safety of navigation in the Malacca-Singapore Strait, development of ports and harbours as well as for further promoting researches and studies in oceanography, the Government of Malaysia made a request to Japan for dispatch an expert in

oceanographic data management under the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) scheme to support for the establishment of NODC, assist in the collection, processing, management of oceanographic data and these data base in conformity with the International Standards.

In response to the request, Mr. Yuko Yano, former Head, International Cooperation Office, Hydrographic Department of Japan was nominated and will be dispatched to the University of Technology Malaysia, in November 1995 as a JICA expert in Oceanographic Data Management.