

2ND GALOS CONFERENCE HELD IN BALI, INDONESIA

After success in the first Conference in June 1992, the Second GALOS (Geodetic Aspects of the Law of the Sea) Conference was held in Bali, Indonesia again from 1 to 4 July 1996. The Conference attended by a total number of 95 participants from 19 countries, including 55 participants of Indonesia; Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, Monaco, Norway, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Vietnam.

The Conference was sponsored by the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), and jointly organized by the Institute of Technology Bandung (ITB), National Coordinating Agency for Survey and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL) and the Indonesian Surveyors Association (ISI).

The Conference addressed aspects relating to the Law of the Sea, emphasizing on the geodetic aspects, in particular on the implementation and application aspects. This Conference

complies with the 1982 United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea and its implementation, and in general promoted international and regional cooperation, especially after UNCLOS-III globally effective by the law since 16 November 1994.

At the Conference, many reports related with determination on the marine boundary delimitation of territorial seas and continental shelves were presented by the representatives of each member state, including the report of First Admiral Nicolas P. E LLO, Chief Hydrographer of the Indonesian Naval Hydro-Oceanographic Service, titled "Basepoint Surveys for establishment of the Archipelagic Baseline of the Indonesian Archipelago".

The Conference adopted the following GALOS Resolutions:

- 1) Urges National Organisations to give full support to initiatives to derive the impact of accuracy of base point determinations on the accuracy of marine boundary delimitation;



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2) Notes with interest the project undertaken by the United States Government to create a Global High Resolution Geoid and welcomes the intention to give full circulation of the results to all interested;

3) Noting that the International Terrestrial Reference System (ITRS) is a system of coordinates maintained by the International Earth Rotation Service and approved for use by the International Association of Geodesy, recommends that coordinates relating to maritime baselines, boundaries and other positional features, should be submitted by coastal states to the relevant United Nations offices in terms of this system and its associated international terrestrial reference frames, while accepting that World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84) approximates to ITRS and is a practical geodetic datum suitable for

hydrographers, geophysicists, and navigators;

4) Recognising that the equipotential surface LAT (Lowest Astronomical Tide) represents an important lowest normal tidal level for hydrographers and marine navigators, recommends that in addition to the Geoid geodesists should pay attention to the precise computation of LAT; and

5) Urges the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) to give sympathetic consideration to any request from the International Hydrographic Organisation (IHO), to expand the joint IAG / IHO Advisory Board on Technical and Geodetic Aspects of the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) by inviting participants from other international scientific organisations (such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission-IOC).

3RD MEETING OF ABLOS HELD IN NEW ZEALAND



Participants of the Meeting

From left

Dr. Tadahiko Katsura, Japan
 Prof. Peter Vanicek, Canada
 Cdre. Neil Guy, South Africa
 Mr. Jack Weighman, U.K.
 Cdr. Peter Usher, New Zealand
 Mr. Adam Kerr, IHB
 Mr. Iain Lamont, New Zealand
 Lt./ Cdr. Chris Carleton, U.K.
 Prof. Chris Risoz, Australia
 Mr. Bjorn Harsson, Norway

The Third Meeting of Advisory Board of the Law of the Sea (ABLOS) was held in New Zealand on 8 and 9 July 1996, and a visit to Hydrographic Office of Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) was also conducted on 10 July.

The meeting was attended by 8 Full Members of the board, including Dr. Tadahiko Katsura, Head, Continental Shelf Surveys Office of JHD from the East Asian region, and from the Hydrographic Office of RNZN, Commander P. Usher, Hydrographer, and Mr. I. C. Lamont, Notices to Mariners Officer, a corresponding member of the board.

The subjects reported, considered and discussed on the first day included the following:

- Approval of Minutes of the Second Meeting,
- Geodetic Appendix to TALOS Manual,
- IOC/IHO Book on Continental Shelf,
- Action of press release on ABLOS,
- Report of GALOS Conference at Bali,
- Liaison and future planning with GALOS,
- Liaison with UN, DOALOS (Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea-UN), IOC,
- Report on organization of Eastern Caribbean States Meeting,
- Recommendations on vertical datums of IHO Tidal W/G,
- Contents of the Conference for Boundary Research to be held at Durham University,
- Future work programme.