

### *3<sup>rd</sup> Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (Monaco, 11-15 April 2005)*

The 3rd Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference started with deep sorrow for passing away of HSH Prince Rainier III, and closed with remarkable success by every effort of Member States.

The Conference was scheduled from Monday 11 to Friday 15. But for State Funeral of the Sovereign Prince took place on Friday 15, the Conference was completed by Thursday 14. The whole Monaco was in mourning for their Prince, and the Participants canceled receptions and other events

The 3rd EIHC was held at the Auditorium Rainier III with over 200 representatives from 61 Member States including EAHC Member States. Prof. Dr. Peter EHLERS (Germany) was confirmed as Conference President for his excellent knowledge and ability of meeting management. Captain Robert WARD (Australia) was elected as Vice-President.



3rd Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference, 11-14 April 2005

The purpose of the Conference was to discuss the SPWG Report, which includes consideration of the IHO vision, recommended structure of the IHO, and amendments for the current IHO convention. The EAHC had made a major and substantial contribution toward the SPWG work. The representation of the EAHC Member States, from the Republic of Korea as the Chairman of the EAHC, took part in SPWG meetings and expressed their opinion. The EAHC Member States (Singapore and Japan) also convened SPWG meeting. Above all, Dr. Hideo NISHIDA, former Chief Hydrographer of Japan, Special Assistant for the Minister of the International Affairs of Japan, was as Vice-Chair of the SPWG and made a quite major contribution for discuss of the SPWG. He is an excellent Asian Hydrographer who can speak on behalf of Asia in the globalizing IHO.



From the Left,  
 Rear Admiral SUDJATMIKO (Republic of Indonesia )  
 Captain Rusdi Ridwan, Dipi.Cat. (Republic of Indonesia )  
 Mr. Parry OEI (Republic of Singapore)  
 Dr. Hideo NISHIDA (Japan)

EAHC Member States also paid outstanding effort for discuss of the Conference. Most of comments in the Red Book Member States had submitted before the Conference, were of Japan. Most of the participants of the EAHC Member States, especially Mr. NG form China, Dr. NISHIDA from Japan, Mr. KWAK form Republic of Korea, Mr. OEI from Singapore expressed their comments at the meeting. China, Republic of Korea, and Singapore submitted substantial proposals. Japan participated in the Editing Group which assist the Conference President.

The "Protocol of Amendments to the IHO Convention" was approved owing to these efforts. Every Member States of the IHO is requested to ratify it as soon as possible.

New Terms of References for the SPWG was approved in the EIHC. The EIHC requested the SPWG to finalize the Basic Documents based on the decisions of the EIHC, prepare an implementation plan, and consider the definition of "Hydrographic interests." Dr. NISHIDA was also appointed as Vice-Chair. Every EAHC Member States is expected to make more effort for the SPWG phase-2.

Reported by Mr. Shigeru NAKABAYASHI (JAPAN)