

The 9th East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC) Conference

*Republic of Korea, Jeju
19-22 September 2006*

The 9th East Asia Hydrographic Commission (EAHC) Conference was held September 19-22, on Jeju, Republic of Korea by the National Oceanographic Research Institute, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries as a host. The 9th Conference was attended by Chief Hydrographers and representatives from People's Republic of China, Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore and Kingdom of Thailand. Additionally, observers from the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), United Kingdom, United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam attended the Conference. Many of significant issues were considered in the Conference.



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The main issues to be discussed

- ToR of a new ENC Task Group
- Joint hydrographic survey in the South China Sea region
- Establishment of Capacity Building Committee in EAHC
- New membership
- Revision of the EAHC Statutes

Before the Conference, ENC Harmonisation Task Group (TG) meeting was held in the same place on Jeju to finalize its works. Mr. Parry Oei, Leader of ENC Harmonisation Task Group, presented the result of TG's activities and 4 recommendations on the harmonisation of datasets and consistency in the display of the ENC data covering various usage bands. 5 resolutions were also adopted in the Conference, "Harmonisation

of ENC”, “ENC Task Group and its Terms of Reference”, “Assessment of critical shoals and wrecks along the main shipping routes in the SCS”, “Establishment of an EAHC Capacity Building Committee”, “Maintenance of IHO S-55 (Status of hydrographic surveying and nautical charting worldwide)”.

After this Conference held by Korea as a chair country, Singapore will act as a new chair and Thailand, as a vice-chair of the EAHC.

Reported by Mr. Su-Ho LEE(Korea)