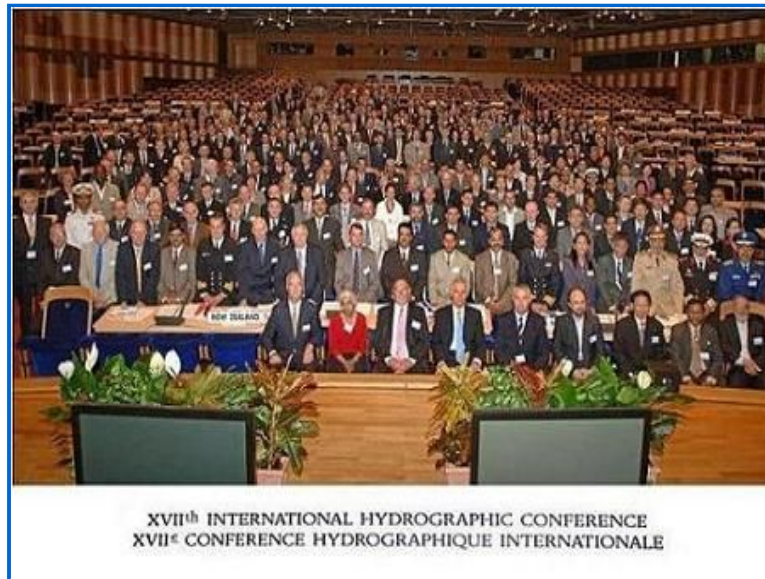


Japanese proposal adopted at the XVII IHC



photo_1:Group photo of the XVII IHC

photo_2:HSH Prince Arbert II of Monaco visited the Japan chart exhibition with Dr. Kato, Chief Hydrographer of Japan

The proposal by Japan, Germany and South Africa was adopted at the XVII IHC held in Monaco from 7-11 May. In accordance with the proposal, decision No.20, the IHC concluded Member States should adhere and comply with the WEND Principles in order for the IHO, through its Member States, and the regional and worldwide bodies in which they come together, to achieve adequate coverage, availability, consistency and quality of ENC's by 2010.

The background of the proposal is that MSC/IMO is under review for mandatory carriage requirements of ECDIS from MSC 81, May, 2006. The three hydrographic offices supposed that the IHO, as the competent international organization for hydrography, has to express their clear intention of ENC publication to all ECDIS users before 2010, proposed deadline for mandatory carriage requirements, for only

government hydrographic offices have the responsibility of publication of ENC, the official content of ECDIS.

Another proposal from Nordic states was also submitted, which supports the efforts by the IMO to introduce mandatory carriage requirements for ECDIS. The combination of these two proposals makes the intention of ENC publication much clearer.

When the WEND Principle is read that the RHC should play an important role to ensure a world-wide official ENC's, the EAHC as responsible RHC for East Asia, is supposed to make even greater efforts throughout the cooperation and coordination of EAHC member states in order to cover the region with consistent and high quality ENC and to make that ENC available to every user.



photo_3-5: A party hosted by Mr. Oei, the EAHC Chair with Dr. Kato demonstrating how to make and eat Sushi

Reported by S. NAKABAYASHI(Japan)