

1ST IHO-HSSC MEETING

Singapore, 22ND to 24TH October 2009



Introduction

The 1st Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC), was held in Singapore, from 22nd to 24th October 2009. The Chair of HSSC, Capt Vaughan Nail, United Kingdom opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates. A total of 64 participants from 28 countries and 10 observers from several Non-Governmental Organisations, namely CIRM, CNITA, IC-ENC, IALA, IEHG, IMPA, RTCA, RTCM and UN (DOALOS) attended this meeting. Capt Robert Ward and Ing en Chef Michel Huet from the International Hydrographic Bureau were the Secretariat.

Main Outcomes

The main outcomes of this inaugural meeting were :

- a) The final text of the S-100 (Universal Hydrographic Data Model) was approved and would be submitted to the IHO Member States to enter into force in January 2010.
- b) The continuity of the S-101 Edition, which is expected to enter into force in 2012.
- c) The approval of the revision of the IHO Publication S-11, Part B (INT Chart Catalogue).
- d) Revision of Publication S-52 (Specifications for Chart Content and Display Aspects of ECDIS, which included the deletion the Annex related to ENC updating. A new publication exclusively dedicated to ENC Updating was approved by the HSSC.

- e) The approval of the final draft of the new publication “Spatial data Infrastructures “The Marine Dimension” – Guidance for Hydrographic Offices”.
- f) Amendment to IHO Resolution A1.21 “Principles and Procedures for making Changes to IHO Technical Standards and Specifications”.
- g) The study for the establishment of a hydrographic data standard was approved.

Concluding Remarks

Recognising that ECDIS constituted one of the greatest changes in navigational history since the radar, Hydrographic Offices must be prepared for the increase in demand of digital services and products.

With the implementation of the new ENC specifications S-100 and S-101, Hydrographic Offices must be prepared for the change by adopting new technologies and upgrading of personnel through training.

The next meeting would be held in Germany on 28-30 October 2010.

Reported by: Singapore.