

EAHC TECHNICAL VISIT TO TIMOR-LESTE

Dili, 6 Dec 16. To further enhance the technical cooperation in the region and encourage non-Member States to become part of the organization, a Technical Visit was carried out at Falintil Forca Defesa De Timor-Leste (Timor-Leste Defence Force Headquarters), Dili, Timor-Leste. This program was approved by IHO as part of the 2016 Capacity Building Work Program.



Group Photo - EAHC Delegations with Timor-Leste Delegations

The Technical Visit was led by Malaysia, FAdm Hanafiah bin Hassan who represented EAHC Chairman along with Indonesia Chief Hydrographer - FAdm Harjo Susmaro and Singapore Chief Hydrographer - Dr Parry Oei. Other participants were Captain Dyan Primana Sobarudin - Indonesia, PUSHIDROSAL Charting Director, Commander Azrul Nezam bin Asri RMN - NHC Head of Cartography and Lt Cdr Ahmad Shahrin bin Abu Zarin RMN - NHC Staff Officer.

Timor-Leste delegations were headed by Honourable Major General Lere Anan Timur, Chefe do Estado (Timor-Leste Chief of Defence Force) and accompanied by senior government officials from various department.

The purpose of the visit was to introduce the activities of IHO and EAHC as well as the benefits that could be derived from being a member state of these two international bodies. EAHC believes that the capabilities and expertise in hydrographic surveying and charting, including the provision of up-to-date and quality hydrographic and charting information, should be further enhanced for the safety of marine navigation in Timor-Leste and in the region.



FAdm Hanafiah bin Hassan (MALAYSIA) as Representative of EAHC Chairman delivered his speech to all delegations

During his speech, FAdm Hanafiah bin Hassan hoped that all delegates presented here would take advantages of the technical visit. He believed that everyone including government agencies, corporate entities or governing bodies, has a role to play in ensuring safe navigation and the protection of marine resources in Timor-Leste. FAdm Hanafiah also hoped that such meeting and visit continue to pave the way, to facilitate achieving IHO and EAHC objectives. He also hoped that Timor-Leste Government would consider in joining IHO & EAHC member in near future. During the occasion, FAdm Hanafiah has officially invited Timor-Leste to join the 2017 EAHC Steering Committee (SC) meeting in Japan.



EAHC Delegations with Naval Component Commander and Maritime Police Commander listening to the presentation



FAdm Hanafiah Hassan (Malaysia) and EAHC delegations responding to the questions from Timor Leste delegations



EAHC Delegations presenting the role of IHO & EAHC



EAHC Delegations with Tais Timor (From Left) - Lt Cdr Shahrin RMN (MALAYSIA), Dr. Parry Oei (SINGAPORE), FAdm Hanafiah Hassan (MALAYSIA), FAdm Harjo Susmaro (INDONESIA), Captain Dyan (INDONESIA) and Cdr Azrul Nezam (MALAYSIA).

Visit to the Port of Dili

To further enhance the technical cooperation in the region and to emphasize the importance of safety of navigation a port, EAHC Technical Visit delegations was carried out a visit to Port of Dili on 7 Dec 16. The purpose of the visit was to introduce the importance of hydrography in port and to introduce the activities of IHO and EAHC as well as the benefits that could be derived from being a member state of these two international bodies. EAHC believes that the capabilities and expertise in hydrographic surveying and charting, including the provision of up-to-date and quality hydrographic and charting information, should be further enhanced for the safety of marine navigation in Timor-Leste waters especially Dili Port as the main port.

During the visit, Dili Port President has welcomed the EAHC Delegations. During the discussions, Dili Port President has expressed his desire to join the IHO and EAHC in the future. He also expressed the wish that EAHC can provide appropriate assistance in doing the hydrographic survey and nautical charts productions for Timor-Leste waters, especially in Dili Port. This is because Timor-Leste still does not have their own nautical charts and still use nautical charts produced by Australia. As the International and main port in Timor-Leste, it is very important to have periodic Bathymetric Survey and up to date nautical charts to ensure the safety of navigation for all inbound and outbound ships.

Dili port located in the center of Dili town. The ports along the 280-meter wharf capable of receiving three vessels at one time and capable of catering ships draft up to 10 meters. Other than Dili Port, Timor-Leste has another two small port which is Hera Fishing Port and Sevivara Point. In 2018, another major port is expected to be completed in Tibar Bay. The new port is expected to have 630-meter wharf and able to handle 350,000 Twenty-Foot-Equivalent Units (TEUs) per year.

During the visit, FAdm Hanafiah has officially invited Dili Port President to join the 2017 EAHC Steering Committee (SC) meeting in Japan. He also hopes that Dili Port would take advantages of the technical visit and get some ideas to improve the safety of navigation in Dili Port waters. He believed that the responsibility for ensuring the safety of navigation is not lies on government agencies only but lies to everyone including corporate entities or governing bodies.



Discussion session between Dili Port President, EAHC Delegations and Timor-Leste Delegations



FAdm Hanafiah Hassan (MALAYSIA) as Head of Delegations explained about IHO and EAHC role to Port of Dili President



EAHC and Timor-Leste Delegations listening to briefing by Dili Port President



FAdm Hanafiah Hassan (MALAYSIA) presented memento to
Dr. Constantino F. Soares, Port of Dili President

Article/Picture: Lt Cdr Ahmad Shahrin RMN - National Hydrographic Centre of
Malaysia