

THE COOPERATION BETWEEN IHO AND IMO

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In 1998, the International Maritime Organization will celebrate its 50th anniversary. The IHO wants to commemorate this event with the publication of this article about the cooperation between both Organizations. This article will replace our habitual section "**50 years ago**"

1) BACKGROUND

Cooperation between IHO and IMO existed since the creation of the latter, under the name of IMCO, in 1948. To emphasize the importance of this cooperation, an Agreement of Cooperation was signed by both organizations in 1983. The principal terms of this agreement were as follows:

***"UNDERSTANDING IN RESPECT OF CO-OPERATION BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO) AND
THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION (IHO)***

With a view to co-operating with each other in the provision of technical assistance to developing countries in the field of hydrography and related aspects within the scope of their competence and areas of activity as provided for in their respective conventions, IMO and IHO agree as follows:

1. *Upon request by IMO, IHO will provide any or all of the following services in respect of technical co-operation projects related to the field of hydrography, which are being undertaken or executed by IMO:*

- a) *advice to countries in establishing or strengthening their hydrographic facilities;*
- b) *assistance in the location of appropriate experts to assist countries to assess existing facilities and requirements and advice on measures to establish or improve hydrographic and cartographic facilities including the identification of the most appropriate national structure;*

- c) *assistance in obtaining training facilities or opportunities at appropriate hydrographic training institutions for hydrographic surveying and nautical cartography;*
- d) *assistance in the development of arrangements of co-operation and assistance between countries with well established Hydrographic Offices and those desiring to establish or improve their hydrographic capabilities.*

2. *The costs of services provided by IHO under this Agreement shall be charged to the funds made available to IMO in respect of the projects or programmes carried out.*

3. *IMO undertakes to promote through its advisory services the establishment or strengthening of hydrographic infrastructures in developing countries.*

4. *In order to facilitate effective co-ordination in the provision of assistance in hydrographic matters, IMO and IHO will exchange information on requests for assistance and, as appropriate, programmes and project plans in respect of such requests.*

London, 3 February 1983

Signed by IMO Secretary General
C.P. SRIVASTAVA

IHB President Directing Committee
Radm. F.L. FRASER"

2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN COOPERATION WITH IMO

Since 1983, the following joint projects, all of them related to Technical Assistance, have been developed in cooperation with IMO :

1984

World Maritime University

At the request of the Secretary-General of IMO, a training syllabus was prepared for a Port Hydrographic Surveyor' course, with a view to introducing this course at the World Maritime University at Malmö, Sweden. The course was never implemented and, at this stage, having the hydrographic courses well set up at IMA Trieste, it is felt that this subject does not require further action.

1985

Gabon

Visited in March by the President of the Directing Committee as a result of cooperation between IMO and the Ministry of Merchant Marine.

1986Eastern Caribbean States

During the 25th Session of the IMO Committee on Technical Cooperation, it was discussed the possible provision of technical assistance to the Eastern Caribbean States in the field of hydrography. A project was drafted and a visit to eight island States (Santa Lucia, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Dominica, Antigua, Saint Christopher and Nevis, Montserrat and the British Virgin Islands) was carried out by a Professional Assistant of the IHB in May 1986.

1987IMO/IHO Seminar/Workshop on Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting, Bangkok, Thailand

This jointly sponsored two-week Seminar was hosted by the Chulalongkorn University and attended by 31 participants from 16 developing countries.

Technical Visit with IMO Delegation to Central American States

Following a Resolution passed by the IMO General Assembly in November 1987, a group of experts (among which an IHB director) visited five Central American States to make a preliminar assessment of the regional and national overall maritime potential and requirements. The countries visited were: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

1991International Maritime Academy, Trieste (Italy)

A meeting was held at the Italian Hydrographic Institute with representatives of IMO, IHB and the Italian H.O. to start planning the Model Course in Hydrography, to be held at IMA, Trieste. The first course was scheduled from 4 March to 2 August.

Thanks to the funding of the Italian Government, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Courses were implemented in 1992, 1995, 1996 and 1997 respectively. The 6th started in February 1998. Eighty hydrographers coming from 35 countries have been trained up to now at the expense of the Italian Government and the European Union. The trainees are then employed in their national Hydrographic Services and some of them have been appointed as Heads of the Service.

The IHB drafted the entire syllabus of the Course in Hydrography at present implemented by IMA, Trieste. IHO Member States provide lecturers and practical training to the students on board their survey vessels.

The table below gives the number of nations and students who have attended the 6th courses organized to date.

<u>Country</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Students</u>
Albania	6	India	3	Sri-Lanka	2
Algeria	5	Iran	2	Sudan	1
Bahrain	2	Italy	2	Syria	3
Bulgaria	1	Madagascar	1	Tanzania	1
Cameroon	1	Malaysia	3	Thailand	3
Chile	1	Morocco	3	Trinidad & Tobago	2
China	7	Mozambique	2	Tunisia	4
Croatia	1	Nigeria	3	Turkey	1
Cuba	2	Oman	1	Ukraine	2
Cyprus	2	Pakistan	2	Uruguay	3
Ecuador	1	Panama	1	Vietnam	3
El Salvador	1	Peru	2	Yugoslavia	2
Estonia	1	Philippines	5	Yemen	1
Ghana	2	Poland	1		
Iceland	1	Slovenia	1		

1992

IMO Mapping of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas

Following IMO's decision to identify Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, the Bureau attended meetings in January 1992 to explore the need to harmonize the use of maps and charts of such areas. It was agreed that IMO should cooperate with other organizations, including the IHO, in drawing up guidelines for such maps and charts.

1995

Maputo Conference

Inspired by an idea of the South African H.O. a "Conference on Regional Cooperation in Hydrography, Aids to Navigation and other Services for the Safety of Navigation in Southern Africa" was held in Maputo, Mozambique, April 1995. The main objective of this Conference was to improve coordination, cooperation and development in the fields of Hydrography, MSI Dissemination, Aids to Navigation services, and Search and Rescue. Several actions in favour of the Southern Africa countries were initiated.

1996

During IMO TCC 43 a meeting with the Director of the Maritime Safety Division was held in view of IHO participation in the development of a maritime safety service covering Tanzanian and Kenyan waters, including Lake Victoria. This was followed up by the project below :

Visit to Kenya and Tanzania by the Study Team formed at the Maputo Conference (12 to 17 May)

The Study Team was formed as a result of the recommendations approved at the Maputo Conference (June 1995) and as a result of the Ad Hoc Regional Cooperation Group on Safety of Navigation for Southern Africa. The Study Team is composed by representatives of IHO, IALA, IMO and IAPH. IMO was not able to provide a participant but asked to be represented by IALA and IHB delegates. The programme of the visits included Angola, Madagascar, Kenya and Tanzania.

2nd Meeting of the Southern African and Ad Hoc Regional Cooperation Group on Safety of Navigation and Marine Environment Protection (SAGNEP). (29-30 August)

IALA and IHB representatives attended the meeting on behalf the Study Team above mentioned. Among other decisions, it was decided to arrange a visit of the Study Team to Angola (with the participation of the Portuguese H.O.) And Madagascar (with participation of the French H.O.). These visits were to be coordinated by IMO and completed by June 1997, but have still to be carried out. It as also decided that IMO would be urged to coordinate with SAGNEP study visits in the region.

1997

Seminar on Safety of Navigation on Lake Victoria - Mwanza (Tanzania) 5-7 March and visits to Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania

Following the maritime accident to the ferry BUKOBA which sunk in Lake Victoria in May 1996, the IMO requested the IHB and the IALA to participate, jointly with IMO, to a Seminar on Safety of Navigation on that Lake. The Seminar had to address various themes affecting the safety of navigation and eventually draft a plan, together with the concerned national maritime authorities, for enhancing the related services. In view of the seminar, IMO organized visits to the departments of transport of the 3 mentioned countries. The visits took place before the seminar. The result of the seminar was a plan to improve communications and Search & Rescue capabilities to carry out new hydrographic surveys, to establish appropriate aids to navigation and to publish a series of nautical charts. Nations bordering the lake (Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania) had to adopt these plans and ask for help for their implementation.

3) PARTICIPATION OF THE IHO IN OTHER IMO PROJECTS/ACTIONS

Amendment to SOLAS V

IMO Maritime Safety Committee MSC 60 instructed its Subcommittee on Safety to Navigation NAV to review and revise SOLAS V.

Proposals from Germany and Norway to re-draft the complete Chapter V were received and considered in the meetings of the above Subcommittee.

Since then, the IHO has actively participated in the draft amendments relevant to hydrography, especially in the new Regulations 2, 9, 20 and 25. Work on this matter will continue until completion of the task.

Performance Standards for ECDIS and other ECDIS-related matters

The IMO Subcommittee NAV decided at its 39th meeting to retain "Electronic Chart Display and Information System" as a continuous item to allow the S.C. to keep abreast of ECDIS matters during implementation of the relevant draft performance standards

Germany, Canada, Norway and USA submitted proposal to the 63th meeting of the Maritime Safety Committee, which approved a Draft Assembly Resolution on "Performance Standards for ECDIS". This document was finally approved in 1995 by the IMO 19th Assembly.

Work on ECDIS matters continues to be carried out jointly by IHO and IMO, mainly through the HGE Party.

IHO/IMO Harmonization Group on ECDIS (HGE)

After the approval of the "Performance Standards for ECDIS" at Assembly 19, the HGE was tasked to develop recommendations for ECDIS backup solutions, Performance Standards for Raster Charts (RCDS) and guidelines for Electronic Chart Systems (ECS). In 1997, NAV 43 ratified the new Terms of Reference for this joint W.G. and referred both the RCDS and ECS matters back to the W.G. for further investigation and re-submission to NAV 44. Consensus will have to be achieved within HGE for this to be possible.

Routeing (Archipelagic Sea Lanes)

Adoption of Sea Lanes in Archipelagic Waters

The IMO Subcommittee NAV 43 (1997) prepared and approved amendments to the general Provisions on Ships' Routeing. Further work will be carried out by the Ships' Routeing Working Group during MSC 69.

Representation on Charts

Figure for Archipelagic Sea Lanes are being developed by the IHO Chart Standardization Committee and will be presented to the 69th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee. Legends, symbols and notes for representation of details on nautical charts are then to be developed in a co-operation IMO-IHO.

Maritime Safety Information

The IHO actively collaborates in matters pertaining to MSI mainly through its Commission on Promulgation of Radio Navigational Warnings (CPRNW), which plays an important role in the implementation of the GMDSS. The IHB has published the IHO/IMO World Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS) Guidance Document and the Manual on Maritime Safety Information as Special Publication S-53 and Appendix respectively.

4) OTHER RELEVANT TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS AND VISITS CARRIED OUT BY THE IHB

This report has listed the major common projects carried out in cooperation with IMO. However, due to the emphasis that the cooperation with IMO has on Technical Assistance to developing countries, the following complementary information is given about projects in this field that the IHB has carried out by itself or in cooperation with other organizations.

1983

Visits to Papua New Guinea and United Arab Emirates

Papua New Guinea was visited twice, in 1982 and 1983, by an IHB Professional Assistant. This country became an IHO Member in 1984.

An IHB Director visited the United Arab Emirates in 1983, following the invitation from this country to pay a visit to provide the necessary advice on the establishment of a national hydrographic infrastructure. The IHB prepared a report and took direct action to select and nominate a technical adviser, from the IHO Member States, as the report recommended. The UAE joined the IHO in 1992.

1984

Visits to Cyprus, Kenya, Tanzania and Sri Lanka

Cyprus was visited by an IHB Professional Assistant in 1984. A report on the status of hydrography including recommendations was written. Cyprus became an IHO member in 1991.

Kenya and Tanzania were visited by the same Professional Assistant, during a combined visit to the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing in Nairobi. This organization was the initial instigator of the request for assistance.

These visits had a follow-up in 1990, with the visit of another IHB Professional Assistant, and finally by an IHB Director in 1996 and 1997, as indicated in the preceding section.

In May 1984 the President of the IHB Directing Committee paid a visit to Sri Lanka, which had joined the IHO in 1983. A report was written and a Project Document prepared for the newly formed National Hydrographic Office of Sri Lanka

1985

Visits to Oman and Somalia

The former was visited by the President of the Directing Committee in February. Following the report and draft Project Document for the General Administration for Supervision of Maritime and Ports Affairs, the country joined the IHO two years later, in 1987.

A Professional Assistant visited Somalia in May 1985, at the request of the Ministry of Marine Transport and Ports. A project was proposed to enable the students of the Nautical Schools and Technical College to gain some insight into practical hydrographic surveying.

1986

Visit to Algeria

A Director visited this country in December, to the already established Hydrographic Service. Conversations about the membership of Algeria were held. The country joined the IHO in 1996.

1987

Visit to Mozambique

At the request of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the President of the Directing Committee visited Maputo for a week in November. The Norwegian hydrographer accompanied him during the visit.

1988

Establishment of the FIG/IHO Technical Assistance and Cooperation Coordinating Committee (TACC)

IHO Member States approved the creation of this Working Group and action was taken to hold a first meeting in early 1989.

1989

Formation of TACC

This was finally set up and the Committee held its first meeting in August.

1990Visit to Tonga

A Professional Assistant visited this country in March and a Project Document was submitted to UNDP for financial assistance with the aim of procuring essential survey equipment. Tonga became an IHO member in 1995.

Visit to Seychelles

The same Professional Assistant paid a technical assistance visit to this country in April. The government of Seychelles subsequently informed of the creation of a National Hydrographic Committee as a first step towards strengthening the existing hydrographic infrastructure.

Visit to Pakistan

This country was visited by the Professional Assistant in April. A report aimed at enhancing the hydrographic capabilities of the H.O. was written.

Visit to Tanzania and Kenya

As a follow-up of the visits previously paid in 1984, these countries were visited by the Professional Assistant in September.

Visit to Malawi

Also visited by the same Professional Assistant in September.

Visit to the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

The above mentioned Professional Assistant visited the above Organization also in September to present an agreed Project Formulation Framework for the Centre.

Project Formulation Framework for Cape Verde

This was drafted by the IHB and the HO of Portugal with a view to enhancing the hydrographic capabilities of this country.

1991South China Sea Project

The Bureau followed up the Resolution made at the 12th UN regional cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific and its discussions with ESCAP officials in looking for ways to promote the South China Sea Project. The IHB made a study on the traffic flow and accident occurred in the area.

At present, UKHO has entered into a contract to collate data from oil companies which have surveyed the area.

1994ESCWA Expert Group Meeting on Hydrographic Surveying & nautical Charting

A Director and a Professional Assistant participated to this workshop held in Amman and Aqaba (Jordan) in May. It was jointly prepared and organized by ESCWA, the IHB, the Royal Jordan Geographic Centre and the Port of Aqaba.

1995Visits to Benin, Mauritania and Ukraine

Visits were paid by an IHB Director to these countries in March, April and December to initiate the development of projects aimed at enhancing their hydrographic capabilities.

Visit to Ireland

An IHB Director visited the Irish Marine Data Centre, the Naval Service and the Lighthouse Authority in February; the visit generated a proposal for the creation of a proper Irish Hydrographic Service, which still does not exist.

1996South China Project

The IHB undertook, in cooperation with the UKHO, the compilation of information on the status of surveys and charting in the region. The project has not yet been completed.
(See above)

Visits to Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire

An IHB Director visited these countries in January and August to assess the situation of hydrography and to finalize project documents to be submitted to the European Union Commission for funding under the Lomé Convention.

MEDA

The IHB participated in the development of a framework for projects to be financed by the EC under the MEDA programme. Over a period of 3 years, the EC will provide 700,000 ECU per year for countries bordering the Mediterranean for projects related to hydrography and cartography.

1997Visit to Guinea Bissau (28 May - 1 June)

At the request of the Director of Marine and Ports of Guinea Bissau, an IHB Director visited this country, together with a representative of the Portuguese HO to discuss technical cooperation.

Joint visit HYCOOP/IHB to Guatemala, Costa Rica and Belize

In August 1997, the IHB and the Naval Oceanographic Office of the USA (NAVOCEANO) organized a joint trip to the above countries in order to advise the relevant authorities on the importance of Hydrography and Hydrographic Services. An IHB Director took part in the Team.

Visit to Slovenia

In October 1997, the President of the Directing Committee visited this country, being received by the Ministry of Transports, who is in charge of Hydrography.

Future projects

Following the amended text of SOLAS V recognizing the need for coastal States to establish Hydrographic Services, the Bureau plans now to focus its effort in technical assistance on giving advice to maritime countries of some specific areas (Central and South America and Caribbean, the Red Sea, South East Asia etc..) about the creation of new Hydrographic Offices, paying special attention to countries which have applied for IHO membership, to develop an adequate follow-up to some projects already commenced in the past and to enhance the hydrographic capabilities of some already established Hydrographic Offices.

NOTE The countries which have been identified as requiring the most urgent attention are as follows :

North, Central and South America : Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Belize, Panama, El Salvador, Bolivia, Suriname.
Asia : Myanmar (Burma), Bangladesh, VietNam, Republic of Korea.
Middle East : Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar, Kuwait, Iran, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
Mediterranean : Albania, Yugoslavia, Lebanon, Syria, Israel, Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Lybia, Algeria.
Europe : Republic of Ireland
Black Sea : Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine, Georgia.
Africa : Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mozambique, Angola, Gabon, Cameroon, Senegal, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, Eritrea, Somalia
Caribbean Sea : Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Trinidad & Tobago, Cuba.
Oceania : Papua New Guinea.