

Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission (MACHC)
9th Meeting, Niterói, Brazil, October 9th – 10th, 2008

Report of ISPWG maters

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Reference: Action List number 1 of the 8th Meeting held in Niterói, Brazil, in 2008.

1. Introduction

MACHC participants decided to nominate the Cuban Delegation as the MACHC representative at ISPWG, with the task of presenting a proposal on its Terms Of Reference to the Commission.

2. Developed work

On Nov 08th, 2007, the OFICINA NACIONAL DE HIDROGRAFIA Y GEODESIA of Cuba (ONHG), in accordance with IHB CL 52/2007, sent an e-mail to all MACHC representatives presenting the following proposal for Terms of Reference:

- 1) To represent the interests of the MACHC in the revision of existent Strategic Plan of the IHO, keeping in mind the new Vision and Mission and the new Objectives of the IHO;
- 2) To distribute to MACHC Full Members States the requested actions, and the partial and final draft reports made by the ISPWG Chair Group, asking then their possible comments. He will encourage maximum participation working by correspondence;
- 3) To send to the ISPWG Chair Group the joint comments made by MACHC Full Members; and
- 4) To present the draft IHO Strategic Plan and the related recommendation associated to MACHC Full Members States, no later than 30 days after its distribution by the ISPWG Chair Group.

The work of the WG began on Aug 08th, 2007, by e-mail. The Chairman sent the first documents with the Work Plan and References to the WG Members.

For each step, the MACHC representative forwarded the distributed papers to MACHC Persons of Contact (PoC) asking their comments on them. Once the comments had been received, they were forwarded to the ISPWG Chair Group.

The sequence of work until the 1st face to face meeting was:

- Review of the Preamble section;
- Review of the Strategic Assumptions;
- Review of the Strategic Directions;
- Review of ways and means.

On Sep 1st, 2008, face to face meeting was held in Tokyo, in conjunction with the 11th WEND meeting. The MACHC representative at this meeting was Capt. (Brazil) Wesley Cavalheiro, as requested by the ONHG. The main discussed subjects at this meeting were:

- The review of the definition of "hydrography";
- A methodology to adopt risk management;
- A methodology to adopt performance indicators;
- The review of the texts ready items;
- The structure of the Report to the 4th Extraordinary International Hydrographic Conference (EIHG); and
- The review of the work plan based on the previous decisions.

In principle, it will not be necessary to hold a 2nd face to face meeting, once the remaining work, listed below, can be done by correspondence (e-mail):

- Review of Risk Management;
- Review of Performance Indicators;
- Draft Report;
- Report.

The work should not be finalized later December 2008. MACHC Members States will receive the final Report through a Conference Circular Letter.

3. Conclusions and Recommended Actions

The reached results on Strategic Assumptions, Strategic Directions, and Ways and Means, constitute parameters of reference for a possible MACHC activities plan.

The discussed items regarding Risk Management and Performance indicators constitute MACHC reference in order to contribute and accomplish the IHO objectives and goals.

MACHC is invited to take note of this Report and produce a Work Plan aligned with the IHO Strategic Plan and Work Program.

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