

4TH EAHC ENC TASK GROUP MEETING HONG KONG , CHINA 17TH to 19TH MARCH 2010

- The 4th EAHC ENC Task Group Meeting was held in Hong Kong, China from 17th to 19th March 2010. Dr Parry Oei, Chair of the Task Group welcomed all delegates from China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Thailand and Singapore. Malaysia was unable to be connected through out the meeting via the internet due to weak signal.



- In the EAHC Coordinating Meeting in Bangkok in January 2010, the Commission agreed to take a 2-track approach to produce Band 1 and 2 ENCs for the Region. It was recognised that some MSs already have produced small scale ENCs and would encouraged that all MSs work together to produce a harmonised set of small scale ENCs.
- Considerable amount of coordination work was expected and there were three possible models to carry out the work of the East Asia ENCs through :-
 - a) A model similar to the SCS ENCs where an Administrator would be appointed to administer the production and updating the ENCs.

- b) An Administrator could be appointed on a rotation basis and this position would be held for a fixed period and could be, if necessary, the Chair of the EAHC.
 - c) MSs to update their respective ENC's by promulgating eNTMs directly in the EAHC website.
- The Meeting supported the need for a Coordinator to manage the East Asia ENC overlapping and harmonisation work.
 - The Meeting discussed the ENC overlapping situation in the Region and agreed with the following approach for Band 1 ENC production :-
 - a) To first define the outer limits of the Band 1 ENC's
 - b) To sub divide the area into smaller areas based on MSs' waters.
 - c) To assign responsibility to MSs for the respective sub divided areas.
 - d) To assign a Coordinator to manage the various ENC's. The position of the Administrator could be decided at a later date after the completion of the ENC production.
 - e) MSs to submit their sub divided ENC's to the Coordinator for mosaicing and harmonisation.
 - f) If there were any disputes on the coverage of the sub divided areas, MSs should address the issue through bilateral discussions.



- The Meeting agreed to adopt the provisional East Asia ENC Guidelines and the TG would submit the Guidelines to the EAHC for information.
- For the East Asia ENC, the Meeting agreed to adopt the SCS ENC updating mechanism model.
- The Chair of EAHC will be requested to assist to liaise with the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission and North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission on the overlapping ENCs in the Band 1 cell limits.
- The Task Group will closely monitor the progress of the bilateral or multi-lateral discussions between MSs in resolving the overlapping ENCs of Band 2.
- The Meeting agreed to appoint Hong Kong, China as the Coordinator for the production of the East Asia ENCs. The Coordinator would subsequently work closely with MSs in the production work. The Administrator would be appointed at the next EAHC Coordination Meeting.
- The 5th EAHC ENC TG Meeting would be held in June* 2010.

Reported by Hong Kong, China

** Note by editor: The 5th EAHC ENC TG Meeting is postponed to 19 – 21 July 2010.*