

Work Plan 2015-2018

Commission 4

Commission Chair



Angela Etuonovbe
AnGene Surveys & Consultants
Uti Street, Off P.T.I. Road
Effurun
332101 Delta State
NIGERIA
Email: aetuonovbe@yahoo.com

Terms of reference

- Hydrographic surveying
- Offshore surveying in support of energy, environment, submarine telecommunications, ports and harbours
- Hydrographic education, training and Continual Professional Development (CPD)
- Marine Environment & Coastal Zone Management (CZM)
- Data processing and management of hydrographic data
- Nautical charting and bathymetric maps - analogue and digital, includes ENC's (Electronic Navigational Charts)

Mission Statement

The mission of Commission 4 is to:

- Promote the aims and objectives of FIG to hydrographers through the active involvement of national delegates from member associations and other interested parties in the activities of the commission.
- Foster closer links with all sister organisations currently active within the global hydrographic community.
- Develop guidelines and standards that will assist hydrographers in the provision of their services.
- Disseminate information relevant to the profession through participation in international meetings, conferences and committees.

General

Commission 4 strategy is focussed on (for example):

- The development of best practice guides in Hydrography.

Active support and participation in FIG regional events.

Working Group 4.1 - Standards and Guidelines for Hydrography

Policy issues

Assist in the development and recognition of standards of competency;
Assist in the development of technical standards and guidelines;
Cooperation with sister organizations and other appropriate bodies;

Chair

Peter Barr (Australia): pb.barmarine@bigpond.com

Specific project(s)

Present and promote the use of standards and guidelines to the hydrographic surveying community, primarily IHO based
Review Standards coming from alternate reputable sources for relevance to Hydrography.
Assess the impact of international standards on current industry practice.
Represent Commission 4 on the FIG Standards Network
Promote recognition of professional pathways.
Review IHO publication C13 (Manual on Hydrography) and other similar documents.

Workshops

Participation in FIG Standards Network meetings and other major Commission events

Publication(s)

FIG Working Weeks will include technical papers and/or reports to the FIG Standards Network on emerging standards, guidelines and specific issues.
Ongoing contribution to the maintenance of the FIG Guide on Standardisation
Timetable

Ongoing work will be reported at FIG Working Weeks during the term of this plan and according to a timetable to be developed by the Working Group Chair.
Working group to present a draft report at the relevant FIG Congress.

Beneficiaries

FIG Standards Network
Sister organizations and relevant national and international GO and NGO's.
FIG member associations, hydrographic surveyors in industry and government, academia
All other relevant stakeholders.

Working Group 4.2 - Maritime and Marine Spatial Information Management

Policy issues

Assist in the development and promotion of marine and coastal spatial information management issues supported by hydrography and hydrographic data and information.
Cooperation with sister organizations and other appropriate bodies.
Cooperation with other FIG Commissions.

Chair

Jonathan Li, PhD, PEng, SMIEEE
Professor of Geomatics
Department of Geography & Environmental Management
Faculty of Environment, University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1
Office: EV1-111, E-mail: junli@uwaterloo.ca
Tel: +1-519-888-4567, ext. 34504, Fax: +1-519-746-0658
<http://environment.uwaterloo.ca/research/rsgtl/>

Specific project(s)

Cooperate with, and represent the interests of FIG Commission 4 to, IMO in the development of an e-Navigation data framework (e.g., harmonization of data models among stakeholders).
Cooperate with IHO on the continuing development and expansion of S-100 to support hydrographic- and hydrographic-related spatial information management.
Cooperate with appropriate stakeholders (e.g., IHO-MSDIWG) on the development of concepts and principles that impact and are impacted upon by hydrography (e.g., MSDI, marine spatial planning and management, marine data models and applications, marine cadastre etc.).
Present and promote the above concepts, principles and outcomes to the international surveying community.

Workshop(s)

Participation in / contribution to:

FIG Working Weeks, regional conference with dedicated technical sessions and/or Workshops as appropriate;
International hydrography-related workshops and events.

Publication(s)

Possible publication(s) on MDSI, and marine spatial information management.

Timetable

Working Group Chair will make reports at FIG Working Weeks (2011-2013).
Working group to present a final report at FIG Congress, 2014.

Beneficiaries

International maritime community;
Sister organizations and other (national) agencies;
FIG member associations, surveyors in industry and government, academe;
Marine spatial information management community.

Working Group 4.3 – Blue Economy

Chair: Gordon Johnston



Mr. Gordon Johnston, MRICS

67 Devon Road
Cheam
Surrey SM2 7PE
UNITED KINGDOM
Tel. + 44 208 661 1650
Fax + 44 208 643 1890
Mob:+44 7966 937369
E-mail: gordon.johnston1@orange.net

WG 4.3 The Blue Economy

Work Plan for “The Blue Economy” 2015 until 2018 is based upon the continued work of Commission 4. The Blue Economy can be a diverse and wide ranging topic but for FIG Comm 4 it shall be primarily in developing and promoting the need to manage our oceans and seas in a sustainable manner based upon good data, good environmental principles and good management practices. In this way the WG shall seek to promote and engage with IGO’s and other NGO’s to increase the understanding and awareness of the importance of the marine and ocean areas. High on the agenda will be to engage with UN-FAO and World Bank to determine how these organisations perceive the importance and benefits of managing the marine and ocean areas.

Comm 4 WG will participate in seminars, conferences and Technical Sessions at FIG events. In addition it is planned that additional joint events shall be organised to further the work and to generate a short publication within the work period.

Co-operation with Sister Associations

FIG and IHO¹

Commission 4 currently represents FIG on the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC)² jointly with IHO and ICA. The commission will also support the IHO in its Capacity Building Initiatives with representation on the IHO Capacity Building Committee (CBC). Commission 4 will also support the IHO on any appropriate technical initiatives.

FIG and the International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS)³

Commission 4 has begun to cooperate with the IFHS whereby the Federation has provided input into the 2006-2010 work plan and the commission will continue to lend its support towards sponsoring IFHS conferences and other initiatives. For example, the commission has provided financial support and resources for updating the IFHS special publication (SP-3) entitled Hydrographic Surveying as a Career. It is important for Commission 4 to maintain contact with all national Hydrographic Associations (whether members of the IFHS or not) to foster communications and cooperation for the betterment of the profession.

Notes:

1. FIG and IHO cooperate under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which was signed in Athens, May 2004. Our liaison is IHB Director, Hugo Gorziglia.
2. The role of the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board on Standards of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) is to develop and up-date international standards of competence for Hydrographic surveyors and to review the academic programme of educational institutions that are seeking IHO accreditation of their Hydrographic training courses. The IBSC is composed of 4 representatives from FIG, 4 from IHO and 2 from the ICA. Our liaison officer with the IBSC is Gordon Johnston.

3. FIG and the International Federation of Hydrographic Societies (IFHS) cooperate under a MoU which was signed in Cairo, April 2005. The task has been mandated to Commission 4. FIG liaison with the IFHS is Simon Ironside.

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Co-operation with the United Nations agencies

Commission 4 will participate in co-operation with the United Nations agencies on topics that are related to commission expertise (e.g. marine cadastre, data framework for e-Navigation etc.) and on guidance by FIG Council.

Cooperation with other FIG Commissions

Commission 4 will, for example, collaborate with Commission 5 to review and revise (where required) FIG Publication 37, Vertical Reference Surface for Hydrography. Commission 4 will also collaborate with other FIG Commissions as appropriate.

Representation to FIG Networks and Task Forces

Commission 4 will appoint representatives to the following FIG initiatives:

- Standards Network
- Climate Change Task Force
- National and International Boundaries

Other Activities

Commission 4 will maintain and develop the commission's web page, with linkages to other relevant home pages and new pages or other networks for special projects, to keep commission delegates, the Hydrographic community and the public involved in and informed about the work of the commission. Commission 4 will also contribute editorials, reports and articles to Hydrographic publications including but not restricted to the Hydrographic Journal, Hydro International, The Hydrographic Review, Sea Technology and Lighthouse. Commission 4 will publish a newsletter at least once a year.

Calendar of Events

2015

Ocean Business 2015, 15-16 April, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, UK.
FIG Blue Economy seminar at Southampton 14th April.

U.S. Hydrographic Conference 2015, March 16-19 at Gaylord Hotel, national Harbour, Maryland, U.S.A.
FIG Working Week, 17-21 May, 2015. Sofia, Bulgaria
2nd International Symposium on Computer Vision in Remote Sensing, 26-28 April 2015, Xiamen, China.
3rd International Summer School on Mobile Mapping Technology, 26-30 April 2015, Xiamen, China
Special session on mobile scanning and imaging systems at IGARSS 2015, 26-31 July 2015, Milan, Italy.
8th IHO-IAG Advisory Board on the Law of the Sea (ABLLOS) Conference in Monaco from 20 - 22 October, 2015
Hydro 2015 international Conference Symposium at Cairns, Queensland, Australia from 03 - 07 November 2015. Theme: Harnessing the Blue Economy through
Joint Event of the 5th International Conference on Earth Observation for Global Change (EOGC 2015) and the 7th International Conference on Geo-information Technologies for Natural Disaster Management (GiT4NDM 2015), December 6-8, 2015, United Arab Emirates University, Al-Ain, United Arab Emirates.
9th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology (MMT), December 10-12, 2015, Sydney, Australia.

2016

FIG Working Week, 2-6 May, Christchurch, New Zealand
Canadian Hydrographic conference, 2016

2017

FIG Working Week, May/June Helsinki, Finland
U.S. Hydrographic conference

2018

FIG XXVI Congress, May/June, Istanbul, Turkey
Canadian Hydrographic Conference.

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Commission Officers



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Uti Street, Off P.T.I. Road
Effurun
332101 Delta State
NIGERIA
Email: aetuonovbe@yahoo.com

Vice Chair of Administration & Communication



Mr. Gordon Johnston, MRICS
67 Devon Road
Cheam
Surrey SM2 7PE
UNITED KINGDOM
Tel. + 44 208 661 1650
Fax + 44 208 643 1890
Mob:+44 7966 937369
E-mail: gordon.johnston1@orange.net