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As reported in paragraph 62 of the resolution “Oceans and the law of the seas,” we are especially pleased with the focus for this meeting, given that protecting vulnerable marine ecosystems and safety of navigation are core interests of the IHO.

Clearly, safety of navigation – especially its enhancement through capacity building for the production of nautical charts – is a fundamental goal of the IHO.

As specified in our Convention, the IHO(5k211.6(i)l.8(I)5a9()11.61o2 0.0114 Tc0 Tw()Tj/TT2 1 Tf1.6305

As the IHO does not have resources to provide financial assistance to developing States, we seek to develop partnerships with donor organizations. Notable efforts in this endeavour during 2002 include:

- Central American Hydrographic Project- A partnership with IHO, IMA and the Central American Commission for Maritime Transport (COCATRAM)
- MEDA Project – Partnership with IHO, IMA and European Commission providing hydrographic and cartographic equipment and training to countries of the southern and south-eastern Mediterranean.
- Safety of Navigation on Lake Victoria – A partnership with IHO, IMO, International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA), East Africa Community to establish a navigation safety infrastructure within the three largest States bordering Lake Victoria.
- CAMCHARTNET Project – Partnership with IHO, IMA and European Commission providing hydrographic and cartographic equipment and training to countries on the Black Sea.
- Marine Electronic Highway – Partnership with IHO, Global Environmental Facility, World bank and IMO providing safety of navigation enhancements for the Straits of Malacca and Singapore.

Training:

Paragraph 21 of the resolution encourages the development and making available training courses to assist developing States in the preparation of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS).

Education is essential in creating and maintaining a modern hydrographic service. Over twenty of our Member States offer more than thirty technical training programs in hydrography that conform to guidelines established by the IHO. In some instances these programs are offered free of charge while others provide scholarships to those attendees that demonstrate the need. The IHO sponsors hydrographic and cartographic training at the International Maritime Academy (IMA) with the tuition funded through contributions from the European Union and the Italian Government.

Pivotal to the effectiveness of these training programs are the minimum standards of competency for hydrographic surveyors to be demonstrated by a successful graduate. These standards are set by an advisory board composed of expd1(p)-he.5(b)5.2-5.6(ain8(s)-7y)-14.2(1(.2-5.6(I.2(h)1H)(n)-

Conclusion: