

**FIG Commission 4**  
**Working Group 4.1 – Standards and Guidelines for Hydrography**  
**Report of Activities FIG Working Week 2017**

**Members**

Working Group 4.1 (WG 4.1) currently consists of members from Australia and New Zealand and is supported by the respective FIG Member Associations; the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI) in Australia (SSSI) and the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors (NZIS).

Simon Ironside	Chair	New Zealand
Michael Beard	Vice Chair	Australia
Mathieu Bestille		Australia
Peter Barr		Australia

**Background**

The WG 4.1 2015-2018 Work Plan was approved at the Commission 4 Annual General Meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria on 18 May 2015 during the FIG Working Week 2015.

WG 4.1 was renamed (from WG 4.2) at the Commission 4 Annual General Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in June 2014, during the FIG Congress 2014.

WG 4.2 had been moribund for a number of years and one of the goals of the incoming Commission 4 Chair, Mrs Angela Etuonovbe, was to focus Commission's efforts on having relevant and meaningful input into hydrographic standards and guidelines, hence the WG's re-invigoration and renaming.

The intent of WG 4.1, as set out in the current work plan, is to deliver tangible but realistic outcomes based on the agreed objectives of:

- 1 Assisting in the development and recognition of standards of competency for hydrographic surveyors.
- 2 Assisting in the development of technical standards and guidelines.
- 3 Assisting with review of standards and guidelines.
- 4 Promoting the need for, and benefits of, professional hydrographic surveyor certification.

**Outcomes**

WG 4.1 has committed itself to a number of specific outcomes based on these agreed objectives over the period of the work plan as follows:

- 1 Broaden the membership of WG 4.1 to ensure its legitimacy as an active international professional body.

- 2 Support the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) through the work of its Hydrographic Services and Standards Committee (HSSC) by participating in HSSC working groups to review hydrographic standards and guidelines, primarily:
  - S-44 – IHO Standards for Hydrographic Surveys (the most recent version is the 5th Edition, February 2008).
  - S-100 – IHO Universal Hydrographic Data Model (January 2010)
- 3 Support FIG members on the FIG/IHO/ICA International Board of Competence for Hydrographic Surveyors and Nautical Cartographers (IBSC) in reviewing and updating competency standards, namely:
  - S-5A – Standards of Competence for Category ‘A’ Hydrographic Surveyors (currently under review).
  - S-5B – Standards of Competence for Category ‘B’ Hydrographic Surveyors (February 2015).
- 4 Represent Commission 4 on the FIG Standards Network and other international fora where appropriate.
- 5 Support the work of other FIG Commissions and Working Groups, and participate in Commission 4 events where possible.

#### **Progress against WG 4.1 Objectives/Outcomes in 2016/17**

##### **Broaden WG 4.1 membership**

Two members, Emily Tidey (New Zealand) and Simon Allen (Australia), stood down from the WG in 2016. One additional member, Mattieu Bestile (Australia), has joined. Simon Ironside (New Zealand) assumed the role as Chair in February 2016.

No international (i.e. non-Australasian) members have volunteered to join the WG in 2016 despite email approaches being made to several candidates (as a result of contacts made during the FIG Working Week in Sofia in 2015) and more recently through face-to-face engagement during the 2016 FIG Working Week in Christchurch.

Additional members will continue to be sought in the coming year with the aim being to ensure the WG encompasses appropriate international expertise to be able to make meaningful contributions to WG outcomes/deliverables.

##### **HSSC Involvement**

Working Group 4.1 is now represented on the following HSSC Working Groups

##### **S-44**

The IHO Project Team on Standards for Hydrographic Surveys (HS-PT) was established on 3 March 2017. The HS-PT Chair is Christophe Vrignaud (France). The Vice Chair is Nickolás de Andrade Roscher (Brazil). The Working Group 4.1 Chair & Vice Chair have nominated to the HS-PT with Observer Status and are currently waiting for the HS-PT plan to be formulated

The HS-PT remit is to review S-44 (5<sup>th</sup> Edition), identify any deficiencies and following the review update and prepare the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition of S-44.

##### **S-100**

The S-100 Working Group is already established within the HSSC. The Chair is Julia Powell (USA), Vice Chair is Yong BAEK (Republic of Korea). WG 4.1 Chair has been awarded Expert Contributor status to the S-100 Working Group with the Vice Chair accepted as an alternate.

The Working Group's remit is to maintain, develop and extend S-100 Universal Hydrographic Data Model and S-99 Operational Procedures for the Organisation and Management of the S-100 Geospatial Information Registry.

The S-100 Working Group Chair has been advised that WG 4.1 will undertake any S-100 review work from a hydrographic surveying perspective and will assist the S-100 WG in any way we can.

It is not anticipated that the WG4.1 Chair or Vice Chair will be able to attend many S-100 WG meetings however the WG 4.1 Chair will be provided with S-100 WG meeting outcomes/minutes so that WG 4.1 might review any requested S-100 work/developments from a hydrographic surveying perspective.

A Professional Practice Working Group consisting of NZIS Hydrography Professional Stream, SSSI Hydrography Commission and Australasian Hydrographic Society members has been set up to provide input into proposed Australasian hydrography regulatory changes and review of relevant standards and guidelines. Their brief also includes review of S-44, S-100 & possibly S-8 with feedback to the IHO Working Groups and IBSC via WG 4.1.

### **IBSC Involvement**

WG 4.1 has reviewed the first draft of S-5A Standards of Competence for Category 'A' Hydrographic Surveyors. The consolidated Commission 4 submission was sent to the IBSC Secretariat on 6 April 2016. WG 4.1 is now recognised by IBSC as Expert Contributor and has been asked to be involved in the review of S-8 Standards of Competence for Nautical Cartographers.

The WG 4.1 Chair attended the FIG/IHO/ICA IBSC40 Stakeholders meeting held in Wellington NZ on 29 March 2017 via teleconference.

### **FIG Standards Network**

Nothing to report. However, work on this relationship will be undertaken over the coming year.

### **FIG and Commission 4 Support**

This deliverable remains an ongoing WG 4.1 commitment. Only one significant development has arisen during this period:

#### **Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Support**

WG 4.1 has been asked, and has agreed in principle, to contribute to the hydrographic component of the RICS International Property Measurement Standards (IPMS). FIG remains a key member of IPMS Coalition.

### **WG 4.1 Funding**

The WG 4.1 Chair has secured support from SSSI and NZIS to enable short to medium term participation in FIG Working Weeks/Congresses and other international hydrographic fora or events.

### **IHO South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission**

At the Commission 4 AGM held during FIG Working Week 2016 in Christchurch it was agreed that members would approach the IHO Hydrographic Commissions to offer hydrographic surveying assistance.

The South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission is yet to be engaged by WG 4.1. However, it is intended to work on this relationship over the coming year in order to provide support and relevant technical input to the work of the Commission on behalf of Commission 4.

## **WG 4.1 Webpage**

A [WG 4.1 page](#) has been established on the FIG website (Commission 4) and all reports, membership details, the Work Plan, Terms of Reference etc. have been posted there and will be updated as work progresses and once this report of activities for 2016 has been submitted.

OSB

Simon Ironside  
Chair  
Working Group 4.1  
FIG Commission 4

30 March 2017