



07 September 2009

UKHO SELECTED TO DELIVER MAJOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME



Pictured: UKHO Staff and Students from left to right: Peter Westcott (UKHO Training Manager); Emre Akilli (Turkey); Mansoor Ahmed (Pakistan); Jeff Bryant (UKHO International Capacity Building Manager); Tita Cruz (Philippines); Rear Admiral Ian Moncrieff (National Hydrographer); Mazlan Atan (Malaysia); Doddy Promono (Indonesia); Grace Oima (Kenya); Captain Vaughan Nail (Deputy National Hydrographer)

The NIPPON Foundation has selected the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) to deliver capacity building cartographic training. This course is the first course of a potential 4 year commitment for the UKHO.

The UKHO will deliver its internationally accredited training programme consisting of elements of Marine Cartography, Hydrographic Data Processing

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and Electronic Navigational Charts in Taunton premises to 6 international officers who have been selected as the first participants for this prestigious course. The interest from the international hydrographic community for places was unprecedented with over 49 applications received.

The selection committee was drawn from members of the International Hydrographic Bureau (IHB) in Monaco, UKHO, the Japan Hydrographic Association and Japan Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department.

The 6 selected officers started their course on 7 September and come from Pakistan, Philippines, Kenya, Malaysia, Turkey and Indonesia. They will benefit from the 15 weeks intensive training, which will be supported by field trips to ports and maritime authorities. The training concentrates on the practical understanding of navigational chart production, and develops the skills and knowledge to produce and maintain navigational charts, in both paper and digital format.

The students were welcomed formally by Senior Managers at the UKHO, including Rear Admiral Ian Moncrieff (National Hydrographer), Captain Vaughan Nail (Deputy National Hydrographer) and members of the UKHO Training Team.

Peter Westcott, the UKHO Training Manager said, “The selection of the UKHO to deliver our uniquely accredited programme as part of this project is a major honour, and is recognition of the quality of training provided and of the close relationship the UKHO enjoys with our Japanese partners and with the IHB. This venture is a truly international collaboration and supports the aims of all parties in developing and supporting capacity building in marine cartography and related disciplines”

The UKHO is the only organization in the world to have its programme accredited as meeting the international standard for Nautical Cartography,

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and has played a lead role in delivery of Marine Cartographic training to international organizations in recent years. Since 2003 over 300 international students from over 50 organizations have received training from the UKHO Training team.

Rear Admiral Moncrieff said “The UKHO prides itself on the skills and knowledge of our people, and in sharing that knowledge and supporting our international partners. Training plays a key role in enhancing standards internationally and ultimately in supporting Safety Life of Sea. The generosity of the NIPPON Foundation in making this happen is very welcome and the selection of the UKHO to deliver this course is also testament to the relationships the UKHO has developed over many years with our international partners. “

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Notes for Editors

1. The UKHO, which is part of the Ministry of Defence, has been charting the world's oceans for more than 200 years with the primary aim of providing navigational services for the Royal Navy and merchant mariners to save and protect lives at sea. In addition it also serves the small craft and leisure mariners and provides a range of consultancy services.
2. The UKHO produces a worldwide series of some 3,300 paper nautical charts and 160 publications under the Admiralty brand and has a growing portfolio of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs). These charts are sold globally and used by nearly 70 per cent of international shipping.
3. The UKHO is a Trading Fund which means it is a government agency owned by the MoD with the freedom to trade commercially to generate revenue and cover running costs.
4. The UKHO also plays a central role, in support of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, in discharging the navigation element of the UK's Safety of Life at Sea Treaty obligations for waters of UK national responsibility.
5. The NIPPON Foundation was established in 1962 as a non-profit philanthropic organization, active both in Japan and abroad. Focus is largely on the maritime and shipping fields. Over the years activities have expanded to include such areas of as education, social welfare and public health, both within Japan and in more than one hundred countries to date.