



The SOLAS Convention further obligates “Contracting Governments to undertake to arrange for the collection and compilation of hydrographic data and the publication, dissemination and keeping up to date of all nautical information necessary for safe navigation.”<sup>2</sup> Therefore, the capacity to produce nautical charts is more than of benefit to the coastal state – it is a requirement! There are three significant parts to this requirement

established standards – *Hydrography*

- The compilation and production of nautical information consistent in content and appearance – *Nautical Cartography*, and
- The dissemination and maintenance of this information – *Maritime Safety Information Network*.

[REDACTED]

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production of nautical charts and information, the establishment Search and Rescue capabilities and formation of a Maritime Safety Information network.

A critical, yet straightforward activity is the collection and dissemination of nautical information necessary for the maintenance of charts and publications. The organizational construct of this activity coordinates the efforts of various maritime institutions, provides immediate benefit to international shipping and enables integration into the World-Wide Navigational Warning Service.

The training of personnel can be accomplished at a number of institutions recognized by the IHO for accredited training programs in hydrography and/or

such as the International Maritime Academy in Trieste and the Indian National

European Commission. Closely aligned is the Environmental Protection and Maritime Transport Pollution in the Gulf of Honduras Project that is seeking funding through the Global Environmental Fund. The project managers have acknowledged the fundamental importance of hydrographic capacity to these projects and are supporting a hydrographic component. In total these projects will

investments form a basis from which other donor agencies may assess and leverage their participation.

I reiterate that the programs that contribute to the capacity of a developing Coastal State to produce and maintain nautical charts and services have broad impact. The capacity of a Coastal State to provide adequate navigational products and services

