

Thirty Second Meeting of the GEBCO Guiding Committee
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (October 8 – 9, 2015)

Scanning and Archiving the Five GEBCO Chart Editions.

Background

Proposal made to the 31st Guiding Committee Meeting (Monaco 2014)

This was reported to 7th IHO Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) meeting (Mexico, 1-3 June 2015)

- the meeting agreed that; *“affordable methods to produce geo-referenced raster copies of the repository of GEBCO ocean maps and plotting sheets that are held at the IHB should be further identified and, if appropriate, the relevant specifications should be developed”*.

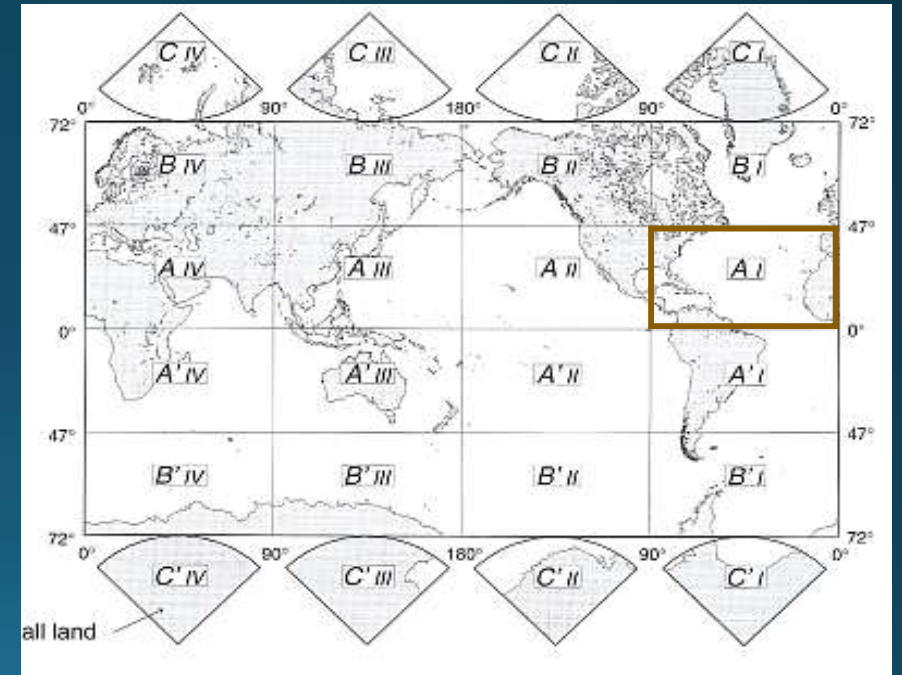
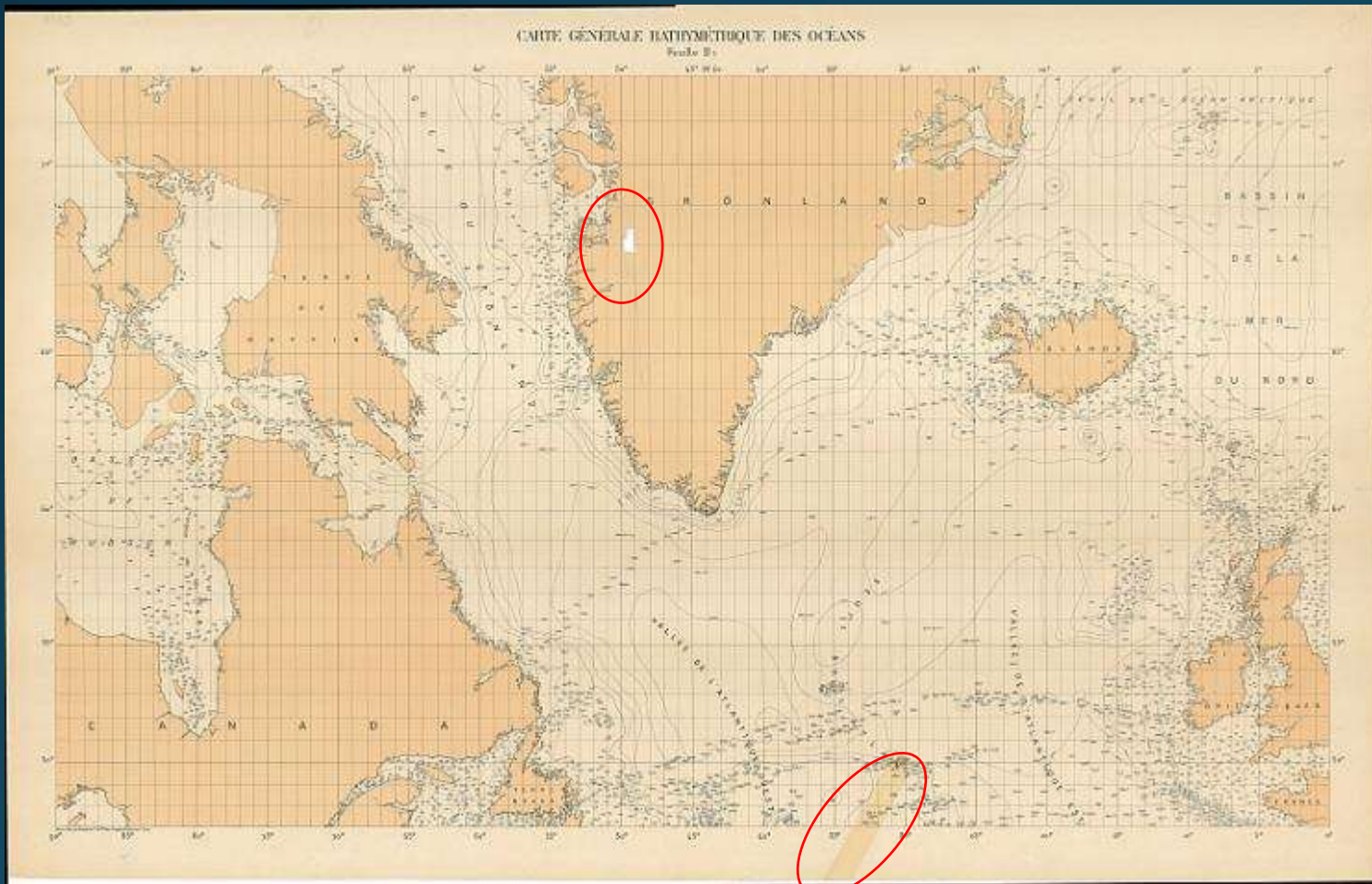
Report on the progress made with scanning GEBCO maps (charts).

First Edition GEBCO Sheets (1903).

Work on the first edition began in June 1903.

Comprises 16 Mercator sheets and 8 polar sheets.

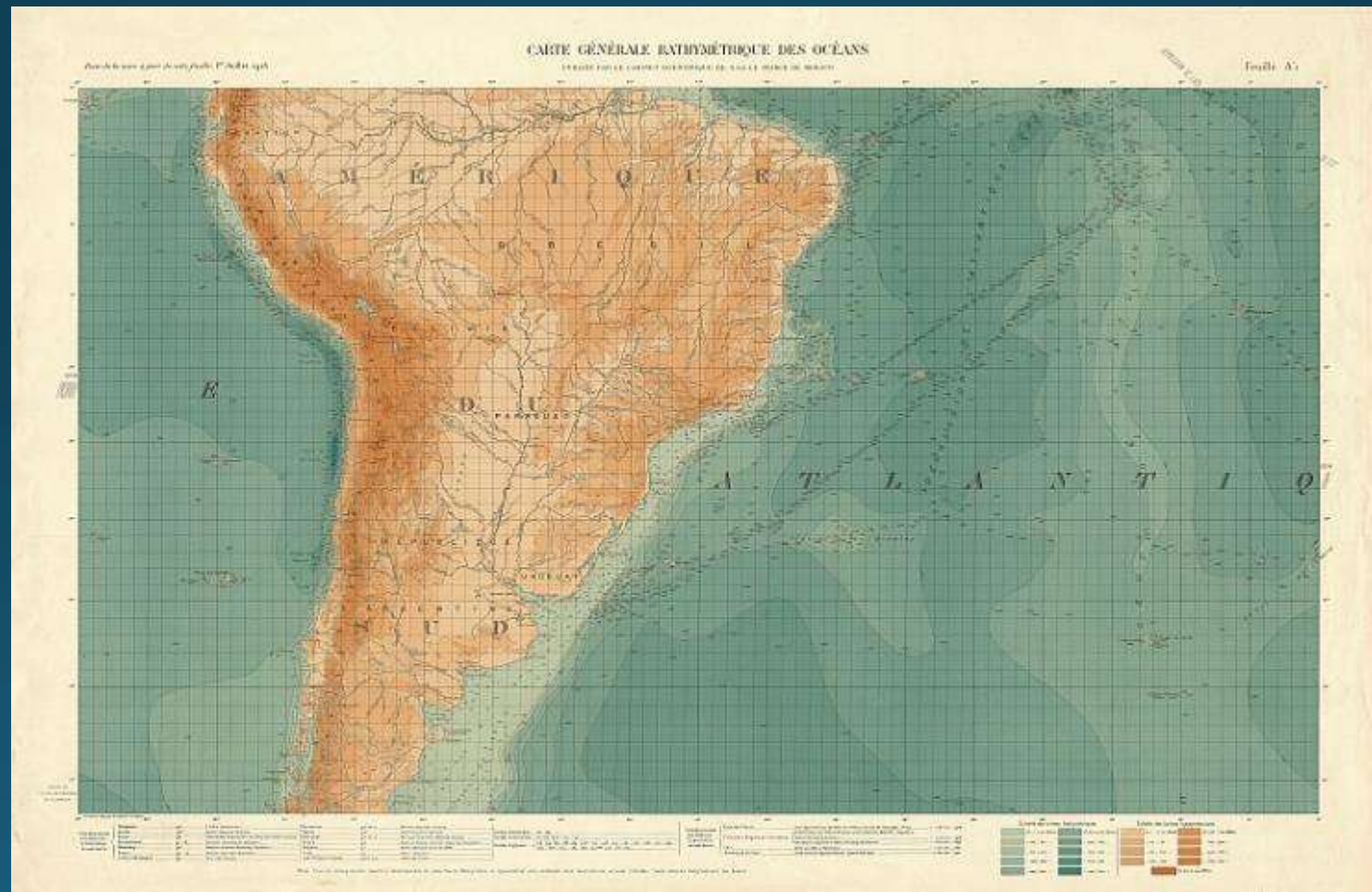
Status: Sheet A1 is missing from the IHB archive (trying to get from BNF)



Second Edition GEBCO Sheets (1912 - 1930).

The first sheets were **published in 1912** however the last sheet **did not appear until 1930**, due to the outbreak of World War I.

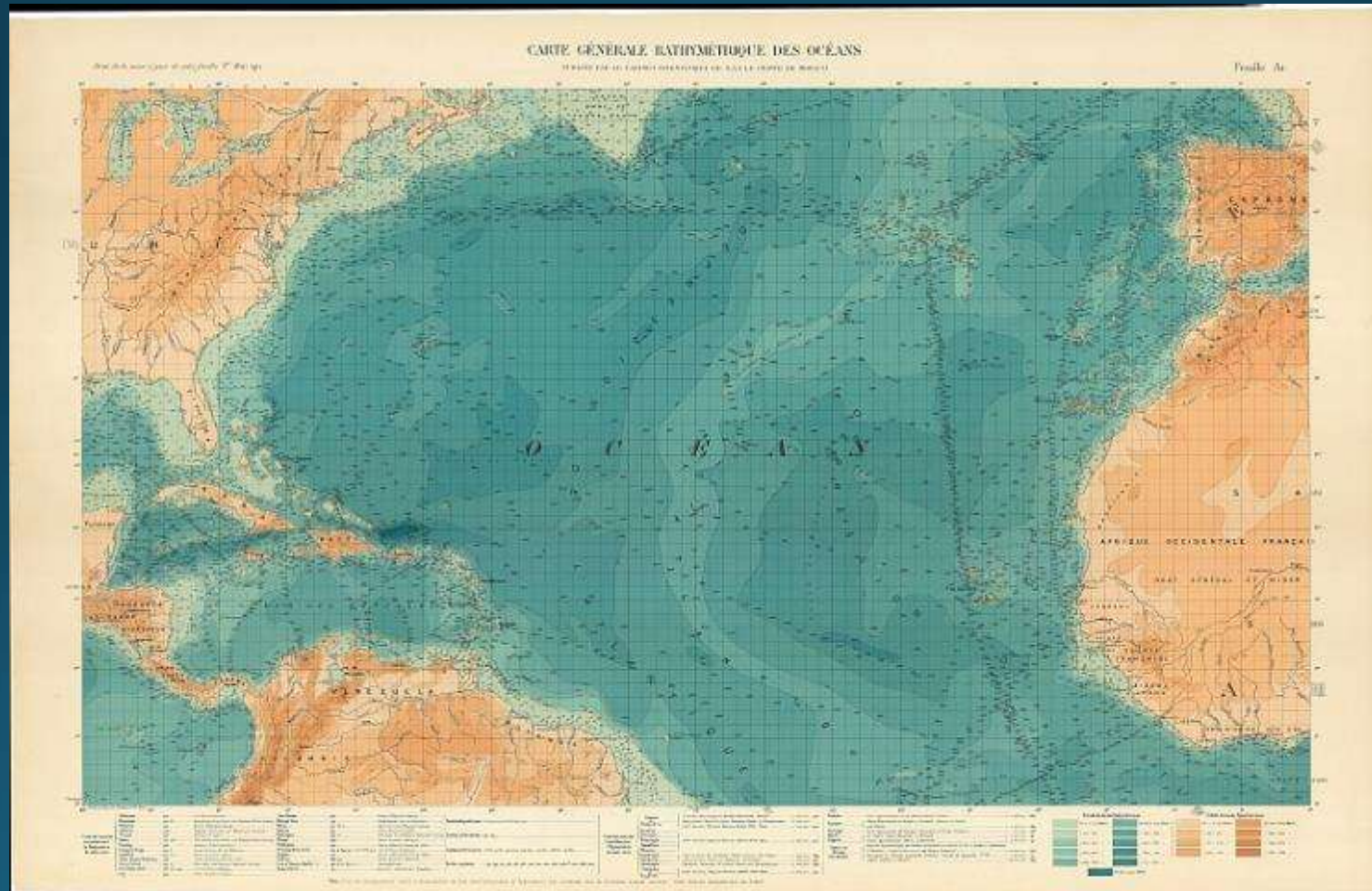
Copies of all sixteen Mercator and eight polar sheets have been digitised.



Third Edition GEBCO Sheets (1932 to 1966).

Work commenced on the 3rd edition in 1932, but its progress was very slow. Production was spread over a period of 34 years and only 21 sheets were actually published.

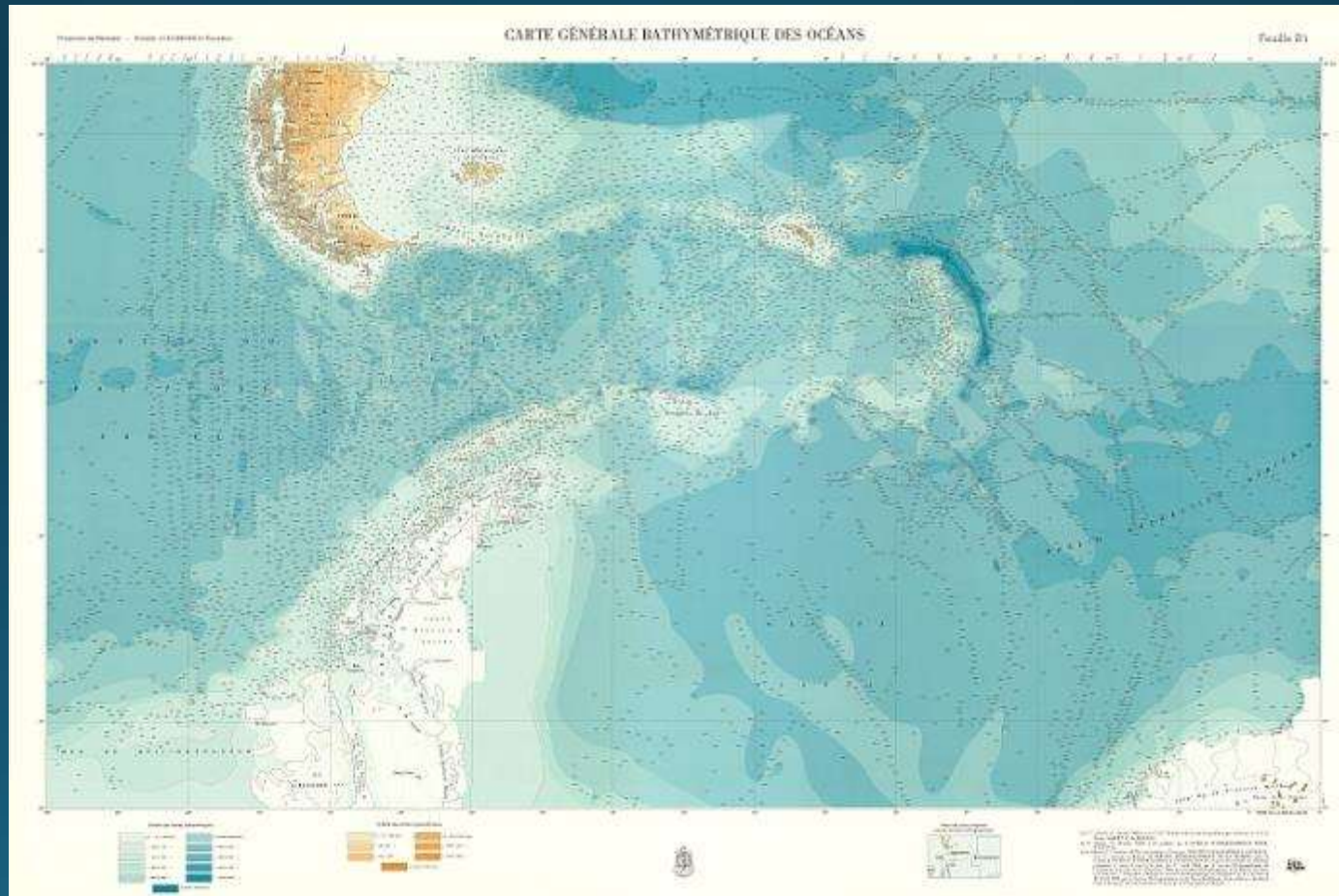
Status: 14 of the Mercator sheets have been digitised. (Sheets BI and BII are missing). None of the polar sheets have been scanned.



Fourth Edition GEBCO Sheets (1958 to 1973).

The 4th edition was started in 1958 before the third edition had been completed. Following the publication of two sheets in 1958 and 1961, an agreement was made between the IHB and the French Institut géographique national (IGN) regarding the production of the additional sheets.

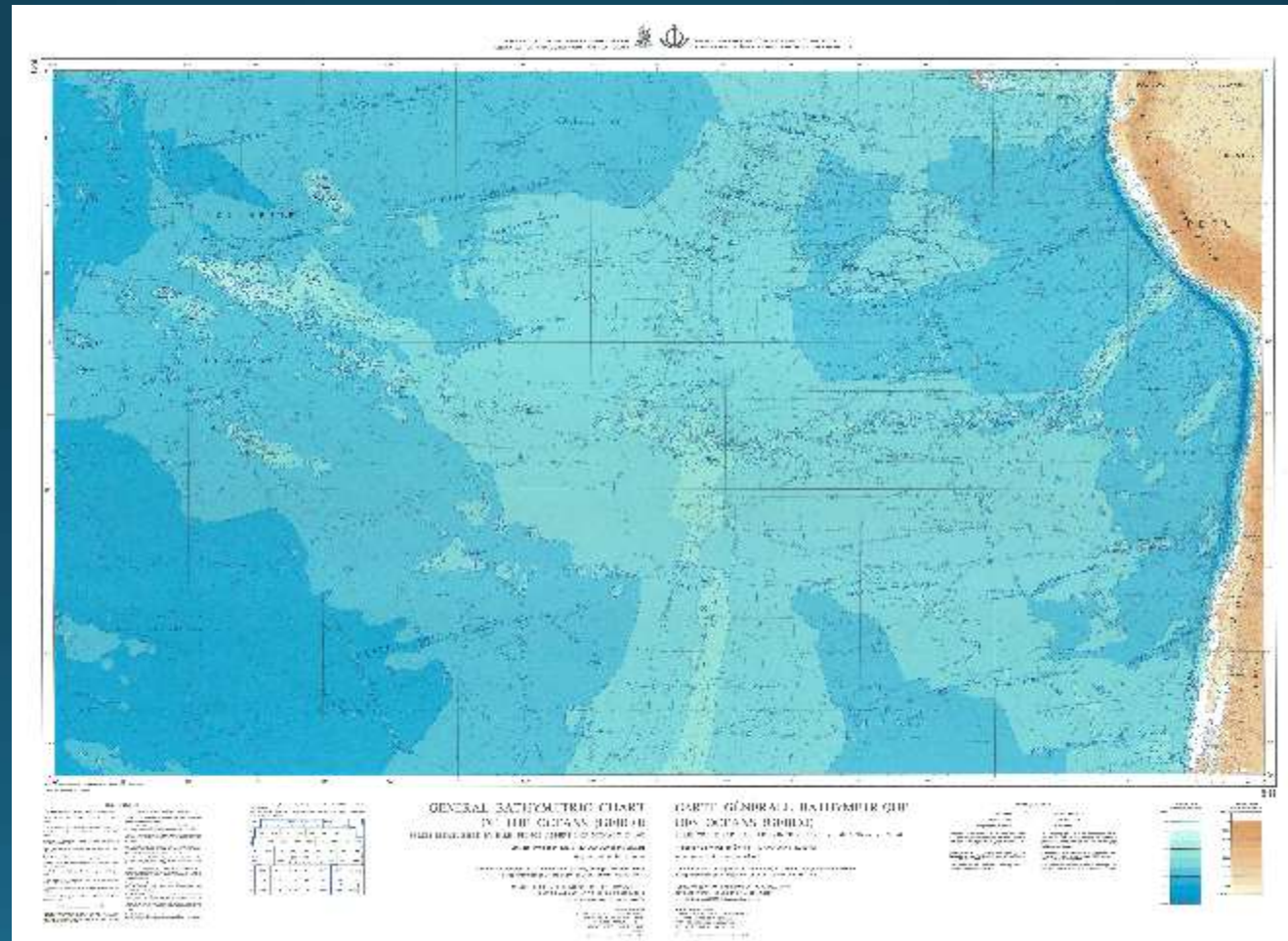
Status: Only Mercator sheets **AI, A'I, BI, B'I, BIV, B'IV** and polar sheets **CI** and **C'I** have been digitised.



Fifth Edition GEBCO Sheets (1972 to 1984).

Production of the 5th series was supervised by a Joint Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) / International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) - GEBCO Guiding Committee.

Status: **All sixteen Mercator sheet have been digitised.** The IHB has not been able to scan the polar sheets due to their size.



Conclusion

Ongoing work

Improve damaged sheets – IHB to photoshop major blemishes,

Locate missing sheets – IHB is currently attempting to locate paper (or digital) copies of these sheets. (BNF).

Produce web site - draft version: (<http://www.iho-wms.net/gebco>)

(<http://www.iho-wms.net/gebco/TILEMAPS/>)

Include download links to the full resolution files :

Typical scanned file characteristics;

Format: Tiff

Resolution: 300 x 300 dpi

Image size: 13300 x 8500 pixels

File size: about 400 Mb

Recommendation

The GEBCO guiding committee are invited to;

- take note of the current status of scanning the GEBCO chart series;