



Terms of Reference for the Committees Adopted 19 February 2025

Background

In accordance with the Convention, Article 6.1 (c), the Organization shall have Committees and subsidiary bodies necessary to support the Organization's activities. The Convention Article 7.7 (f) states, that the General Assembly shall establish and terminate Committees and subsidiary bodies and review and approve their Terms of Reference.

In accordance with the Convention, Article 6.3, the General Regulations and Financial Regulations detail the Rules of Procedure that will apply to Committees, and for this purpose Article 10 and 11 of the General Regulations are noted.

Name of Committees

There will be four Committees as follows:

AtoN Requirements and Management (ARM) Committee

Engineering and Sustainability (ENG) Committee

Digital Technologies (DTEC) Committee

Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) Committee

Participation

Representatives from Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members and upon invitation by the Secretary-General, individuals from academic, research or other relevant organizations are eligible to participate in the Committees.

Aims and Objectives

The Committees will support the aims and objectives of the Organization by:

- a) Providing guidance that assists governments and national authorities to meet their obligations under SOLAS and to plan, implement and deliver Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) in a consistent and harmonized manner.
- b) Responding to technological and operational changes meeting emerging needs and developments.
- c) Preparing and reviewing standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals and model courses specifically related to the risk management, requirements, establishment, operation, training and management of AtoN to contribute to achieving its worldwide harmonization.





Activities

Committee meetings will normally be held twice a year, at a date during February to April and September to November, at the seat of the Organization. Exceptionally they may be held elsewhere, with the approval of the Secretary-General.

The work of the Committees may be facilitated by working groups. Intersessional meetings of a working group or its task group may also be held between two meetings of its parent Committee in accordance with the General Regulations.

All activities may be organized in the format of physical, virtual or hybrid event as required.

The Committees may propose events that will assist their work programme such as seminars, workshops and other events.

Deliverables

The Committees must develop and work to a work programme in accordance with the General Regulations, Article 11.8.

The deliverables of the Committees are to:

- a) prepare and review standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals, model courses and other appropriate documents identified in the work programmes specifically related to the risk management, requirements, establishment, operation, training and management of AtoN to contribute to achieving its worldwide harmonization;
- b) monitor developments in the area of Marine Aids to Navigation;
- c) liaise and facilitate the sharing of expertise and experience amongst Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members; and
- d) conduct any other tasks as decided by the Council.

Relationship with other bodies

Internal organs

As stated in the General Regulations Article 11.21, output documents are documents completed by the Committee. Output documents are then approved by the Council or the General Assembly, in the case of standards.

The Policy Advisory Panel (PAP) provides policy advice for consideration by the Council and co-ordinates the work of the Committees.

The Legal Advisory Panel (LAP) provides legal support and advice to the committees, the Secretariat and other bodies of IALA.

Each Committee's progress with its work and achievement of its deliverables shall be reported to the Council and the Policy Advisory Panel at regular intervals.

Committees should collaborate on cross committee work items and developments.

External bodies

The Committees are to monitor and assist developments relevant to AtoN in bodies external to IALA, such as IMO and the IHO, if necessary to achieve the Committees aims and objectives.