



Circular Letter 2026/06

2 March 2026

Subject: **Call for abstracts for the 21st IALA Conference 2027**

To: All Members

Dear Members,

In accordance with the General Regulations, Article 15, *“a conference shall have as its principal objective the exchange of information relating to all types of Marine Aids to Navigation.”*

The 21st IALA Conference will take place from 8 to 12 November 2027 in Mumbai, India. The theme of the Conference is *“Marine Aids to Navigation for Successful Voyages and a Sustainable Planet.”*

The Conference Steering Group has prepared a Call for Abstracts, which includes a range of suggested topics. Members are invited to submit their abstracts through the dedicated online platform indicated in the Call for Abstracts. The submission deadline is 31 August 2026.

Following the submission period, the Abstract Selection Group will review all proposals. The Secretariat will notify authors of the results by 18 December 2026.

Please find the Call for Abstracts attached as an Annex.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Secretariat at [**abstracts@iala.int**](mailto:abstracts@iala.int) .



ANNEX



IALA CONFERENCE ON MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION FOR SUCCESSFUL VOYAGES AND A SUSTAINABLE PLANET

8th to 12th November 2027 – Jio World Convention Centre – Mumbai – India

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Abstracts Selection Group invites all IALA members to submit abstracts for proposed presentations or papers to be delivered at the upcoming Conference. Submissions may address any of the listed topics or explore other subjects that align with the overarching theme of the event.

Submission Guidelines:

- Abstracts must be written in English and should not exceed **200 words**.
- All submissions must be made via the official platform:
<https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/80499/submitter>
- Each submitter must create a profile on the submission platform.
- Please include the **author's name** and **contact details**.
- In case of multiple authors, list them all.
- Deadline for submission: **31 August 2026**.

Review Process:

Submitted abstracts will undergo a **blind review** by the Abstract Selection Group. Authors will be notified of the outcome by **18 December 2026**.



Additional Information:

- During submission, authors will be asked to select a topic that best matches the theme of their abstract.
- Authors must also indicate whether they intend to submit a **full paper** or deliver a **presentation only**.
- Accepted papers will be published as part of the official Conference proceedings.
- Authors of accepted abstracts will be asked to submit a short biography.
- The contact e-mail address is: abstracts@iala.int

Important dates:

31. August 2026	Abstract submission deadline
18. December 2026	Authors notified about the result of the selection process
31. August 2027	Full paper submission deadline (if this option is selected)
15. October 2027	Presentation material submission deadline
8. November 2027	Conference week

LIST OF PROPOSED TOPICS TO CHOOSE FROM

Information Services

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Digital services in the context of e-Navigation
S-200 data products, technical services
Digitalisation, digital waterway, digital Twins

Digital Communication Technologies

VHF Data Exchange System (VDES)
Remote monitoring and control
Digital voice communication
LTE-Maritime, 5G and 6G mobile technology (IMT)
Digital connectivity, Maritime Connectivity Platform

Training and Certification

AtoN training
VTS Training
Future skillset and competences
Capacity building

Vessel Traffic Service

Provision of VTS
Emerging technology
Service availability



Radionavigation Services

Augmentation systems

GNSS independent Navigation, Inertial Navigation, Quantum navigation

Range-Mode (R-Mode)

Resilient PNT

Using signals of opportunity

AtoN Design and Delivery

Service delivery

Level of Service, Availability, Resiliency

Physical versus virtual Aids to Navigation

Engineering challenges

Maintenance

Sustainability

MASS and Marine Aids to navigation

Heritage and legacy

Women in Maritime

AtoN Planning and Service Requirements

Service quality objectives, availability

Regulatory framework

AtoN Requirements

Waterway design

Risk management

Cybersecurity