



Circular Letter 2026/10

30 June 2026

Subject: **Key Outcomes of the 4th IALA Council Meeting**

To: Members and Sister Organizations

Dear IALA members,

The 4th session of the IALA Council, held from 8 to 11 June 2026 at Headquarters in Saint-Germain-en-Laye and online, confirmed continued progress in IALA's consolidation as an intergovernmental organization. Council noted 50 ratifications, approvals, acceptances or accessions to the Convention, progress on the future Headquarters project, strengthened cooperation with IMO and IHO, and continued growth in membership and technical activity. The Council approved the revised 2026 budget.

Committee Work Programme 2025–2027

The Council approved the consolidated Committee Work Programme 2025–2027 (C04-10.1.1.1). The revised programme records completed tasks, reactivates previously inactive tasks, introduces two new ENG tasks and adjusts certain timelines dependent on external organizations. It is maintained as a live online register and remains aligned with the IALA Strategic Vision 2025–2027.

Committee meetings and events

Hosts for the Committee meetings in the first half of 2027 were approved as follows:

- **VTS 61** – China.
- **DTEC 08** – Republic of Korea.
- **ENG 24** – Portugal.
- **ARM 24** – Norway.

The Council further approved a Workshop on VDES Satellite, to be held in Tokyo from 10 to 13 November 2026, hosted by the Japan Coast Guard, the Ocean Policy Research Institute and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation.

New Recommendation

R1027 Ed1.0 VDE Payload Format Identifier (VPFI)

New and revised guidelines

G1023 Ed2.0 Design of Leading Lines

G1063 Ed2.0 Partnership agreements for complementary use of lighthouse property

G1089 Ed3.0 Provision of a VTS

G1117 Ed4.0 VDES Overview

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G1153 Ed2.0 Review of Emerging Technologies
G1185 Ed2.0 Enhancing the safety around OREI
G1191 Ed1.2 Maritime Service Registry Technical Specifications
G1196 Ed1.0 Demonstration of Innovation
G1197 Ed1.0 GNSS sat-based PPP maritime service
G1198 Ed1.0 Responsibilities of a VTS CA
G1199 Ed1.0 VTS Digital Communications
G1200 Ed1.0 Guideline on Aptitudes in VTS
G1201 Ed1.0 Remote Training in VTS

Revised model courses

C2000 Ed3.0 Level 2 Technician Training Overview
C2001-1 Ed2.0 Introduction to aids to navigation
C2001-2 Ed2.0 Introduction to AtoN buoyage
C2001-3 Ed2.0 Buoy Handling and Safe Working Practices
C2001-4 Ed4.0 Buoy Moorings
C2001-5 Ed2.0 Buoy cleaning
C2001-6 Ed2.0 Introduction to buoy positions
C2001-7 Ed2.0 Maintenance of Plastic Buoys
C2001-8 Ed3.0 Maintenance of Steel Buoys
C2001-9 Ed3.0 Power Sources on Buoys
C2001-10 Ed3.0 Introduction to Shore Marks
C2005-1 Ed3.0 Surface Preparation before Coating
C2006-1 Ed2.0 Service Craft and Buoy Tenders

Membership

The Council approved Affiliate Industrial membership for Radio Holland, Belgium; Cybernetica A/S, Estonia; Sustentos Industriales y Maritimos, S.A de C.V, Mexico; Ovun A/S, Norway; Sparex Middle East, Saudi Arabia; Advanced Electronic Co.; Ltd, Saudi Arabia; and Dais Intelligent Technology Co., Ltd, People's Republic of China. The Council approved Affiliate membership for Pilbara Ports, Australia; National Association of Radio Distress-Signalling, Hungary; and Hawkshill Consulting Ltd, United Kingdom.

The Council decided to suspend Industrial membership for UMI SAN Serviços de Apoio a Navegação e Engenharia Ltd, Brazil; Grupo Acquaplan, Brazil; W.A Maritimos Servicios Ltda, Brazil; Qingdao Geetsatcom Technology Co Ltd, China (People's Republic of); Brasal Marine Services CY Ltd, Cyprus; Port Control Ltd, Russia; La Maquinista Valenciana Balizamientos, Spain; and GS Marine Valve & Ship Supply, Türkiye.

The Council decided to suspend Affiliate membership for Korean Register of Shipping, Republic of Korea, and Korea Maritime Institute, Republic of Korea and to terminate for Ducksung Ocean Development Co., Republic of Korea.

Award

The Council approved the draft document on an IALA Award Empowering Women in Marine Aids to Navigation and agreed for the process to start as soon as possible to follow the advised timeline.

Next Dates and Venues

The Council approved the dates and venues for Council as follows:

- Session 05: 30 November to 4 December 2026 in Guangzhou, China.
- Session 06: 7 to 11 June 2027 in Madrid, Spain.
- Session 07: 7 November 2027 in Mumbai, India.
- Session 08: 12 November 2027 in Mumbai, India.

The full report is available on the website: <https://www.iala.int/meetings/04/>.