

## IALA COUNCIL 2nd Session



**9-13 June 2025  
Nice, France**

### 14. – CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, AND OTHER EVENTS

#### *14.2 – World Marine Aids to Navigation Day*

Note by the Secretariat

### INTRODUCTION

At the 3rd session the Transition Council agreed to have the WATON Day main event in London, United Kingdom. The event will be hosted from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July by the Northern Lighthouse Board and Trinity House on behalf of the UK Government.

All IALA members are invited to attend. Registrations are open online, and the Secretariat is promoting the event on the web site and on social media.

The chosen theme for the 2025 World Marine Aids to Navigation Day is *‘The role of physical Aids to Navigation in a Digital Future’* and we event will bring together senior representatives of Government, the wider maritime industry, R&D establishments and academia, and international organisations such as the IMO to participate in interactive discussions.

The provisional programme is as follows:

#### **DAY 1 – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

Early evening river cruise and social event onboard a Thames Clipper taking in the key sights of the city from the River Thames.

#### **DAY 2 – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

Location : historic Trinity House building, in the centre of London.

Opening speeches by key guests will be followed by the presentation of the Heritage Lighthouse of the Year Award.

This will be followed by a panel discussion bringing together leading experts on the theme of ‘The Future Seascape and Maritime Resilience’. Participants may then enjoy a buffet lunch and the chance for networking before a second panel discussion considering ‘Physical AtoN Services in a Digital World’. After a break for tea and coffee, there will be an update on the work and achievements of the IALA World-Wide Academy.

That evening there will be a black tie gala dinner in the Library at Trinity House.

#### **DAY 3 – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**

A coach will take guests on a two hour journey to the east coast operational base of Trinity House in the port town of Harwich. Once in Harwich, guests will have the opportunity to enjoy a technical and operational experience while visiting the 24 hour Planning Centre, the buoy yard, one of Trinity House’s vessels alongside. There will also be a chance to meet the GRAD team of technical and academic experts who undertake research and development on behalf of the three General Lighthouse



Authorities of the UK and Ireland (Trinity House, Northern Lighthouse Board and Irish Lights). Lunch will be provided and guests will be returned to London by 17:30.

When applying to attend, guests will be able to choose to attend all of the events or to choose one or more of, the Thames Clipper Welcome Reception, the Main Event, the Gala Dinner and the Technical Day in Harwich. Due to limited space available at the venues, it is anticipated that UK may only be able to welcome one attendee from each interested organization.

#### **THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO**

**NOTE** the information provided in this document and consider sending representatives to London for the celebration. Council is also invited to consider celebrating the WAtON Day locally and on social media and publicise pictures etc. on the special page on the IALA web site.