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7– NATIONAL MATTERS

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EXHIBITION OF THE UK FIRST-ORDER FRESNEL LENS

The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries has received, on long-term loan from Trinity House of the United Kingdom, a first-order Fresnel lens that was in operational service at Pendeen Lighthouse for approximately 120 years. Thanks to the active support and close cooperation of the UK, this project is progressing smoothly. The lens will be exhibited at the National Lighthouse Museum of Korea, with an opening ceremony scheduled for July 2026.

This initiative represents a significant example of international cooperation in lighthouse heritage and is expected to further enhance collaboration among IALA Members in the fields of maritime heritage and AtoN technical exchange.

MULTI-NATIONAL COOPERATION ON ELORAN STANDARDISATION(KOR-UK-FRANCE)

Korea, in cooperation with the United Kingdom and France, convened a trilateral working-group meeting in Seoul in November to advance international standardisation of eLoran services.

The three countries exchanged policy updates, reviewed ongoing research and technological developments, and explored coordinated strategies to enhance the resilience of global position, navigation, and timing (PNT) systems.

Korea also presented the eLoran service currently operational in the West Sea region and conducted a live demonstration of eLoran receiver performance at Incheon Port.

This cooperative framework forms an important part of Korea's national policy to strengthen PNT resilience and contribute actively to international standardisation efforts led by IALA.

PROGRESS IN MARITIME IOT (MIOT) SEA-TRIAL VERIFICATION

Korea has achieved a major milestone in the development of digital AtoN infrastructure by completing real-sea verification of the world's first maritime wireless communication system based on the 3GPP international standard (MIoT).

The sea trials demonstrated long-range maritime connectivity of up to 35 km and simultaneous operation of 30 terminals, confirming the system's readiness for future maritime-safety services.



MIoT is expected to play a central role in Korea's strategy for remote AtoN monitoring, data-driven maritime operations, and integrated SMART AtoN services.

Beginning with a pilot network deployment in 2026, Korea plans to expand MIoT coverage nationwide by 2030, thereby contributing tangible advancements to IALA's SMART AtoN and digital-navigation standardisation activities.

RELOCATION OF THE MINISTRY OF OCEANS AND FISHERIES HEADQUARTERS TO BUSAN

The Government of the Republic of Korea is relocating the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries headquarters from Sejong to Busan by December 2025.

Busan, as a leading global maritime hub, hosts major port, logistics, and maritime public institutions, enabling Korea to enhance the effectiveness and field connectivity of its maritime-policy framework.

The relocation is expected to strengthen Korea's capacity for international maritime cooperation and improve coordination with organisations such as IALA, IMO, and IHO.

This move will further align Korea's national maritime-safety and AtoN policies with global developments and reinforce Korea's contribution to international maritime-governance processes.