



भारत सरकार / Government of India

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

दीपस्तंभ और दीपपोत महानिदेशालय  
Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships

No P-2001/1/2020-DP

Date 22.07.2025

To

Mr. Francis Zachariae  
Secretary-General  
IALA  
10 rue des Gaudines 78100  
St Germain en Laye, France.  
Email: [contact@iala.int](mailto:contact@iala.int)

**Sub: INVITATION TO THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SESSION COUNCIL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MARINE AIDS TO NAVIGATION (IALA).**

Dear Sir,

Since its establishment in 1957, the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) and its members have worked tirelessly in a common effort to improve and harmonise Marine Aids to Navigation worldwide. This has ensured that the movement to vessels are safe, expeditious, and cost-effective while protecting the environment. Last year, 2024, marks a historic moment as the IALA transforms into the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation, recognizing its importance to international maritime transport.

The Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL), under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, has played a pivotal role in strengthening India's maritime navigation infrastructure and aligning it with international standards. As a longstanding national member of IALA, DGLL has actively contributed to the global efforts of harmonizing Marine Aids to Navigation and enhancing maritime safety. In light of IALA's historic transformation in 2024 into the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation, DGLL reaffirms its commitment to supporting IALA's vision and continues to collaborate on technical, operational and strategic initiatives that promote safe, efficient and environmentally responsible navigation along India's extensive coastline and beyond.

It gives me immense pleasure to inform you that the 3<sup>rd</sup> IALA Council Meeting is scheduled to be held in Mumbai, India, from 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025 to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at the Sofitel Hotel, Bandra Kurla Complex. The event is being hosted by DGLL under the aegis of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, in collaboration with IALA.

On behalf of DGLL and the Government of India, I have the honour to extend a warm invitation to you to grace the occasion and participate in the council meeting as the Secretary-General of IALA. Your presence will not only add significance to the event but also reinforce the long-standing cooperation between DGLL and IALA in advancing global standards and best practices in Marine Aids to Navigation.

Situated at the crossroads of major international maritime routes, India offers an enriching experience for attendees with its diverse cultural heritage and dynamic maritime ecosystem. As your host, we are committed to providing a platform for constructive dialogue for IALA and its member States to ensure a successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting.

Kindly find enclosed Annexes, a map of Sofitel Hotel, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, a list of nearby hotels for your reference, as well as links to digital brochures highlighting India's premier attractions and culinary offerings. Necessary assistance will be provided for grant of visa. For specific matters related to participation, please feel free to contact to Mr. Digvijay Singh, Deputy Director, email: digvijay-dgll@gov.in, Whattsapp : +91 88001 54949.

I look forward to welcoming you to 3<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting of the International Organization for Marine Aids to navigation in Mumbai.

Yours faithfully,



(N. Muruganandam)  
Director General

Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships, India

Encl – Annex A: Map of Sofitel Hotel;  
Annex B: List of Nearby Hotel;  
Annex C: Information on India.