

**IALA COUNCIL**  
**4th session**



**8-11 June 2026**  
**HQ, France**

## **11 – IALA World-Wide Academy**

### ***11.1.1 – WWA - Progress Report***

## **World-Wide Academy Progress Report**

### **1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The benefits and responsibilities of the Academy under the IGO status of IALA are to be emphasized. This status confers greater legitimacy and enhances, inter alia, the Academy's capacity to conduct capacity-building missions. It also opens avenues for increased and more diverse voluntary contributions, including in-kind support, seconded officers, and the potential to secure additional sponsorship.

The Academy has been a great success with an ever-increasing level of activity and genuine recognition from coastal States and partner organizations. As a token of recognition by IALA members and other stakeholders, the financial resources of the Academy are increasing which is allowing further recruitment for the Education and training tasks. It should also be noted that the academy has benefited from the secondment of a first officer (part time) from MPA Singapore for the full year 2026.

The Academy continues to develop and pursue its strategic goals through its "Enlighten, Educate and Engage" methodology.

In 2026, the Academy has been delivering or contributing to fifteen training sessions in four continents. Risk assessment remains a tremendous topic with the full Level 1.3. Risk Management IALA toolbox that will be delivered for the first time in Africa (Morocco). Other courses at the cutting-edge are being delivered as well by the Academy: S200 data production at IALA HQ and in Dominican Republic (upon request from the MACHC hydrographic commission), and the resumed Level 1.4 GNSS and e-navigation (Romania).

Furthermore, a good number of technical needs assessment missions and reviews are to be carried out, including in Iraq (February 2025) and Philippines (May).

### **2 THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO**

Note the World-Wide Academy Progress Report provided in Appendix 1.



## APPENDIX 1

# WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY PROGRESS REPORT

## INTRODUCTION

Council members will recall that the IALA World-Wide Academy (the Academy) aims to ensure that all coastal States can fulfil the obligations related to Marine Aids to Navigation placed upon them in Chapter V of the SOLAS Convention, and that all coastal States can claim conformance with the relevant IALA standards. Notably, the Academy focusses on facilitating the effective implementation of the IALA standards, recommendations, guidelines, and model courses by coastal States through capacity building: education, training and technical assistance, thereby underpinning the second strategic goal of IALA.

This paper may contain a summary of internal reports and the executive summaries of technical cooperation visit reports. The information contained is not within the public domain and has been prepared for internal use only.

## 1. THE WWA MANAGEMENT & RESOURCES

### 1.1. RESOURCES

As regards the budget for 2026, the expected available funds amount to 1.555.000 euros, including a €252.000 reserve from 2025. The expected expenditures are €1.345.000, affording a €210.000 remaining new reserve by the end of this year. As a matter of fact, this level of budget is allowed by a 13% increase of financial sponsorship which will be reaching €1.303.000 in 2026: the Academy extend its deepest gratitude to the International Foundation for Aids to Navigation (IFAN) and once again to the United Kingdom for their increased support, and to Singapore, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and France for their unwavering support.

From November 2024, the Academy have been gathering 4 full-time positions. Issues at stake as regards the WWA missions, and the increased support from the sponsors allow the waging of further manpower in 2026 (see below).

### 1.2 RUNNING OF THE ACADEMY

The high level of education operations while dealing with strategic planning and core engineering functions in education and training, brings the Academy to recruit a fifth full time staff.

The WWA is presently recruiting an “Education Planner” primarily dedicated to education and training operations. In coordination with the actual Education and Training manager, she will be in charge of the following main tasks: planning, cooperation with host countries and Accredited Training Organizations (ATO), selection and management of sponsored individuals, and management of alumni. The appointment is expected on 1<sup>st</sup> of June or July 2026.

This Education Planner will enable the actual Education and Training Manager to focus on educational engineering and the running of the IALA education system: monitoring of the accreditation scheme of training organizations (ATO), assistance to the latter’s, the update of materials and syllabus, the update of the IALA Model courses in cooperation with IALA technical committees, the management of the e-learning platform.

When it comes to Capacity building, further goals are now assigned to the reports on our technical missions in countries, with more advice for implementation of SOLAS convention and IALA standards, prioritization, and improved overview of statement of findings.



## 2. OPERATIONS

Training on risk management remains a crucial and increasingly prioritized area, reflecting the need for robust safety and operational strategies. Furthermore, three sessions on Level 1.2- Master of AtoN, will be delivered in 2026, this is an unprecedented number.

The Academy will be meeting the expanding range of needs of governments, meaning the push toward digitalization including the adoption of S-100 and S-200 standards (two sessions in 2026) and the international context: for the first time since 2017, an updated Level 1.4 GNSS and e-navigation will be delivered as well.

This year, with the strong support from Singapore, the Academy has been conducting an ambitious review of the Level 1.1 AtoN Manager model course. This training of great importance (116 participants in 2025, more a thousand alumni as of now) was lastly reviewed in 2019 (edition 3.1) and must be updated to comply with the digitalisation and sustainability new issues. The aim is also to conduct the return of experience and to align with the educational principles. The highlight of this project will be the workshop to be held in Singapore this June. Finally, this task for which MPA Singapore is keen to provide a part time seconded officer all this year long, is aimed at providing the IALA technical committees, responsible for the drafting of the reviewed model course, with comprehensive inputs for their own agenda.

### 2.1. ACTION PLAN 2026

The Action Plan is a list of goals and activities which helps the Academy to prioritize its work. Whether an activity is progressed depends on the resource situation and whether the Academy receives an invitation from the country in question.

The Academy considers the following priorities, still on a voluntary base for coastal States:

- To support island and archipelagic States facing numerous challenges related to territorial continuity and third-party maritime traffic.
- To deliver operations (training and/or technical missions) in coastal States facing fast increase or diversification of offshore activities.
- To prioritize good governance (procurement and level 1.2. Master of AtoN) and digitalization challenges addressing.
- To develop follow-up actions (review missions) to be long term effective.
- To support States in the implementation of PSSAs established under the auspices of IMO.
- To support States in the preparation of IMO's member States audit as regards SOLAS chapter V, Regulations 12 & 13.
- To Organize or participate in regional events (Latin America, Coastguard Fora, West Africa).

Furthermore, the WWA is to reply to new kinds of needs expressed by countries, such as the design of training sessions that are not delivered by the academy. This is about training engineering (identification of funders and providers, consolidation of needs) for Level 2 Technician of AtoN in Oceania, for instance.

In the framework of the new three-year MoU for technical cooperation signed with Indonesia (see Item 5.1), in 2026 the Academy will contribute to deliver a level 1.1 AtoN Manager course, a tailored short course for the benefit of Heads of Navigation Districts, and advisory during a SIRA workshop conducted by DGST in Surabaya.

It's worth noting that still in line with the WWA strategy to support archipelagic states, a first mission in Philippines will be conducted in May 2026, with high level meetings and visits on the field. We may consider a cooperation MoU similar to the one signed with Indonesia.



### 2.1.1. ENLIGHTENING – RAISING AWARENESS

2026 will see the Academy's strategy for Africa come to fruition, with the organization of the first regional seminar for Portuguese-speaking countries, thanks to support from Portugal.

#### *Hydrographic commission meetings (awareness raising and lobbying)*

<i>Planned activity</i>
Attend some of the hydrographic commission meetings (NOICH, MACHC, MBSHC, EAtHC, RSAHC/ROPME, SAIHC, SWPH).

#### *Other activities (not exhaustive list)*

<i>Planned activity</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar on the L1.1 Manager of AtoN review</li><li>• IMO TCC</li><li>• Rep.Korea Maritime Week and CB workshop</li><li>• Joint CB Group meeting n°15</li><li>• Latin America Seminar (Mexico)</li><li>• Seminar for Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa (Portugal)</li></ul>

### 2.1.2. EDUCATING – DEVELOPING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

#### *Level 1 Model courses*

<b>AtoN Manager courses (L1.1)</b>	<b>AtoN Master courses (L1.2)</b>	<b>Risk management (L1.3)</b>
Help deliver several sessions spread around the world. Likely locations: United Kingdom, Abu Dhabi, Chile (Sp), China, Columbia (Sp), France, India, Indonesia, MENAS (Bahrein), Rep.Korea, Morocco (Fr)	Deliver up to three sessions.  Likely locations : China, Columbia (alternative to L1.1), Turkiye	Deliver up to four sessions.  Likely locations : China, Panama, Morocco.
<b>GNSS &amp; e-nav (L1.4)</b>		
Under revision : resilient PNT. One five-days session (Romania)		

#### *VTS related activities*

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Assist when requested with developing and delivering and assessing VTS training worldwide.	- Assisting with VTS training in Malaysia (JANA & Matrain) Nov 2026.

#### *Other courses*

<i>Planned activity</i>
Procurement course : Gambia



S-200 Data production: IALA HQ (February 2026) and MACHC region (Meso America and Caribbean: May 2026).

Level 2 AtoN Technician course to be designed and facilitated for Oceania (lecturers, host country and sponsor(s) to be identified).

Lecturing at IMLI (IMO Maritime Law Institute)

### 2.1.3. ENGAGING- LONG TERM CAPACITY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

#### Technical needs assessment and follow up missions

Planned activity	Status
Conduct missions as opportunities arise and where relevant as agreed with sponsors.	<p><b>Confirmed:</b> Gambia, Irak, Philippines, Indonesia</p> <p><b>Under discussion:</b> Bangladesh (follow up), Equatorial Guinea, Panama, Guinea, Timor Leste.</p>

## 2.2 . ACTIVITIES AS OF 31 MARCH

The Academy has been keeping a busy schedule since the start of 2026, having already carried out two technical missions abroad and organised four training sessions.

### 2.2.1. ENLIGHTENING – RAISING AWARENESS

#### 1.1. Regional hydrographic commissions

##### SWPHC -23, New-Caledonia (February 2025)

The Academy participated in the 23rd South-West Pacific Hydrographic Commission. Before this meeting a 2-day workshop on Maritime Safety Information took place. The Academy presented the link between S100 and S-200 domains. In their statement (national matters) a number of delegates mention AtoN issues : mainly logistic and supply chain, and as already foreseen, the required assistance on technical topics. The issue of equipments and assets is important and dependence on supplier as well.

##### IMLI Visiting lecturer, Malta (January 2026)

For a third year, the Academy was invited as visiting lecturer to the International Maritime Law Institute in Malta, so as to deliver a set of lectures on IALA, the IALA Risk Management Toolbox and the IMO Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services. The main focus of the lectures was on the legal impact of IMO Resolution A.1158(32) on Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services. This will support the participants on return to their home country to analyze and improve the VTS provisions.

### 2.2.2. EDUCATING – DEVELOPING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

#### Level 1.3 Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox

A number of courses are being offered by the Academy to address the gap in understanding the importance of conducting risk assessments to ensure the safe management of waterways as specified by SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 12 and 13.

Two training sessions were delivered back to back in Latin America:



- A full Level 1.3, Panama City (9-13 March 2026):

The training course on the Use of the IALA Risk Management Toolbox was held at the headquarter of the Autoridad Maritima de Panama (AMP). Attended by 31 participants from seven countries, the course focused on risk management principles for AtoN Managers, with particular emphasis on the SIRA and IWRAP tools. Additional topics included PAWSA, simulation, and broader navigational risk management in the international context. Five participants were sponsored by the Academy.

- The Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox training, Paramaribo, Suriname (16-20 March 2026):

Held at the headquarter of the Maritime Agency of Suriname (MAS) this session focused on the SIRA with additional presentation on PAWSA and IWRAP tools. This operation clearly in line with the WWA strategy to support countries which face increasing offshore industries (oil and gas) brought together 21 participants from Suriname, Belize (one sponsored participant) and Trinidad & Tobago. This provided an opportunity to demonstrate the collection and use of AIS data, thanks to the installation of a portable AIS receiver purchased by the Academy for this purpose.

#### **Procurement Course: Banjul, Gambia (12-16 January 2026)**

The Academy delivered a new session on this important topic for the benefit of 22 participants from 5 countries, including 4 sponsored participants (Cap Verde, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone). This training is of great interest for in-need countries that face the challenge of placing orders in a technically and financially efficient manner.

#### **S-200 Data Production, IALA headquarter (23-27 February 2026)**

19 participants from 13 countries attended this new session on the edge. Still improved from the experience learned during the two previous sessions, and as our understanding grows, the syllabus is of more technical and practical character.

### **2.2.3. ENGAGING - LONG TERM CAPACITY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**

#### **Gambia (19-22 January 2026)**

Back to back with the above mentioned training on procurement, a review of the 2019 technical needs assessment mission took place. The Gambia and Portuguese Navy facilitated the technical tour on the field and valuable AtoN user input was provided. The last day the Academy expert briefed the Permanent Secretary of all outcomes and she was informed of the status for The Gambia acceding to the IALA Convention.

#### **Iraq (7-13 February 2026)**

On invitation by the General Company for Ports of Iraq (GCPI) the Academy conducted a second mission to Iraq (April 2025). The focus was first on AtoN management and technical aspects concerning AtoN. Several training sessions took place during the technical visits. Secondly the expert provided a workshop on raising the awareness of General Company for Ports of Iraq (GCPI) and its stakeholders about VTS implementation. During the mission it was investigated how best the training needs for IALA model courses could best be addressed, taking in account the geopolitical challenges that limit Iraqi officers to travel abroad.