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COMMUNICATIONS AND SEARCH AND
RESCUE
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Agenda item 9

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**DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE TO ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR DATA
DISTRIBUTION AND GLOBAL IP-BASED CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN SHORE-BASED
FACILITIES AND SHIPS FOR ECDIS S-100 PRODUCTS AND OPERATIONAL
GUIDANCE FOR ROUTE EXCHANGE**

**Update on IALA's considerations regarding the operation of a Maritime Connectivity
Platform (MCP)**

IALA

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides information on the current status of IALA's internal deliberations and ongoing feasibility study concerning the operation of a Maritime Connectivity Platform (MCP) instance. This platform is intended to serve as a key component of the S-100 data distribution framework, specifically supporting SECOM-based technical services provided by IALA members.

Strategic direction, 2
if applicable:

Output: Paragraph 8

Action to be taken:

Related documents: MSC.530(106)/Rev.1, NCSR 12/20, NCSR 13/9/1, IMO/ITU EG 21/5

Introduction

1 Following the discussions at the twelfth session of the Sub-Committee regarding the establishment of a framework for data distribution and global IP-based connectivity for ECDIS S-100 products, IALA has been actively monitoring and contributing to the technical and operational developments. This includes the ongoing work of the Joint IMO/ITU Experts Group and the Correspondence Group on the S-100 Framework, specifically concerning the implementation of SECOM as a key enabling technology.

2 This document provides an update on IALA's strategic considerations and the current status of operating a Maritime Connectivity Platform (MCP) instance. The proposed MCP aims to facilitate SECOM-based e-navigation services, ensuring seamless data exchange between shore-based facilities and ships.

Current status and progress

3 IALA has recently commenced a comprehensive feasibility study to provide a robust basis for a final decision on the implementation and operation of an IALA MCP instance.

4 The scope of this feasibility study encompasses critical operational and administrative aspects, including:

- .1 Liability Framework: Defining legal responsibilities for IALA and its Members,
- .2 Operational Model: Establishing a sustainable management structure for the platform, and,
- .3 Financial Implications: Assessing the long-term cost structure and funding mechanisms.

5 Furthermore, IALA is investigating the interoperability and co-existence of the IALA MCP with the MCP instance that the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) operates, pending its final decision on operational governance. This coordination is essential to ensure a harmonized global maritime digital infrastructure.

6 The IALA MCP operational instance is intended to support a wide range of SECOM-based services provided by IALA Members, primarily focusing on Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) and Aids to Navigation (AtoN) services, thereby enhancing the safety and efficiency of navigation, and to implement the Technical Services associated with Maritime Services in the context of e-Navigation.

7 A final decision regarding the operation of the MCP is expected to be reached by the IALA Council in 2027 after analysis of the outcome of the feasibility study.

Conclusion

8 The Sub-Committee is invited to take note of the information provided regarding IALA's progress in supporting the S-100 framework through the MCP.