



Input paper: CoS1.6.1

Input paper for Change of Status Working Group

Purpose of paper:

- ☐ Input
- ☐ Information

Agenda item 6.1

Author Secretariat

Introduction of IALA Standards

1 Summary

This paper provides information about current activities being undertaken to introduce a new hierarchy of documents in relation to IALA's principal publications – standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals and model courses.

2 Background

At its 59th Session held at IALA HQ in December 2014, the IALA Council approved a New Document Scheme. Refer to paper C59-8.1.3 Revision 1. The Scheme contains Standards, recommendations, Guidelines, Manuals, and Model Courses.

The addition of Standards to IALA's existing documents and the concept of a pyramid hierarchy of Standard-Recommendation-Guideline arose directly from Goal G1 and Strategy G1 S1 of the "Strategic Vision For IALA for the period 2014-2026", which was approved by the IALA Council at its 56th Session held in Goa in December 2013.

The new structure and approval mechanism approved in December 2014 are described in the table at clause 7.3 of the reference, reproduced in Annex A.

3 Discussion

3.1 Standards

At an ad hoc session in Rotterdam on 18 February 2015, the Policy Advisory Panel (PAP) created a draft plan for six Standards. These are shown at Annex B, where the blue boxes are the Standards and the white boxes are examples of content for the subsidiary sets of Recommendations and Guidelines.

3.2 Relationship to change of status

The IALA General Assembly of May 2014 directed the Council to proceed with preparation for a change of the status of IALA to an International Intergovernmental Organization (IGO). The introduction of Standards and the new document scheme is not dependent on a change of the status of IALA, but Standards may have greater importance if the change of status occurs.

3.3 Status of IALA Standards today and after a change of IALA to an IGO

The current IALA Constitution provides for the making of Standards. One function of IALA is to formulate and publish such documents as a means to improve and harmonise aids to navigation worldwide.

To date, Standards have not been developed by IALA however a recent review of the IALA suite of documents identified a lack of clarity of purpose and an overlap between those documents which are produced. Council approved a new document scheme as a means of guiding the work of reviewing and updating IALA's existing publications.

This activity is necessary to give effect to the goals and strategies approved as part of IALA's current Strategic Vision, which is in place and will guide IALA's activities into the future. It is not dependent on IGO status. Any Standards that are developed will be non-binding as a result of IALA's current status.

Whether IALA becomes an IGO is a matter for States, as is the text of the Convention that would create such an organization. The Convention text will determine the status of IALA Standards and other publications, which in keeping with other IGOs, is expected to remain non-mandatory.

3.4 Existing Buoyage Agreement and possible need for a Buoyage Convention

The IGO text will also determine if the IALA IGO has a function to develop conventions which give effect to its aims and objectives. Such conventions would be developed by governments signatory to the IALA Convention and would be subject to normal diplomatic procedures. For example the IMO Convention states that IMO can create conventions, and SOLAS and MARPOL are such conventions. Governments who become party to those separate conventions are bound to implement them because that is the requirement stated in the text of those conventions.

One subject which may be suitable for development of a convention by the IALA IGO is the Maritime Buoyage Agreement, which is currently an agreement between administrations or agencies, not governments. Creating the opportunity to make compliance with the Maritime Buoyage System mandatory may be viewed as a positive development by governments in the future.

3.5 Timetable for approval

The following is the first draft of a timetable for approval of these first six Standards. This timetable is for information for the following bodies:

- The Change of Status Working Group of the IALA Council
- The Policy Advisory Panel
- The Legal Advisory Panel

It concentrates on activities in 2015. More detail for later years can be added as the work proceeds.

Date	IALA Organ	Event	Action needed
2015-04-09	COS Working Group	Madrid meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note• Comment if necessary
2015-05-26	Council	Session 60	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note progress (verbal report)
2015-06-17	PAP	PAP29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First draft of Recommendations and Guidelines under each Standard
2015-9 - 15	LAP	LAP15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First draft of a template for an IALA Standard

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider approval process for Standards at General Assembly
2015-11-12	PAP	PAP30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise Standards-Recommendations-Guidelines proposal for Council input
2015-12-07	Council	Session 61	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note progress (verbal report)
2015-12-31	Secretariat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create numbering system Update website
2016-??	Council	Session 62	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Standards-Recommendations-Guidelines proposal from PAP30
2016-??	LAP	LAP16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final template for Standard Final procedure for approval of Standards by a General Assembly
2016-2018	Secretariat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications with members
2018	General Assembly		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve Standards

Action requested of the Working Group

The Working Group is requested to note the information provided in this paper.

ANNEX A

TABLE FROM CLAUSE 7.3 OF C59-8.3.1 REVISION 1

<u>Document type</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Approval method</u>
Standard	IALA Standards form a framework, implementation of which by all coastal states will harmonize marine aids to navigation worldwide. IALA standards cover technology and services and are non-mandatory.	Essential for global harmonisation Suitable for citation in legislation or regulations	By the IALA General Assembly in accordance with Article 7.3 of the Constitution.
Recommendation	IALA Recommendations describe how to plan, design, operate, and manage marine aids to navigation in order to comply with IALA Standards. Each Recommendation is related to an IALA Standard.	Recommended practice to aid in meeting an IALA Standard, which may be suitable for citation in legislation or regulations. Ensures that a product or service meets expectations	By the IALA Council in accordance with Article 8.4 of the Constitution.
Guideline	IALA Guidelines provide information on aspects of IALA Recommendations, indicating best practices for implementation. Each Guideline is related to an IALA Recommendation.	Practical and detailed information for implementing an IALA Recommendation	By the IALA Council in accordance with Article 8.4 of the Constitution.
Manual, including the IALA Dictionary	IALA Manuals provide an overall view of a wide subject area.	Introduction to broad topic areas, such as Vessel Traffic Services, Aids to Navigation, and Heritage.	By the IALA Council in accordance with Article 8.4 of the Constitution.
Model Course	IALA Model Courses are training documents which define the level of training and knowledge needed to reach standards of competence defined by the IALA WWA.	For training of managers, operators and technicians to the IALA recommended level of competence.	By the IALA Council in accordance with Article 8.4 of the Constitution.

ANNEX B

THE REPORT OF THE AD HOC PAP MEEETING OF 18 FEBRUARY 2015

