

Pre-DIPCON

18-19 April 2017  
Paris

### 3.4 (E) – Invitation to the 19<sup>th</sup> IALA Conference – Incheon, Republic of Korea, June 2018

Note by the Secretariat

#### 1. BACKGROUND: AN IALA CONFERENCE EVERY 4 YEARS

IALA organises at regular intervals Conferences to address all aspects of Aids to Navigation. Since 1990 these events are held every four years at the invitation of an IALA National Member. The Conference locations are normally selected by the Council to ensure a balance between continents. As a result IALA visited Spain in 2014 and expect to meet in Brazil in 2020, with a Conference in Korea next year. The Conferences normally attract up to 550 persons.

Since 1965 the industry, through the industrial members of IALA, is also invited to contribute to the discussions and exhibit their latest products and technologies, which is highly valued by all members.

The Conferences are also the opportunity for the members to gather for the IALA General Assembly that is held at the same time and on the same venue as the Conference.

#### 2. THE 19<sup>TH</sup> IALA CONFERENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

At the kind invitation by the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea the IALA Council determined that the 19<sup>th</sup> IALA Conference will take place in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 27<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2018.

It is hoped that the Secretary-General of IMO will be in a position to accept the invitation to deliver the keynote speech, as was the case for many IALA Conferences until now.

Alongside a very detailed technical programme that will extend over 6 days and an industrial exhibition that will run for about the same duration, a special exhibition will be organised by the National Member in the Republic of Korea on lighthouse heritage with lectures delivered by experts in the field.

#### 3. THE IALA GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2018

As it is customary the next General Assembly will gather during the Conference. All members can attend a General Assembly but only National Members can vote to elect the Council that will govern IALA during the next four years, and on any decision that is put to vote. In addition to the Council election and among any other decisions required, which may include a revised Constitution for IALA as an NGO, the General Assembly will be requested to adopt IALA Standards, which are high level documents that have been developed during the current work period.

#### 4. THE PROPOSED DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE

The Government of the Republic of Korea has kindly offered to host, if appropriate, a Diplomatic Conference for formal adoption of the draft IALA Convention, which would be convened in conjunction with the next scheduled IALA Conference, to be held in Incheon in May 2018.

#### 5. THE CONFERENCE IS INVITED TO

- **Note** the information provided.