Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) DTEC1-5.1.3.9

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **X** Input

X DTEC **□** VTS **□** Information

Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) n.n

Technical Domain / Task Number 2 …………………………………

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Proposal on the work for the implementation of the Application Specific Messages (ASM)

# Summary

In line with the ongoing work in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for the introduction of VHF Data Exchange System (VDES), this paper proposes that the Committee develop the associated document on the Application Specific Messages (ASM); the work may include the development of IHO S-230.

## Purpose of the document

It is recommended that the development of documents for the worldwide use of VDES ASM should be commenced in accordance with the relevant work in the International Maritime Organization (IMO); this work may include the development of IHO S-230 (Application Specific Messages). In addition, the Japan Coast Guard wishes to inform the Committee of its intention to contribute to the work of the future Committee’s sessions on this subject.

## Related documents

IMO SN.1/Circ.289

IHO S-100 and S-200 Series

NCSR 10/6/1

# Background and discussion

At the 10th Session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communication and Search and Rescue (NCSR-10) in May 2023, the work on the introduction of VHF Data Exchange System (VDES) was approved and the relevant documents on VDES are being developed as part of the work.

Application Specific Messages (ASM) are considered to be one of the simplest ways to send MSI and Search and Rescue related information via VDES. Although the messages, which are defined in IMO SN.1/Circ.289, cover the wide range of needs of the maritime community, the use of ASM is limited compared to the worldwide acceptance of AIS. Japan assumes that the lack of a specification for display on ECDIS, i.e. the related S-100 series product specification, may be one of the reasons for the insufficient acceptance of ASM.

In addition, since the guideline was developed 2010, there has been an evolutionally improvement in maritime radio communications thanks to the International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) technologies and satellite communication through non-gestational satellite (NGSO) constellation(s). In this regard, the expected role of ASM, as a component of VDES, may change from that of 13 years ago; it is possible to review SN.1/Circ.289 as a work of the IMO based on the current situation in the maritime community.

In line with the review of the SN.1/Circ.289 and the other related documents on ASM, it is the good opportunity to initiate the development of S-230.

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to:

1. initiate the work for developing IHO S-230 (Application Specific Messages) in line with the proposed new work item as attached; and
2. review, study and/or develop other associated documents as appropriate.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)