Liaison Note to PAP

Draft position paper considering whether or not IALA should include the possibility for non-SOLAS vessels to access some e-Navigation services using any available equipment such as tablets and mobile phones.

# Introduction

The ENAV committee was requested to draft a position paper for consideration by a future PAP meeting regarding conclusion 5 of the IALA 2014 Conference:

*“Shore based authorities should recognise that there is a significant population of smaller and non SOLAS vessels that is [are] not equipped to take advantage of all aspects of e-navigation services.”*

# Details of draft position paper

Many existing SOLAS vessels built before July 2014 of less than 10,000 gt and many non-SOLAS vessels may not have full access to e-navigation services. Smaller SOLAS and non-SOLAS vessels frequently carry sophisticated navigational and communications equipment that is not mandated by IMO and may not be type approved under IMO requirements. Consideration might be given to providing e-navigation services to such vessels.

While the potential benefits of growing access to e-navigation services should be recognised, the risks associated herewith should be taken into account. It should also be recognised that equipment carried on such vessels, with the potential to access e-navigation services ranges from complex Electronic Chart Systems to personal devices used to access many non-regulated services with few if any quality assurance or security requirements. Risk mitigation could be achieved by giving careful consideration to a number of aspects, including:

1. Level of competence in utilising the information provided.
2. Quality assurance of equipment.
3. The risks associated with the use of outdated, incorrect, corrupt or malicious information.
4. Quality, reliability, availability and security aspects of information.

IALA members should recognize that, in many parts of the world, there is a significant population of smaller and non-SOLAS vessels, for which some e-Navigation services may be very valuable, given that the risks associated with providing such services can be sufficiently mitigated.

# Action requested

The PAP is requested to note, and if appropriate, adopt the proposed position paper in part or in whole as the IALA position on the subject matter.