You may recall that IALA is participating in the development of the Common Maritime Data Structure using the IHO S-100 GI-Registry as a baseline for the collection, exchange, and distribution of data.

As a part of that work IALA developed a guideline on producing an IALA S-100 product specification and organized a workshop “on developing S-100 product specifications for e-Navigation” in June 2012.

At this workshop it became clear that Data Services are not sufficiently supported by the existing standard (e.g. continuous and real-time delivery).

The IHO representatives at the Workshop recommended that IALA makes a detailed proposal to the IHO HSSC-TSMAD to adapt S-100 to support this.

In September 2013, the IALA e-NAV Committee was unable to progress this due to a lack of expertise on S-100. As a result TSMAD provided several experts (from UKHO and Jeppesen) to an inter-sessional meeting held at IALA HQ in February 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to draft a proposal to the IHO HSSC-TSMAD to adapt S-100 to support the full range of data services.

During the meeting the Working Group reviewed S-100. It was concluded that data services need to be addressed in S-100 and that IALA could make a contribution to do this.

However, because of the IALA meeting schedule, it is not possible to finalize the contribution to TSMAD in time for HSSC 6 in November 2014. The earliest opportunity for IALA to finalize its contribution to IHO-TSMAD is at the ENAV Committee meeting in October 2014.

We would appreciate an indication whether this contribution would be helpful and, if so, can you advise on the timing of the contribution to an appropriate revision of S-100.