Cover note to IALA ENG16-12.3.1.1

IMO on development of the draft IMO position on world radiocommunication conference 2023 (WRC-23) agenda item 10

# Introduction

Council is invited to review and approve the attached document with a view of sending it to the IMO ITU Joint Experts group in December.

# Background

At the last World Radio Congress (WRC-19), frequencies for the satellite component of the VHF Data Exchange System (VDES) were allocated, noting that frequencies for the terrestrial component of VDES were allocated at WRC-15. These frequencies were allocated to support the communications aspect of VDES and therefore they were designated as communication services within the radio regulations.

# Discussion

With the recognition of VDES in support of positioning, via Ranging Mode (R-Mode), the positioning capability of the service should be captured within the designation in the radio regulations. This paper invites the IMO to consider this aspect with a view of adding the Radionavigation services designation to the VDES frequencies.

The input paper is timely given that the next meeting will be held early December with the deadline for input documents of 4th November 2022

# Action requested

Council is kindly invited to review this document out of session and if it is approve, to forward to the IMO ITU Joint Experts group by the deadline.