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IHB File No. S3/3103

Monaco, 10 February 2016

Mr Seamus DOYLE
IALA ENAV Committee Secretary
seamus.doyle@iala-aism.org

Ref: ENAV17-14.1.9.1 and
Annex ENAV17-14.1.9.2

Dear Mr DOYLE,

I refer to your e-mail dated 14 December 2015 seeking the views of the IHO on the methodology proposed by IALA to *develop and harmonize the content of Maritime Service Portfolios #5 (MSI) and enhance coordination among IHO, WMO and IALA*.

The IHO fully supports the view that a coordination and collaboration process needs to be established and agreed among the relevant stakeholders to develop and implement the concept of Maritime Service Portfolios (MSP), as outlined in the e-navigation Strategy Implementation Plan (SIP) adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The IHO notes that the stakeholders include the relevant international organizations, and both service and data providers.

However, as reported to IMO in document NAV 59/6/4, the IHO does not agree with the *proposed* list of MSPs presented in Table 6 of the SIP.

The proposed list includes five services in which the IHO is potentially involved:

- MSP 5 - Maritime Safety Information (MSI) service;
- MSP 11 - Nautical chart service;
- MSP 12 - Nautical publications service;
- MSP 13 - Ice navigation service; and
- MSP 15 - Real-time hydrographic and environmental information service.

The IHO notes that this *a priori* distribution of services reflects the traditional methods of promulgating nautical information, which mainly relied on the use of paper products (nautical charts and publications). This distribution does not reflect the flexibility offered by digital products and electronic display and information systems in the context of e-navigation.

Therefore, the IHO considers that task T17 of the SIP “Further develop the MSPs to refine services and responsibilities ahead of implementing transition arrangements” starts with refining the distribution of the MSPs. In that context, the IHO considers that it would be premature to develop and harmonize the content of any specific MSP within its remit, including MSP 5.

The IHO Secretariat has agreed to support the submission by Norway to propose to the 96th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) an output on e-navigation related to MSPs. The IHO expects that the proposed output should provide the appropriate guidance to develop the MSPs in a coordinated and harmonized manner.

Meanwhile, the IHO welcomes the continuing contribution of IALA to the development of the S-100 framework which has been adopted by IMO as the baseline for the Common Maritime Data Structure required in support of e-navigation. The IHO invites IALA in particular to continue participating actively in the development of the S-124 Navigational Warning Product Specification.

Yours sincerely,



Gilles BESSERO
Director

Copy:

- Chair, HSSC
- Chair, NIPWG
- Vice-Chair, NIPWG (IHO representative at the IALA ENAV Committee)
- Chair, S-124 CG