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Agenda item 6

Technical Domain / Task Number 3.1.15

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RTCM Annual Assembly

# Summary

This paper provides information on the upcoming Annual Assembly of the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services and encourages participation by IALA members.

# Background

RTCM is a non-profit scientific and educational organization, focusing on all aspects of maritime radiocommunications, radionavigation, and related technologies. Founded in 1947, it is an independent non-profit membership organization. RTCM standards are incorporated by reference into U.S. Federal Communications Commission and U.S. Coast Guard regulations. They have been used as the basis for requirements in standards of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), which are now mandatory under Chapters IV and V of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS).

# Discussion

The RTCM Annual Assembly Meeting and Conference, which is open to both RTCM members and non-members, is structured to provide attendees with an overall update on the changing world of maritime radiocommmunications and radionavigation. The program includes a series of presentations, panel sessions, workshops, and RTCM Special Committee meetings dealing with issues of current concern to the maritime community. The program this year includes sessions on Cybersecurity in Navigation and Communications, eNavigation Developments and Systems, Distress Technologies, Satellite Services, GMDSS Modernization, and more. Other organizations such as the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA), the U.S. National GMDSS Implementation Task Force, and the NOAA SARSAT Beacon Manufacturers Workshop, also typically hold meetings in conjunction with the RTCM Assembly. All attendees are invited to participate in all sessions. Through the cooperation of RTCM member exhibitors, the latest technology providing radiocommunications and radionavigation equipment, capabilities, and services are on display. Registration materials and information can be found at www.rtcm.org.

This year’s RTCM Annual Assembly and Conference will be held 15 - 20 May 2016 at the Duval Conference Center, Clearwater, Florida, USA

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to consider this information and encourage participation in the Assembly by IALA Members.