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Agenda item 9

Technical Domain / Task Number …………………………………

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Proposed actions to establish Maritime Resource Namespace

# Summary

ENAV17 produced as a working document a draft guideline on Unique Identifiers for Maritime Resources (enav17\_14\_1\_5), providing a method for managing Unique Identification in a decentralized and extendable way for any kind of maritime resource.

This document discuss it’s wider perspective and propose actions to achieve it’s aim.

## Purpose of the document

This paper proposes actions to establish and manage the ‘Maritime Resource Name’ namespace and ensure it’s foundation, which will guarantee the global uniqueness of identifiers issued in accordance with this guideline.

Further liaison with sister bodies within the maritime domain are proposed, to facilitate wider application of the Maritime Resource Name as a generic method to generate universally unique identifiers for the maritime domain.

## Related documents

ENAV18-9.17 Comments on ENAV17-14.1.5 on MRN Unique Identifiers

RFC 2141 - <https://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2141.txt>

# Background

Based on a specific request from IHO for IALA to ensure the definition of Persistent Unique Identifiers for AtoN, ENAV17 produced a draft guideline on Unique Identifiers for Maritime Resources (enav17\_14\_1\_5) and forwarded it to PAP with a liaison statement.

Based on work conducted in two European projects, input to further progress the guideline and extend it with an ‘experimental’ namespace for developing, testing and validating unique identifier concepts through a structured process in testbeds, a progressed version of the draft guideline is provided in the document “Enav18\_x\_x\_comments on enav17\_14\_1\_5 on MRN”

# Discussion

The concept of the ‘Maritime Resource Name’ as proposed in the draft guideline developed during ENAV17, builds on the URN (Universal Resource Name) adopted by the IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force –based on [RFC 2141](https://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2141.txthttps:/www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2141.txt))

Assuming that IALA will approve this guideline, it requires the registration of the relevant MRN namespace(s) with the [Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)](http://www.iana.org/assignments/urn-namespaces/urn-namespaces.xhtml) through the submission of an RFC to IETF, for IALA to be able to assign unique high level namespaces to stakeholders and domains within the maritime realm, and to utilize this notation under it’s own domain. This requires a dedicated work effort.

Two ongoing European projects – the EfficienSea 2 project coordinated by the Danish Maritime Authority, and the STM Validation Project coordinated by the Swedish Maritime Agency – are intending to adopt the ‘experimental’ path of proposed the Maritime Resource Name guideline to develop, test and validate concepts through testbeds, which require the ability to delegate the ability to issue universally unique identifiers. The efforts of these projects are coordinated under ‘the Maritime Cloud Developer Forum’, consisting of a number of partners from these projects, as well as from Korea, based on the active testbed collaboration. The workforce present based on these projects can be utilized to achieve the successful submission and negotiation of an RFC with the IETF, related to the prosposed MRN namespaces.

As the guideline is the result of a direct request from IHO HSSC, it would be appropriate to respond, explaining the format chosen by IALA of Persistent Unique Identifiers for AtoN objects, and to invite the IHO to participate in the MRN namespace, by defining a sub-namespace next to IALA’s.

In order to facilitate a swift implementation process the following actions are proposed.

# Action requested by the committee

## Proposed action

1. ENAV 18 to **progress the draft guideline to a final stage, and request ‘approval in principle’ from Council**, noting that the registration of the namespace with IANA is a prerequisite for publishing the guideline.
2. ENAV18 to **draft a Liaison Statement back to IHO HSSC**, explaining the format chosen by IALA of Persistent Unique Identifiers for AtoN objects, and inviting IHO to join as the governing organization of an IHO sub-namespace under the Maritime Resource Name. This liaison statement is forwarded to council together with the guideline for approval.
3. Further it is proposed to request approval from Council, that the Danish Maritime Authority is authorized to proceed on behalf of IALA with the process of **submitting and negotiating the required RFC with the IETF, based on the pre-approved IALA guideline**.
4. Once both Council approval of the Guideline and a successful RFC publication is achieved, the guideline can be published.