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# INTERNATIONAL 18.12.2024

# *ITU*

# Report on ITU-R WP5B meeting 19 to 28 November 2024

Note by the IALA representative Stefan Bober

#### INTRODUCTION

ITU-R Working Party 5B (WP 5B) - Maritime mobile service including Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS); aeronautical mobile service and radiodetermination service - held its meetings from 19th to 28th November 2024 as physical meeting in Geneva. This was the second meeting in the study cycle 2023 to 2027. Mr. Stefan Bober represented IALA.

IALA has a specific interest in the maritime mobile service including the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and the radiodetermination service, with particular emphasis on the development of VHF Data Exchange System (VDES), Automatic Identification System (AIS), Autonomous Maritime Radio Devices (AMRD), VHF digital voice, VDES R-Mode and e-Navigation.

The meeting of the WP5B-3 maritime focussed on the revision of ITU Recommendations and the introduction of two ITU study questions, namely study questions on “VHF digital voice” and on “VDES R-Mode”. WP5B-3 maritime has no direct agenda item to prepare for WRC-27. However, WP5B-3 maritime is involved in several other agenda item at WRC-27, e.g. WRC-27 agenda item 1.12, current and future use of the 1645.5 -1646.5 MHz band.

#### issues related to IALA work addressed during ITU-R WP 5B

##### Revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.2092-1 VHF data exchange system – VDES

WP 5B started the revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.2092-1. The group reviewed multi country proposal lead by USA and co-sponsored by IALA and input documents from China and Japan.

The multi country proposal was well received. The input document proposes several amendments to the document, e.g. remove the satellite ASM broadcast from the Scheduled broadcast message, remove the satellite's ACK as the satellite cannot transmit ASM messages, remove the satellite geographical multicast function, and remove the description of VDE channel status in rules 4 and 5.

The document was elevated in status to preliminary draft revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.2092-1 with the aim of finalising the revision end of 2025.

-> IALA is invited to review the document.

##### Revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.1371-5 Automatic Identification System - AIS

WP 5B continued its review on the revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.1371-5. The group reviewed input documents from IMO, China and USA.

It was agreed to incorporate the proposed changes at the last IMO/ITU EG meeting into the document. IMO/ITU EG proposes to revise the table of ship types (Table A7-8) to include up to 99 ship type identifiers, to include the VDES capability indicator and to align the recommendation with the amended IMO performance standard on AIS regarding the entry of the IMO number. These proposals are still subject to approval by NCSR 12, in particular the proposed revised Table A7-8, which needs further consideration by navigation experts.

The blockage of AIS signals caused by VHF radiotelephony has been addressed by adding additional details on receiver blocking in Table A2-5. A proposals on the reporting interval when dragging anchor, the slot selection rule for repeater station and the definition of slot assignment by message 16 requires further discussion.

To resolve the issue of the limited availability of manufacturer IDs for devices using a freeform number identity, it is proposed to append four characters to the text of message 14 containing manufacturer ID suffix and a serial number prefix.

Editorial changes to message 21: AtoN report and to the new message 28: Single slot AtoN report have been incorporated.

-> IALA is invited to review the latest draft document.

##### New Recommendation ITU-R M. [DIGITAL-VOICE]

WP 5B started to draft a new ITU Recommendation on digital voice communication in the VHF maritime mobile band, ITU-R M. [DIGITAL-VOICE]. This new recommendation is subject to approval of the draft new question on “Introduction of Digital Voice Communications in the VHF maritime frequency channels” by Study Group 5.

This new recommendation describes a new technology that will permit the possible expansion of the number of VHF maritime voice channels. Studies are underway concerning operational reliability, impacts to the GMDSS, mode of operation (simplex/duplex), bandwidth, range, etc. which are the necessary objectives to determine the feasibility of implementation of digital voice radio telephony in the VHF maritime mobile band.

-> IALA is invited to contribute to the development of this document

##### New ITU study question “Coexistence of VHF data exchange system with a Ranging-Mode in the VHF data exchange system”

WG5B developed a draft new question on Coexistence of VHF data exchange system with a ranging-mode in the VHF data exchange system.

This study question has been adopted by ITU-R Study group 5. ITU-R WP5B is tasked to resolve this study question.

##### New ITU study question “Introduction of Digital Voice Communications in the VHF maritime frequency channels”

WG5B developed a draft new question on Introduction of Digital Voice Communications in the VHF maritime frequency channels.

This study question has been adopted by ITU-R Study group 5. ITU-R WP5B is tasked to resolve this study question.

##### New Report ITU-R M. [VDES R-MODE] - Impact of the possible introduction of a range mode on the VHF data exchange system

WP 5B continued work on a new report on the impact of the possible introduction of a range mode on the VHF data exchange system. The aim of this report is to describe the impact of R-Mode VDES.

Chapters on Typical Geometrical Scenarios for VDES R-Mode, Multi-Cell Medium Access Control Procedures for VDES, Impact on the Communication Capacity and Impact on the SINR of Concurrent Transmissions were added. A new Annex regarding ASM-TER R-Mode and its possible impact on the VHF data exchange system was drafted.

-> IALA is invited to contribute to the development of this report.

##### Revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.585-9 Assignment and use of identities in the maritime mobile service

WP5B continued work on the Recommendation ITU-R M.585-9. A supplemental manufacturer ID information is proposed to resolve the issue on the limited availability of manufacturer IDs for devices using a freeform number identity. It is proposed to appended to the end of the safety related text message 14 three alphanumeric characters, where <m=manufacturer suffix> <pp=serial number prefix>. These new three characters MPP together with the remaining 9 numbers form a new device number 9172T3X4X5M6P7P8Y9Y10Y11Y12..

##### Revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.2010-2 (NAVDAT system in 500 kHz) and ITU-R M.2058-1 (NAVDAT HF)

WP 5B started the revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.2010-1 and ITU-R M.2058-1. The proposed revision modifies the Programmable control memories and the alert. An IMO performance standard for NAVDAT is being developed. Further input to the revision of the documents is expected.

##### Development of IMT-2030 standardization

The Group noted the information provided by IALA, presenting information concerning the work undertaken by IALA on the development of use cases and service requirements for marine AtoN to support the development of IMT-2030 standardization.

-> IALA is invited to provide further information on this topic as appropriate.

#### RELATED DOCUMENTS

* Preliminary draft revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.2092-1 (VDES)
* Preliminary draft revision of Recommendation ITU-R M.1371-5 (AIS)
* WD towards preliminary draft revision of Recommendation ITU-R M [digital voice]
* WD towards new report on the impact of the possible introduction of a R-Mode on the VDES New ITU study question VDES R-mode
* New ITU study question VHF digital voice

#### IALA IS REQUESTED TO

* IALA is requested to note the report on ITU-R WP5B meeting and act accordingly.