|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Sub-Committee on Radiocommunication  and Search and Rescue  16th session  Agenda item 12 | C0MSAR 16/12/…  20 October 2011  Original: ENGLISH |

**REVISION OF THE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE AIS VHF DATA LINK**

**(RESOLUTION MSC.140(76)**

**Revision of the resolution MSC.140(76)**

**Submitted by the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)**

**SUMMARY**

*Executive summary:* This document contains a proposal for updating resolution MSC.140(76). This resolution was adopted in December 2002 for the protection of the AIS VHF Data Link, in anticipation of the dissemination of a large volume of class B devices. Since the adoption of the resolution, several other AIS devices have been permitted, which the resolution should take into account.

*Strategic direction:* 5

*High-level action:* 5.2.4

*Planned output:* 5.2.4.2

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 6

*Related documents:* MSC 89/22/16

Resolution MSC.140(76)

**Introduction**

1 At its 89th session, the Maritime Safety Committee considered a proposal from Netherlands and IALA to update the Recommendation for the protection of the AIS VHF Data Link (resolution MSC.140(76)), and agreed to include, in the 2012-2013 biennial agenda of the COMSAR Sub-Committee and in the provisional agenda for COMSAR 16, a planned output on "Revision of the Recommendation for the protection of the AIS VHF Data Link (resolution MSC.140(76))", with a target completion year of 2013. The aim of the present submission is to propose such amendment.

**Scope of the proposal**

2 Resolution MSC.140(76) was adopted in December 2002 to provide clarification to administrations regarding the protection of the AIS VHF Data Link (AIS VDL) in anticipation of the large volume of Class B devices that could have a negative impact on the AIS VDL.

3 Since the adoption of resolution MSC.140(76) and as identified in ITU-R M.1371 the following AIS devices are permitted:

“ .1 AIS VHF data link (VDL) non-controlling stations

.1.1 AIS shipborne station

1.1.1 Class A shipborne mobile equipment using SOTDMA technology

1.1.2 Class B shipborne mobile equipment

– Class B “SO” using SOTDMA technology;

– Class B “CS” using CSTDMA.

.1.2 Aids to navigation-AIS station

. .1.3 Limited base station (no VDL control functionality)

.1.4 Search and rescue mobile aircraft equipment

.1.5 Repeater station

.1.6 AIS Search and Rescue Transmitter (AIS-SART station)

.2 AIS VDL controlling stations

.2.1 Base station”

4 Therefore IALA considers that is important to provide additional clarification to RESOLUTION MSC.140(76) regarding all AIS stations and their impact on the VDL.

**Proposal**

5 Recognizing the continuing need to ensure the integrity of the AIS VHF data link, IALA requests that IMO amend RESOLUTION MSC.140(76) as follows:

Replace the present “Recommends” paragraphs by the followings:

*“RECOMMENDS that:*

1. *any device which transmits on the radio channels allocated for AIS, should meet the appropriate requirements of Recommendation ITU-R M.1371 (series);*
2. *all AIS devices should be approved by the Administration;*
3. *Administrations should take steps necessary to ensure the integrity of the radio channels used for AIS in their waters.”*

**Action requested of the Sub-Committee**

6 The Sub-Committee is invited to consider the proposal and to amend Resolution… accordingly.

\_\_\_\_\_