The ad hoc group on VTM, appointed by the Council at its 51st Session, met on 5 December at IALA.

Present were:

Roger Barker Chairman

Dana Goward

Kees Polderman

Francis Zachariae

Mike Hadley Secretary

Apologies were received from Tayfun Yalcin.

The ad hoc group acknowledged the tremendous work done by the VTS Committee and its WG4 and agreed that this work should not be lost, recognising that a very complicated issue has been identified that needs to be addressed. However, it concluded that from the initial functional architecture that had been derived, the issue is much broader than VTS alone.

The ad hoc group recommends to the Council that:

1. The VTS Committee cease work on its Task 1 (*Define the concept and develop the scope of the VTM, including role of VTS in VTM and support to ship and port security and other services. (In consultation with e-NAV, and focusing on the VTS/VTM related architecture and specifying the VTS/VTM functional requirements.)*), for the time being, which would have the effect of avoid distraction for the VTS Committee.
2. A new working group, taken from the VTS Committee’s WG4, named Maritime Co-operation Working Group (MCWG), be formed. This Working Group to be responsible directly to the IALA Council but reporting to the ad hoc group on VTM, which is to be renamed the Maritime Co-operation Steering Committee (MCSC).
3. The MCWG be directed to:
   1. Significantly reduce the size of existing documentation (VTS32/output/4), ensuring that references to VTM and definitions are avoided and that the thrust of the document produced is not driven by VTS alone. The document to be used as an attachment to an invitation letter, signed by the Secretary-General to all identified Maritime Co-operation stakeholders.
   2. Develop the agenda for a Maritime Co-operation event, provisionally named ‘Strengthening Co-operative Performance in Maritime Transport’, identifying specific issues to be addressed.
   3. Identify all possible stakeholders for a Maritime Co-operation event and build an invitation list.
   4. Draft the invitation letter, for signature by the Secretary-General.
   5. Propose arrangements for the event.
   6. Report to the MCSC as items a – e are completed, with drafts for approval as appropriate.

The ad hoc group on VTM recognised that the MCWG will have a short life-span and that the way forward will be determined by the co-operation event, which is tentatively proposed for mid-2012.

On completion of the Maritime Co-operation event, the requirement for the level of involvement of IALA in the overall co-operation concept will be assessed and further reported to the IALA Council.

Roger Barker

Chairman, ad hoc group on VTM