

Report of 2nd Intersessional Meeting

Working Group 4 Vessel Traffic Management (VTM) of the IALA VTS Committee

20 – 23 January 2009, St. Germain-en-Laye / France

WG4 has been tasked to define the global concept and develop the scope of Vessel Traffic Management (VTM) (Task 12). It was recognized that, taking into account the importance and work package for this task and the given timeframe, several intersessional meetings were and still are needed to meet the identified deadlines within the given timeframe. WG4 had its 2nd intersessional meeting 20 – 23 January 2009 at IALA HQ, St. Germain-en-Laye / France.

- The Chair opened the meeting. The proposed agenda and targets for this meeting were approved.
- The group reviewed results and documents of the 1st intersessional meeting (18-20 November 2008).
- Despite received procedural information the document “Terms of Reference for WG4” could not be discussed in Council, now has to be sent to Council via the Chair of the VTS Committee. Meanwhile the document was sent to the eNAV Committee and the ANM Council which are invited to take notice and provide comments if appropriate. (doc VTS/WG4/intersessional/output 02)
- The group discussed and agreed on the dates for the next regular/intersessional meetings:

VTS29	Regular meeting of the IALA VTS Committee incl. WG4 2- 6 March 2009 IALA Headquarters, St. Germain-en-Laye / France
3rd^d Intersessional Meeting	19 – 22 May 2009 Selex Headquarters, Rome/Italy Start of Meeting: Tuesday 19 May 09.00 hours Closure of Meeting: Friday 22 May 12.00 hours
4th intersessional Meeting	18 – 21 August 2009 IALA Headquarters, St. Germain-en-Laye / France (to be confirmed) Start of Meeting: Tuesday 18 August 09.00 hours Closure of Meeting: Friday 21 May 12.00 hours
VTS30	Regular meeting of the IALA VTS Committee incl. WG4 14-18 September 2009 IALA Headquarters, St. Germain-en-Laye / France or Warnemünde / Germany (?) Start of Meeting: Closure of Meeting:
Extra intersessional Meeting	20 – 22 October 2009 Washington DC / USA Coordinator Brian Tetreault / USCG Special meeting for presenters on VTM at 10 th IALA Conference (Members: Paap, Tuncay, Seignette, Tetreault).

- The group discussed and further defined the working definition on VTM. The wording of “measures” and “services” as part of the definition were clarified as well as “Maritime Domain”. The relevant parts of the Working Paper on VTM were modified. Review of the definition on VTM will be a continuous process.
- The group intensively discussed the subject of “criteria and requirements for measures and services as part of a VTM framework”. These criteria were identified and further developed. The results are reflected in doc VTS/WG4/intersessional/output05 that will be sent to the VTS, eNAV and ANM Committees with the invitation for comments. **(Action: Chair)**

- The identification of the criteria for stakeholders being part of a VTM framework were finalized and resulted after intensive discussions in a document (VTS/WG4/intersessional/output06). The group developed a process designed to determine and categorize VTM stakeholders and assess their role in the VTM framework. From this process, functional requirements for measures, services, information exchange, etc. can be derived for submission to the VTS, ANM and eNAV Committees and to give guidance to other bodies in the implementation of VTM. The intention is to ensure focus on user needs and to foster collaboration among stakeholders in order to meet the aims of VTM. The document will be sent to the VTS, eNAV and ANM Committees with the invitation for comments.
(Action: Chair)
- The group discussed the relationships a) between VTM and e-navigation b) VTM and other international and/or supranational projects/development. Based on the clear statements by IMO and also reflected in the e-Navigation Strategy document by IALA e-navigation is considered to be supportive to VTM. As both have to be seen as global concepts (substantially reflected in high level aspects such as legislation, organization, tasks, measures and services, processes, instruments, procedures and technical systems) the relationship between VTM and e-navigation can be identified. It was decided that the results of the discussions are to be reflected in the Working Paper on VTM.
(Action: Chair). It was also agreed that developments within the maritime domain providing results and/or solutions which might be incorporated to meet the compelling needs of the stakeholders, to develop measures and services and to increase the benefits of the concept. Cooperation with relevant maritime projects should be maintained throughout the development process of VTM (e.g. MarNIS, MEH) to benefit from synergies, to validate related results, solutions and proposals which may contribute to a global VTM concept.
- The group recognized that stakeholders within VTM operate at a strategic, tactical and/or operational level. In order to ensure coordinated efforts among these various stakeholders, it is necessary to achieve a common understanding on the definitions of these efforts. WG4 discussed proposals on the definitions of these efforts and in general agreed. It was decided to incorporate the results in the Working Paper on VTM **(Action: Chair)**.
- WG4 agreed that the Working Paper at this stage contains valuable information and guidance for other working groups and Committees. It was decided to share the results so far with the Committees and the respective groups and invite them to comments and to intensify the cooperation (VTS/WG4/intersessional/output05). It should however be noticed that the Working Paper is constantly under review, far from complete as still a lot of aspects have to be identified, discussed or clarified. **(Action: Chair).**
- The discussion on the role of VTS towards security, law enforcement, emergency response, disaster management and SAR (with reference to tasks 10 and 11 of the VTS Committee as well as to Recommendation 8 of VTS2008) will be finalized at VTS29. There is a common understanding that the mentioned measures and services are not considered to be primary measures and services for VTS but that VTS might be supportive to the competent authorities (CAs) involved as a provider of relevant information and expertise. A document on the subject will be developed and sent to the VTS and eNAV Committee.
- Due to lack of time it was decided that the identification of the ownership on VTM in all phases and levels (defining and development, translation to an implementation plan, acceptance and regulatory phase by IMO, implementation and operational phases) will be further discussed and finalized during VTS29.
- Discussions on the working program items 16 (identification of high level functional requirements of the management of information within VTM) and 19 (identification and elaboration VTM functionalities according to objectives) will continue at VTS29.
- The working program of WG was reviewed.

Chairman of WG4 on VTM
Pieter Paap