

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION –– SOUMISSION DE RESUME

**Topic No.: / Sujet n° : 10------------------ or / ou proposed topic / sujet proposé: CULTURAL CHALLENGES REGARDING VTS**

AUTHOR / AUTEUR:

**Title / Titre (Mr, Ms, Capt, etc.) :Capt.**

**Family name / Nom de famille : AKÇA -----------------------------------------------------------------**

**Surname / Prénom : EMRAH ----------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**IALA member organisation / Organisation membre de l’AISM : Directorate General of Coastal Safety, REPUBLIC OF TURKIYE**

**Postal address / Adresse postale :**

**IZMIT GEMI TRAFIK HIZMETLERI OPERASYON AMIRLIGI-------------------------------------**

**GUNEY MAHALLESI DERYA CADDESI NO:134----------------------------------------------------**

**41780 TUTUNCIFTLIK / KORFEZ / KOCAELI – REPUBLIC OF TURKIYE-------------------------------------------**

**Telephone (including country and area codes) / Téléphone (y compris codes national et régional)**

**Office / Bureau : +90 262 527 38 13--------------- Mobile : +90 506 972 74 94 ------------**

**e-mail(s):** [**akcaemrah@gmail.com**](mailto:akcaemrah@gmail.com%20%20) **-------------------------------------------------------------------------**

ABSTRACT / RESUME:

**CULTURAL CHALLENGES REGARDING VTS**

VTS plays a vital role in improvement safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of vessel traffic and protection of the marine environment but before and during establishing these systems various predictable and unpredictable challenges can be experienced. As more and more VTS centers are being established, technical and procedural challenges have become more predictable and avoidable thanks to the cumulative experience and information share; however, human factor is still a major challenge which can cause unforeseen difficulties in the establishment and operation processes. As an important part of human factor, cultural effect, especially native language may cause differences in terms of communication which plays a significant role in VTS operations. To minimize the negative effect of these differences and to ensure global standardization and harmonization of VTS centers, a revision could be adopted in VTS training regimes mainly focusing on cultural awareness and possible communication failures. This revision may include but not be limited to enhancing the interaction among VTS Centers all over the world and providing sample case studies from different cultures, which will probably lead to awareness of cross-cultural variations.

***Key Words:*** *Culture, human factor, standardization, harmonization.*



**PLEASE RETURN TO** [**contact@iala-aism.org**](mailto:contact@iala-aism.org) **by 31st March 2017 VEUILLEZ RETOURNER A** [**contact@iala-aism.org**](mailto:contact@iala-aism.org) **avant le 31 mars 2017**

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