



Input paper for the following Committee(s):

- ☐ ARM
 ☐ ENG
 ☒ **PAP**
☐ ENAV
 ☐ VTS

Purpose of paper:

- ☐ Input
☒ **Information ¹**

Agenda item

16.3 – IALA Dictionary PAP Working Group

Author(s) / Submitter(s)

Secretariat

International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation Dictionary Working Group (DWG)

1. SUMMARY

This paper sets out a proposal for a Dictionary Working Group to manage the International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation (the Dictionary).

1.1. Purpose of the document

The paper summarises the background and proposal for a Dictionary Working Group of the Policy Advisory Panel.

1.2. Related documents

2015-12-23 Dictionary Working Group - Terms of Reference.

Dictionary amendment form 2015-11.

Dictionary amendment Register.

Paper PAP22/7/1.

The on-line International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation (the Dictionary).

2. BACKGROUND

For many years a paper version of the IALA Dictionary was maintained by editors such as Peter Kent.

The original 1970-89 IALA Dictionary Edition, was digitised through a semi-automated OCR process in February 2009 by Omar Frits Eriksson. New terms were added or revised in 2009 – 2011 in March 2009 and further terms or revisions were added in October 2012.

It was noted at that time that there was a need to check the quality of the digitising process. Therefore there was a plan for Dictionary Editors to work their way through the digitised part of the Dictionary, marking each term appropriately and terms which need further editing to be added to Category 'Needs Editing'. Little progress was made with this.

No updating of the terms in the Dictionary has occurred since 2012.

There is very limited awareness or use of the Dictionary in the Committees and therefore there is a risk of terms being redefined in IALA documents without reference to the Dictionary and of new terms not being added.

¹ This paper was approved by PAP inter-sessionally and is submitted for information only.



3. DICTIONARY REQUIREMENTS

3.1. Purpose

The International Dictionary of Aids to Marine Navigation provides a definitive definition of all terms used in IALA documents.

3.2. Usage

The International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation is a valuable resource available to all. It is available without restriction on the internet. However, if it is not used and maintained its value quickly diminishes.

There is relatively little usage of the Dictionary by IALA Committees and there is no effective procedure for maintenance to ensure that new terms are added and amended definitions are updated.

3.3. Shared terms

There are many terms used commonly in IALA documents that originate from other organisations. If these are replicated in the IALA Dictionary, there is a risk that updates by the “parent” organisation will not be updated in the IALA Dictionary. Consideration should therefore be given to providing such definitions as links via the IALA Dictionary rather than replicating the definition.

3.4. Languages of the IALA Dictionary

The International Dictionary of Marine Aids to Navigation (henceforth referred to as the Dictionary) exists in a number of forms:

- the most up-to-date English version on the internet in the form of a Wiki and is available as a link from the IALA web site;
- the French version in an out of date printed form;
- the Spanish version in an out of date printed form;
- the German version in an out of date printed form. Jorg Unterderweide from WSV converted the printed German version into a Word version but it is not known if the translation has been verified. It is also not known if the version is up to date with the more recent definitions.

In her paper PAP22/7/1 Marie-Helene Grillet argues that to make the best use of the IALA Dictionary there should be multilingual definitions of terms after the validation of the English ones. However the official language of IALA is English. Consequently an in-principle decision is needed with regard to the languages in which terms and definitions should be translated.

If the Dictionary is to be provided in multiple languages, there must be a mechanism to number the terms making the link to the other languages possible.

3.5. Priorities

The following priorities are suggested:

1. Ensure that the English Wiki on-line version of the Dictionary is maintained.
 - a. Increase awareness and usage of the Dictionary through the IALA Committees by making the Dictionary Proposal Template an input to all Committee meetings.
 - b. Put in place an effective procedure for adding, amending or removing Dictionary terms as they arise in the course of IALA Committee work.
 - c. Put in place an effective procedure for reviewing and updating Dictionary terms.
 - d. Put in place an effective system for Management of the Dictionary.
2. Put in place an effective procedure for reviewing less frequently used terms and existing terms in the Dictionary which have not been approved
3. Remove surplus terms.



4. Identify if the dictionary should be published in other languages and develop a strategy for translation if this is a requirement.
5. Issue a book version of the Dictionary with the Navguide at each IALA Conference to reinforce awareness of the Dictionary.

4. DICTIONARY WORKING GROUP

The ENG Committee Task 5.3.3 requests the ENG Committee to develop the IALA Dictionary to keep the Dictionary maintained and updated. At a meeting during ENG3 it was proposed that a Dictionary Working Group (DWG) be set up as a working group of the PAP for this purpose. Draft Terms of Reference set out the composition, responsibilities and method of working of the DWG.

5. DICTIONARY AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

The following procedure for developing, maintaining and promoting the IALA Dictionary will be used:

- The Dictionary will be managed by an IALA Dictionary Working Group (DWG) of the PAP.
- Proposals for updating or adding Dictionary term definitions will be submitted using a template form which will be an input paper to all Committee meetings;
- The proposal for addition or amendment will be assessed and approved by the DWG;
- The Secretariat will maintain a list of proposed and approved changes/ additions;
- The IALA Dictionary Working Group (DWG) will meet at half yearly intervals after each round of Committee meetings, usually by GoToMeeting, to review / approve Dictionary changes;
- The Secretariat will do actual edits of Dictionary.

6. ACTION REQUESTED OF THE PANEL

The PAP is requested to approve the establishment of a Dictionary Working Group (DWG) of the PAP to manage the maintenance of the IALA Dictionary in accordance with the DWG Terms of Reference.