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| From: IALA VTS Committee | VTS43-12.1.7 |
| To: IALA Council | 24 March 2017 |

LIAISON NOTE

Review of IMO Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services

Proposed submission to the IMO

Introduction

Task 1.4.2 - Review/Update/Provide Input to IMO on Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for VTS is being progressed by the Committee as part of its 2014-2018 work programme.

The IALA VTS Strategy Paper, approved by Council at its 60th session in May 2015, states that the Committee

*“Prepare submission of unplanned output proposal to IMO to review A.857(20) for approval by Council.”*

At VTS41 it was agreed that there was a need to draw on the compelling needs identified in the process of updating the existing Resolution in developing the proposed unplanned output proposal to IMO.

A paper on the compelling needs for an update of IMO Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services was completed at VTS42. Further, it was agreed that:

*“The paper provides the basis for the Committee to commence drafting a submission to the IMO requesting a review of the Resolution as an unplanned output.”*

Discussion

At VTS43 a proposal to IMO for a new output to update Resolution A.857(20), “Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services” was prepared and agreed to by the Committee.

The Committee notes:

* The deadline for submissions to MSC-98 (May 2017) has already passed and a submission could be submitted to MSC-99 (Spring 2018); consequently the request for including a new work item into the High-Level Action Plan (HLAP) may be for the biennium 2018-2019 or 2020-2021;
* In November 2017 the General Assembly of the IMO will decide on the new HLAP biennium 2018-2019 and consequently the numbers referenced at under Strategic Direction and HLAP (Summary section on the first page of the document) may change in the final submission;
* IALA, being a NGO, cannot submit such a submission to MSC on its own, since it needs to be made by one or more Member States of the IMO.

# ACTION REQUESTED

1. The IALA Council is requested to approve the draft new output proposal for a review of A.857(20) as stated in the IALA VTS Strategy Paper.
2. After approval the Secretariat is requested to forward the draft document to IALA national members for their consideration as the basis for sponsoring a submission to the IMO.