Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS47-3.1.7

Input paper for the following Committee(s): check as appropriate Purpose of paper:

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Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) (from agenda) 3

Workplan Task Number / Technical Domain 2 New task but linked to task 1.1.1

Working Group WG 1…………………………

Author(s) / Submitter(s) IHMA,…………………………

Proposal for Urgent Revision of Guideline 1089 - Provision of Vessel Traffic Services (INS, TOS & NAS)

# Summary

The revision of IMO Resolution A.857(20) – Guidelines for Vessel Traffic Services has progressed exceptionally well and the current draft was met with strong support at a recent IALA seminar held in St Germain 26-27 June 2019. For many of the issues raised, there will be no requirement for any immediate changes to VTS policy. Most of the current IALA documentation should remain valid and can be updated as part of the normal routine review process. However, one area of significant change is in the concept of Types of Service. Assuming the current IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services is approved by the IMO Assembly, the current Guideline will be inconsistent with the new concepts and a revised version should be prepared for issue as soon as possible after the new IMO Resolution comes into force.

## Purpose of the document

The purpose of this input paper is to propose the addition of a new task to revise Guideline 1089 as an urgent new task in preparation for issue as soon as possible after the new IMO Resolution is adopted.

## Related documents

Work on this VTS Committee task is associated with the preparation of a submission to go forward to NCSR7 with a proposed revised draft of IMO Resolution A.857(20) as VTS Committee task 1.1.1.

# Background

The seminar on the review of IMO Resolution A.857(20) has demonstrated that this task is progressing very well and the IMO representative at the seminar was optimistic that the draft would be received favourably at IMO and set out the following timetable that he believed to be entirely achievable:

* NCSR 7 (possibly) approve the transmission to MSC (January 2020)
* MSC 102 (possibly) approve the draft revised A. xxx (May 2020)
* Assembly 32 (possibly) adopt the draft revised A. xxx (November 2021?)
* Implementation by Contracting Governments starts from when? (date may need to be decided, if required)

In briefing the seminar, the IMO representative further identified that:

* The Assembly would either approve the draft or return it to MSC for amendment but would not be likely to make any amendments of significance and,
* If there were only minor procurement or legal implications, the implementation period could be quite short.

# Discussion

## Noting the timetable set out by the IMO representative, it is evident that there is good reason to believe that a revised draft IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services might be approved by MSC in May 2020 and that this would be in its final form subject only to adoption of the revised draft by the Assembly in November 2021.

## The one document that will be immediately impacted by the revised IMO Resolution is IALA Guideline 1089 - Provision of Vessel Traffic Services (INS, TOS & NAS). The implication of the changes to the Resolution are significant and it is important that revised guidance is ready for issue immediately after it is adopted and irrespective of the implementation date set by the IMO Assembly. It would be wise to assume, therefore, that revised guidance to replace IALA Guideline 1089 should be ready for issue by November 2021.

## Working back from an anticipated date of November 2021 for adoption of a new and revised Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services, a revised Guideline 1089 should have been approved by the IALA Council no later than its summer 2021 meeting. This, in turn, will require a revised Guideline 1089 to be finalised for submission to Council no later than the spring 2021 meeting of the VTS Committee.

## The importance and significance of this new task cannot be underestimated and, if necessary, this should take precedence over other tasks for WG1 in order to meet this timeframe.

## It is not considered that the same urgency exists to update or amend other IALA documents to reflect changes that may result from an amended IMO Resolution but individual Working Groups might wish to review individual documents under their lead.

# References

1. Report - IALA Seminar on the Revision of IMO Resolution A.857(20) Guidelines for VTS – Jul 2019

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to consider:

* 1. the addition of an urgent and important new task to revise Guideline 1089 - Provision of Vessel Traffic Services (INS, TOS & NAS) for completion no later than spring 2021 to meet the new requirements anticipated to be introduced with the adoption of a revised IMO Resolution on Vessel Traffic Services.
  2. whether there are any other IALA documents which might require similar accelerated review.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Input papers should be assigned to a work task as listed in the Committee work plan which is available in input papers. Leave open if uncertain but consider how the paper is to be processed if not relevant to a work task [↑](#footnote-ref-2)