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**Input paper for the following Committee(s):** **Purpose of paper:**

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ARM  ENG  PAP  Input

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**Agenda item** 11.1

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**Author(s)/Submitter(s)** secretariat

Proposal for developing a guideline on the design of buoy tenders and muli-purpose ships

# Summary

The objective of this proposal is to propose a work item on developing a guideline covering the design, planning, and implementation of buoy tenders and multi-purpose vessels for marine aids to navigation. This guideline is envisioned to be an key resource for governmental agencies, contractors, maritime authorities, and other stakeholders. Its aim is to ensure consistency in quality, safety, and operational efficiency across projects related to aids to navigation using the buoy tenders.

## Related documents

[G1005 Contracting out Aids to Navigation Services](https://raw.githubusercontent.com/IALAPublications/Guidelines/main/G1005%20Ed2.1%20Contracting%20out%20Aids%20to%20Navigation%20Services%20December%202005.pdf)

# Background

Buoy tenders play a important role in the safety of navigation as they are specialized vessels intended for the maintenance, repair, and deployment of marine aids to navigation including buoys. In the absence of a standardized guideline in IALA, there may be considerable variability in the quality and safety features of these vital ships of the members. A guideline will act as a basis, serving to harmonize the planning, design, and procurement processes while ensuring that safety, quality, and operational aspects are not compromised.

A boat with a large buoy

Description automatically generated 

# scope of the guideline

The proposed guideline is planned to be exhaustive and will cover a broad array of topics, including but not limited to:

* Comprehensive guidance specific to the development and functionality of buoy tenders
* Industry-accepted best practices for planning, design, and procurement
* Explicit details on operational protocols, safety measures, and regular maintenance schedules
* A structured framework for the tendering process and efficient project management
* A well-defined timeline for both the developmental and implementation phases of such projects

The development of the guidelines will not only assure standardized quality but also:

* Reduce operational errors
* Speed up procurement processes
* Improve budgeting accuracy
* Enhance overall safety of navigation

# Proposal

The establishment of the guideline will significantly elevate the harmonisation, quality, and reliability within the members. With increased uniformity in approaches and practices, members can expect enhanced efficiency and fewer operational risks. This IALA guideline will serve as a critical point of reference for all the stakeholders involved in the conceptualization, planning, and operational stages of buoy tender systems.

# Action requested of the Committee

The PAP is requested to review and consider the proposal and include the item into the work programme.