# Terms of Reference for the Digital Technology Committee

## Background

Convention Article 6.3, states that the General Regulations and Financial Regulations shall detail the Rules of Procedure that shall apply for each organ which are detailed in Article 3 of the General Regulations. Further, Convention, Article 6, 1 (c), states the Organization shall have Committees and subsidiary bodies necessary to support the Organizations’ activities and that the General Assembly can establish and terminate Committees and subsidiary bodies and review and approve their Terms of Reference per Convention Article 7.7(f).

## Name of committee or subsidiary body

Digital Technology (DTec) Committee

## [Participation

Representatives from Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members are eligible to participate in the Committee. ~~Representatives to the Committee may include personnel from the Competent Authority for VTS or AtoN, VTS or AtoN providers, Training Organizations, manufacturers, innovators and practitioners.]~~

## Aims and Objectives

In accordance with the Convention Article 9.1, the Committee will support the aims and objectives of the Organization Article 3 of the Convention by:

* Producing or contributing to the development of recommendations, guidelines, manuals and model courses as directed by Council and specifically related to the use of digital technologies to contribute to the progression of Marine Aids to Navigation including VTS and their ~~achieving~~ worldwide harmonization.
* Providing guidance that assists Contracting Governments and competent authorities to meet their pertinent SOLAS Chapter V (Safety of Navigation) obligations ~~under Regulation 12 and 13 to plan, implement and deliver their obligations~~ through the use of digital technologies.
* Evaluating emerging digital technological and operational changes in current digital technologies impact on Marine Aids to Navigation including VTS ~~meeting evolving needs and developments~~.

## [Activities

Committee meetings shall normally be held twice a year, normally at a period during February to April and September to November, at the seat of the Organization. Exceptionally they may be held elsewhere, with the approval of the Secretary‐General.

Inter‐sessional meetings of a working group or a task group may also be held between two meetings of the parent Committee in accordance with the General Regulations.

All activities may be organized in the format of either a physical, virtual or hybrid event.

Committees may propose events that will assist the work programme such as seminars, workshops and other events.]

## Responsibilities ~~Deliverables~~

The Committee shall develop and work to a work programme in accordance with the General Regulations, Article 3.2.

In accordance with Article 9 of the Convention the DTec committee shall:

(a) Prepare and review standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals and other appropriate documen­ts identified in the work programme~~s~~;

(b) Monitor and evaluate developments in digital technologies and their impact on ~~the area of~~ Marine Aids to Navigation;

(c) Liase and facilitate the sharing of expertise and experience amongst Member States, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, external bodies and mariners; ~~and~~

(d) Conduct any other tasks as decided by the Council; and

(e) Report the committee’s progress with its work and achievement of its deliverables ~~should be~~ to the Council and the Policy Advisory Panel, promptly after each committee meeting.

## Relationship with other bodies

### Internal bodies

~~The Convention Article 7.7 (f) states, that the General Assembly can establish and terminate Committees and subsidiary bodies and review and approve their Terms of Reference.~~

DTec shall submit all completed documents ~~As stated in the General Regulations Article 3.4, output documents are by the Committee are approved by the~~ to Council or the General Assembly (in the case of standards) for approval. ~~They include draft standards, recommendations, guidelines, manuals and other documents for submission to the Council for approval~~.

~~The Policy Advisory Panel (PAP) provides policy advice for consideration by the Council and co-ordinates the work of the committees.~~

~~The Legal Advisory Panel (LAP) provides legal support and advice to the committees, the Secretariat and other bodies of IALA.~~

~~A committee’s progress with its work and achievement of its deliverables should be reported to the Council and the Policy Advisory Panel at regular intervals.~~

DTec should collaborate together on cross committee work items and developments, and adhere to policy advice provided by Legal Advisory Panel (LAP) and the Policy Advisory Panel (PAP).

### External bodies

Committees shall monitor and assist developments relevant to digital technologies in bodies external to IALA, such as IMO, ITU, IHO, WMO and the IEC, if necessary to achieve the committees aims and objectives.