Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1) VTS51-3.2.2

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

**□** ARM **□** ENG **□** PAP **X** Input

**□** ENAV **X** VTS **□** Information

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

Technical Domain / Task Number 2

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Trond Ski

# Revision of IALA Standards

# Summary

The VTS Committee is requested to revise the IALA Standards relevant for VTS. Such a review was initiated at VTS50 and continued intersessionally. Issues identified and addressed post VTS50 are provided to the Committee for further considerations.

# BACKGROUND

PAP41 requested the VTS Committee to review the IALA Standards relevant for VTS and submit amendments to PAP for further considerations. Such a review of the Standards was initiated at VTS50 (VTS50-7.4.1, VTS50-7.4.1.1). Realizing that more time was needed, the Committee decided to continue the work intersessionally, inviting Committee participants to join an intersessional group on the review of the Standards. Due to the fact that just a couple of participants expressed their interest to join such a group, it was decided to handle the revision by correspondence. In order to gather inputs and comments from a larger audience, IALA VTS working group chairs and vice-chairs were invited in addition to provide inputs and comments to the latest drafts of the Standards. An intersessional meeting was conducted to review the draft Standards and the submitted comments and remarks.

# DISCUSSION

During the intersessional meeting held by teleconference on the 5th of July 2021, the following issues were identified and addressed:

* The definition of “IALA Guidelines” provided on the IALA web site is not consistent with the definition in the IALA Standards. This also applies to other text on the web site regarding the Standards, indicating a need to update the web site for consistency.
* The IALA Council should be authorized to approve changes to chapter 5, “Referenced Documents” in the IALA Standards.
* The IALA Style Guide needs to clarify the use of “shall” and “should” in Standards, Recommendations and Guidelines.
* The Scope of the Standards (chapter 4) states: “IALA Standards may contain normative and informative provisions”. This implies that Recommendations including associated Guidelines may be normative. A proposal to state that: “A Guideline is informative only” did not receive support, but it was recognized that such statement would apply to “stand alone” Guidelines, not associated with a Recommendation. It was emphasized that the Scope (chapter 4) needs to be consistent between the IALA Standards.
* IALA Standard S1040 Vessel Traffic Services chapter 3 (Application) states: “This Standard is suitable for implementation by all Marine Aids to Navigation authorities”. Recognizing that not all VTS Authorities or VTS Providers may be defined as “Marine Aids to Navigation authorities”, the need to reword this statement should be considered.

*Note: Updates made to the IALA web site post 5 July 2021 could reduce or eliminate the identified need to update the web site for consistency.*

# Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is requested to consider the proposed input for the revision of the IALA Standards and take action as deemed appropriate.

ENCLOSUREs:

1. Report of intersessional meeting, Revision of IALA Standards.

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Leave open if uncertain [↑](#footnote-ref-2)