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Purpose of paper:

☐ Input  
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Agenda item 5.2

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## Demonstration for a VHF digital voice communication to facilitate the discussion in IALA on the WRC-31 Preliminary Agenda Item 2.7

### 1 SUMMARY

Japan Coast Guard and Japan Radio Co., Ltd. will make a presentation to demonstrate a digital voice communication and to compare it with an analog voice at VTS-55 in order to facilitate the discussion in the IALA committees on the WRC-31 Preliminary Agenda Item 2.7.

### 2 VHF DIGITAL VOICE COMMUNICATIONS

The World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) resolves that the consideration of improving the utilization of VHF marine radiocommunication should be included in the preliminary agenda of WRC-31(Preliminary Agenda Item 2.7). The digitalization of VHF voice communications could be considered in the scope of the preliminary agenda item.

The VHF digital voice communications would contribute to a more efficient use of spectrum, as it uses only half of the bandwidth of existing VHF analog communication. In addition, the clear voice provided by the digital modulation could improve the VTS operations. On the other hand, however, there are concerns that VHF digital communication may introduce another risk due to the reduced background noise, which is sometimes useful for the VTS operators.

In order to facilitate the discussion on the digitalization of VHF voice communication in the IALA, it would be useful for the members have a better understanding of the technology and how it is heard. Japan Coast Guard and Japan Radio Co., Ltd. present demonstrations of existing analog/digital (dPMR) voice communication at the VTS Committee.

### 3 ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COMMITTEES

The Committees are requested to note the information in this paper and in the demonstration.