**Input paper: [[1]](#footnote-1)** PAP58-3.1.2.1

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

(Select as appropriate)

ARM  ENG  PAP  Input

ENAV VTS  Information

**Agenda item** [[2]](#footnote-2) 3.1.2

**Author(s)/Submitter(s)** Secretariat

IALA's work with the IMO

# Summary

This paper provides a summary of recent discussions between IALA and the IMO on enhancing technical collaboration. It outlines the background, presents key areas for discussion and proposes a way forward to strengthen IALA’s contribution to IMO’s work, including the possibility of IALA being requested directly on certain technical matters.

# Background

The Secretary-General recently met with IMO Secretary-General Arsenio Dominguez during the Safety@Sea Conference in Singapore where they discussed the future collaboration between the organizations. A follow-up meeting is scheduled during the IMO Assembly in November, where a formal agreement between the two organizations is expected to be approved. The agreement follows the attached PAP58-3.1.2.1.1 Assembly resolution A.1168(32) RELATIONS WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS. The request to IMO Council for the agreement, PAP58-3.1.2.1.2, is also attached.

The intended focus of the meeting is to reinforce IALA’s role in supporting IMO’s technical work. This could include IALA contributing through the development of technical input for IMO consideration or being directly requested by the IMO on specific issues.

Of special interest is article 7 of the IMO resolution:

*“The intergovernmental organization (here IALA) may, at the request of IMO, render assistance to IMO in matters falling within the scope of IMO's activities”.*

IALA has a track record of contributing to the IMO, including work submitted to NCSR, MSC and the Assembly. For instance, IALA played a significant role in revising the resolution on Guidelines for VTS. As acknowledged in MSC 99/20/3, the VTS Committee was recognised as an expert body well-placed to undertake detailed technical work.

IALA’s is ideally placed to compliment the IMO in technical areas of work due to its values as outlined in the Singapore Declaration, which commits the Organization to impartial, evidence-based and results-oriented cooperation responding quickly to the needs of the maritime community. The Organization has a consultative, recommendatory and technical nature and also supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

IALA’s aims and activities closely align with IMO’s areas of interest, particularly in the following areas:

* Advance the decarbonization and modernization of maritime activities;
* Support capacity-building and training;
* Collaborate on preserving heritage and delivering socio-economic and environmental benefits;
* Promote maritime digital transformation, including the integration of autonomous technologies.

# Discussion

The proposed agreement presents an opportunity to formalize and strengthen IALA’s role as a technical partner to the IMO.

If agreed IMO would gain formal and regular access to IALA’s specialist expertise and agile working structures, while IALA has the opportunity to further strengthen its ties with the IMO and further enhance our impact on maritime regulation and safety.

# Action requested of the Committee

The PAP is requested to:

1. Discuss the proposal to strengthen IALA–IMO collaboration; and
2. Provide input to the Secretariat on the proposed scope of the agreement.

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