

**IALA COUNCIL
60th Session**

**May 26-29, 2015
Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia**

Agenda item 6 – Report by the Secretary-General

6.1 Report by the Secretary-General

Executive Summary

This document provides a general update on a number of matters in relation to the governance and operation of IALA. Some matters will be dealt with in greater detail under other agenda items.

General

The activity and workload of IALA continues to grow, with the calendar for this year already filled. The membership of IALA has grown to 250 which is 9 more members than at the same time last year. The participation in the Committee work is overwhelming with more than 120 participants in some sessions.

High prioritised areas

- **Fulfilment of IALA vision.** The IALA vision covers the period 2014-2026 with 2 main long term goals and 14 short term priorities for the period 2015-2018. The first goal is to ensure that AtoN systems and related services, including e-navigation, VTS, and emerging technologies, are harmonized through international cooperation and the provision of standards. The other main goal is that all coastal states have contributed to an efficient global network of AtoN and services for the safety of navigation, through capacity building and the sharing of expertise.

It is important that the Strategic Vision is reviewed regularly to make sure that it is up to date and relevant. The Council Strategy Group and the Policy Advisory Panel will be important factors in monitoring global trends in shipping, intermodal transport technology etc. for effects on IALA's activities and influence on IALA's role.

At its meeting on Monday Council Strategy Group will be addressing these high level issues, and also confirming its Terms of Reference. In parallel with the Council Strategy Group, the Deputy Secretary-General is leading a change in approach for the Policy Advisory Panel to have its focus on formulation of draft policy ideas for consideration by Council, the Strategy Group and the Secretary-General.

The vision can be found on the web site:

http://www.iala-aism.org/files/Vision/iala_strategic_vision.pdf

- **Change of status of the organization.** It is believed that the first goal of the Strategic Vision is best achieved if IALA change status from a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) to an Intergovernmental Organisation (IGO). IGO status will give a superior international endorsement to the work of IALA and the standards it is seeking to achieve. The process is complicated and will probably take some time. This subject will be addressed under agenda item 7.3.

More information can be found on the web site

<http://www.iala-aism.org/about/news/243708217/iala-developments>

- **Continuous success of World Wide Academy (WWA).** The Academy - the presently independently-funded vehicle by which IALA delivers training and capacity building - completed its third operational year on 31 December 2014. Its achievements since 2012 exceeded expectations. Its original 78 target States have been reduced to 69. A revised Master Plan to focus its delivery for the next five years was published on 1 January. Targeted awareness seminars, high level visits by the Dean and an increased number of "Stage 2" technical needs assessment missions by Academy staff and IALA experts are planned – 6 in 2015 alone. More dedicated AtoN training courses from training hubs are scheduled to be delivered in an updated list of 5 key target regions.

The Academy came of age this year and is firmly on track to enhance the status of aids to navigation world-wide. It is recognised internationally as a key member of the United Nations joint capacity building "Delivering as One" initiative and has expanded both its capacity building and training strategies to reach over 900 participants from over 70 States world-wide. A new full-time Programme Manager; support from the IALA Committees and increased resources will enable to meet its medium term aims. Thanks to new sponsorship from the Republic of Korea and renewed sponsorship from France and the International Foundation for aids to Navigation (IFAN), the fully-established Academy is secure until at least 2018. However this cannot be guaranteed to continue unless a robust plan for more permanent funding is developed.

- **Secretariat review.** At its 59th in December 2014, the IALA Council was presented with the Review of the IALA Secretariat, a study commissioned by the Secretary-General with the help of external experts. The Secretary-General is now working on a re-organisation and development plan for the secretariat with a view to improving the ability of the Secretariat to support IALA's members, its stakeholders and the international maritime community. In many aspects the maritime world is looking for IALA leadership in e-Navigation, VTS etc. The plan will also cover a modernization of the Headquarter in St. Germain-en-Laye and the IALA Corporate Identity (Brand). The subject will be addressed under agenda item 6.2.

Host Nation Support

Being a Non Governmental Organisation managed under French law the host nation support is vital for the organisation.

At its 59th session held at IALA HQ in December 2014, the IALA Council debated this issue and made a number of remarks.

The Secretary-General and the IALA staff have held several meetings with the French Authorities to find a solution to the problems. The meetings have been very positive and an "action plan" based on the Memorandum of Understanding between the host nation and IALA will be presented under agenda item 6.3 where France will speak on this matter.

The local administration in the town of St. Germain-en-Laye is also important to IALA and vice versa. The Secretary-General has shortly after his arrival met the mayor of St. Germain en Laye, M. Emmanuel Lamy, and his deputy and they have offered to support IALA with any special needs it may have of the local administration.

Council is requested to:

. Note the information provide