



Mr. Francis Zachariae
Secretary General of the
International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities
10 rue des Gaudines
78100 Saint-Germain-en-Laye
France

Dear Sir,

The Portuguese Lighthouse Authority (Direção de Faróis) as a founding member of IALA has from the very beginning been engaged and actively participating in the IALA work, which Portugal regards as paramount for the quality of aids to navigation network, and for the benefit of the mariners that cross our waters and enter our harbors.

Providing aids to navigation, as the volume of traffic justifies and the degree of risk requires, is a coastal state obligation in accordance with the IMO Safety of Life at Sea Convention. That obligation can only be fulfilled by following the recommendations and guidelines that IALA produces through its technical committees and are approved by the Council.

Portugal has been participating in all the technical committees and it is our firm intention to keep doing so, contributing to the development of documentation whilst broadening our experience in such matters with the ensuing positive impact on our national services and organisations.

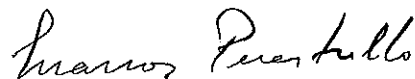
Our firm commitment to IALA resulted in the election of the Portuguese Lighthouse Authority - the national representative to the organization - to the Council at the 2014 Conference. It is certainly a privilege but one which carries added responsibility.

Since then, the Portuguese Lighthouse Authority has organised several IALA events, aiming at the strengthening of the safety of navigation in our waters and in the waters of our brethren in Africa.

Safety of navigation issues are embedded in our DNA and we encourage and intend to be involved in all initiatives that contribute to making the sea a safer place.

It is therefore with great pleasure that I am putting forward Portugal's offer to organize the IALA Conference in 2022, an event that we strongly believe to be of the greatest importance. We will make our best resources available to guarantee its success.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Marcos Perestrello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail.

Marcos Perestrello

Secretary of State for National Defence