

IALA COUNCIL
65th session



12-15 December 2017
IALA Headquarters

13 – INTERNATIONAL

13.4 – Arctic Matters

13.4.1 Arctic Seminar, November 2017

Note by the Secretariat

1. BACKGROUND

Between 10 and 12 February 2010 delegates from Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia, and the United States as well as the International Hydrographic Organization met at IALA headquarters in France to discuss the marking of polar traffic routes. IALA delegates from five of the Arctic states and the chairs of IALA's technical committees presented their perspectives on the current challenges in the Arctic.

The result was advised by IALA to IMO MSC 87 as paper MSC87/INF.15. This paper is provided as input document C65-13.4.1.1, and it concludes with the following.

THE SAID NATIONS AND IALA:

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AGREE that it is necessary to adopt a harmonised approach in addressing current and future risk, as described above, in Arctic waters;

ENVISION that the said nations should, in Arctic waters, take the opportunity to:

- initiate the establishment of a common Arctic ship reporting and data sharing system;
- develop a common approach to marine traffic awareness and monitoring;
- move towards a single, harmonised system of marine aids to navigation;
- anticipate and mitigate risk to maritime traffic and the marine environment;

RECOMMEND that, for Arctic waters, IALA support the said nations in relation to:

- enhancing marine traffic awareness and providing a forum for those establishing ship reporting and data sharing systems;
- the marking of polar routes and development of virtual aids to navigation;
- the application of risk management methodology; and
- the importance of improving hydrographic services in the region.

2. SUBSEQUENT ACTION

An attempt by IALA to follow up this 2010 meeting did not meet with success, but the idea of IALA hosting an IALA-IHO seminar on Arctic navigation at IALA HQ was developed from 2013 onward, with advice from IALA Councillors from Arctic Council member states, and in consultation with the President of the IHO. The envisaged date of late 2016 was not possible due to changes at IHO and the date of November 2017 was chosen, with the event organised entirely by IALA.



3. ARCTIC SEMINAR OF NOVEMBER 2017

The report of the Seminar, including agenda and participants is provided as input document C65-13.4.1.2.

The conclusions of the Seminar were as follows.

1. A harmonized approach should be adopted for marking polar routes and providing digital services with common standards of provision, web-based services and other means.
2. IALA-NET is a suitable platform for exchanging and storing historical AIS data for statistical analysis and the use of Risk Management tools.
3. Since connectivity is a primary enabler for development in the Arctic, the limited communication infrastructure continues to be a major challenge.
4. VDES-SAT could provide virtual AtoNs and other e-navigation services in the arctic. The frequency allocation needs to be supported at ITU.
5. A multi-system approach should be developed for resilient PNT, using a mixture of GNSS and terrestrial systems and a multi-system receiver.
6. There is a significant shortage of hydrographic survey data to give a comprehensive set of (simplified) ENC for Arctic voyages. Crowd sourcing of hydrographic data can give a significant contribution.

4. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

- a) **Note** the outcome of the Seminar
and
- b) **Advise** on future action.