

IALA COUNCIL 69th session



**18-21 June 2019
Rotterdam
The Netherlands**

6 - REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. GENERAL

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

The membership of IALA continues to grow and the participation in the Committee work is overwhelming with up to 140 participants in some sessions.

After the successful third Preparatory Diplomatic Conference on the change of status to an Intergovernmental Organization (IGO), hosted by the National member of the Republic of Turkey in March 2019, there has been extensive communication with the Ministry of Transport and the Light Dues Board Peninsular Malaysia with respect to the preparations for the Diplomatic Conference to be held in Kuala Lumpur in February/March 2020. The Secretariat has finalized a draft of the General Regulations to be presented in Kuala Lumpur and a working group on the Headquarters agreement with the French Republic has been set-up.

In March, the spring meeting series kicked off for the Committees, in accordance with the Committee structure decided by the Council in December 2017 (C65) for the 2018-2022 work period and the work programme approved by the Council in June (C67), and many papers were finalized for consideration by the Council. The VTS Committee and a VTS workshop were successfully hosted by the Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries in Korea and the ENAV Committee and an ENAV Workshop were hosted by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore during the Singapore Maritime week.

Following the successful submission by Australia and other co-sponsors of a work programme proposal to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee, the VTS Committee has made positive progress on the review of the IMO Guidelines for vessel traffic services (Resolution A.857(20)). A correspondence group has been established with excellent international participation and a mature draft of the revised Guidelines have been produced, which will be considered at a forthcoming seminar at IALA Headquarters and finalised at VTS47. Subject to approval at C70, the IMO work programme requires the draft revised Guidelines to be submitted to the NCSR Sub-Committee in late 2019 with a view to adoption at the IMO Assembly in 2021.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of IALA has grown to 301, which is 6 more members than at the same time last year. The movements in membership taking effect on 1st January 2019 in the different categories are as follow:

Applications

- 2 applications were received for National membership and formally accepted,
- 13 applications were received for Industrial membership. 7 were formally accepted, and 6 are to be confirmed,



- 5 applications were received for Associate membership. 2 were formally accepted, and 3 are to be confirmed by Council.

Resignations and Terminations

- 9 resignations were received from Industrial members (transfer, change in business, inability to pay their contributions),
- 4 Industrial memberships were terminated by Council for non-payment,
- 1 Associate membership was terminated for non-payment of contributions.

3. THE STRATEGIC VISION

An up-dated version of the Strategic Vision for IALA was approved by the General Assembly in May 2018 and the Committees commenced work in accordance with the Vision in October last year. The Councillors will recall that the Strategic Vision has two Goals for 2026, a Strategy to reach these, and Priorities for work in the 2018-2026 period.

The second management-level document which describes IALA's strategy for its technical work is the "Position on the Development of Marine AtoN Services". This document sets out IALA's position or view on the various aspects of the development of marine aids to navigation in the near future.

It is also the vehicle for carrying expressions of priority for work items, and also stating where IALA will, or will not venture in its AtoN activity. It contains the "Trends and Drivers" relating to IALA's technical work.

This position document is a "living document". It has been reviewed and maintained by PAP at least once per annum and commented on and agreed by the Council. After advice from C68, the document was reviewed by PAP at its 37th session in February 2019 to look deeper into GNSS backups and sent to the Committees - especially the ENG Committee – for further review and comments. The Committees, which met during the period 25 February – 3 April, came back with numerous comments on various parts of the document. The Secretariat believe that producing a consolidated revised document require careful work, which would exceed the deadline for submissions to this Council 69 and would not allow PAP to review it.

The Secretariat therefore suggests forwarding the consolidated document to Council 70 in December 2019 after it has been reviewed by PAP38 in September 2019.

4. THE CHANGE OF STATUS PROJECT

At the kind invitation of the Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Turkey, a third preparatory diplomatic conference took place in Istanbul from 12 to 14 March 2019 to agree a draft text for the Convention that will establish the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation.

Chaired by HE Mr Serge Ségura, French Ambassador for the Oceans, with the support of Mr Ahmet Reha Çöplü, Deputy Director General of Coastal Safety, the conference considered all articles of the draft Convention text, as revised following comments from National members and Governments and work by the IALA Legal Advisory Panel as a follow-up to the Marrakesh conference and the road map.

The attendance was higher than in Morocco with 182 delegates representing 53 countries from around the world and one international organization. One of the countries represented was not yet a National member.

The delegates studied the changes proposed by the members, which had been collated by the Secretariat, considered by the Legal Advisory Panel at its 4th Extraordinary session and introduced in the draft text. Most articles were agreed but a small number of articles will need to be decided at the Diplomatic Conference.



The draft Convention text was found mature enough to be forwarded to the Diplomatic Conference, which will be called in February/March 2020 in Malaysia.

It was also agreed that further work on the draft General Regulations would be done when the text of the draft Convention has been agreed. The General Regulations would not be the subject of a drafting session at the Diplomatic Conference but would be approved at the first General Assembly of the Organization.

5. PREPARATION FOR THE 14TH SYMPOSIUM AND THE 20TH CONFERENCE

Preparation for the 14th Symposium 25 to 29 May 2020 in Rotterdam and the 20th Conference proposed to be held 28 May to 4 June 2022 at the Windsor Convention Centre in Rio de Janeiro is progressing well.

The attendance by the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization is secured for Rotterdam and he will be invited to attend the Conference in Rio de Janeiro as soon as dates and venue are finally decided.

The Industrial Members Committee held a successful meeting in Rio de Janeiro 28 April to 2 May and inspected all the possible facilities to ensure a successful Exhibition and Industrial Members evening.

The Council members from the Netherlands and Brazil will give more details during C69.

6. DEVELOPMENTS OF THE WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY

The World-Wide Academy continues to develop under the leadership of the Dean Omar Frits Eriksson and the Academy Board, chaired by Professor Gug. Following a successful execution of its 2018 Action plan, the Academy is now on schedule with its 2019 Action Plan, which includes a number of needs assessment missions and follow up review missions to developing countries in need of assistance. It also includes several Level 1 Aids to Navigation Manager courses, and in 2019, these courses are expected to be delivered in English, French, Spanish, and possibly also in Arabic.

After a successful transfer of tasks from the now retired Vice Dean Stephen Bennet to Kevin Gregory, Kevin is now responsible for the Education and Training activities of the Academy while Mrs. Gerardine Delanoye is responsible for the Capacity Building side of the Academy.

The integration of the Academy and the rest of the Secretariat continues to be strengthened through close cooperation between Gregory and Tom Southall, the new Committee Secretary.

The Academy would not exist were it not for generous sponsorship both in direct and indirect funding from several nations and organizations and the superb and unstinting support from the four IALA Committees.

The three-year rolling agreement with IFAN, the primary sponsor of the Academy, continues to work well. As reported earlier, Malaysia joined as a major sponsor in 2018 followed by Singapore in 2019. In both cases there is a five-year sponsorship commitment for which we are very grateful. Korea has also decided to continue its important Sponsorship, and contributions from France, UK, JANA and others are also very much appreciated.

The never-ending work on seeking further funding for the Academy continues and IALA members are urged to keep an eye on all sponsoring opportunities in their country or region.

The Dean will brief in more detail under the relevant agenda item.

7. THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO

Note the report.