

**IALA COUNCIL**  
**69<sup>th</sup> session****18-21 June 2019**  
**Rotterdam**  
**The Netherlands****8 – STRATEGY AND POLICY*****8.4 – Change of status*****8.4.1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Preparatory Diplomatic Conference**

Note by the Secretariat

**INTRODUCTION**

The third Preparatory Diplomatic Conference was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 12 to 14 March 2019. National members and Governments had sent comments and proposals after the Marrakesh Preparatory Diplomatic Conference last year. These comments and proposals had been considered by an extraordinary LAP meeting held in November 2018. The extraordinary meeting was attended by a number of National members, with a view to look into the legal issues that could arise from the draft text, leaving political considerations aside.

The extraordinary LAP meeting produced a revised draft text for consideration by the third Preparatory Diplomatic Conference.

The Preparatory Diplomatic Conference considered the draft article by article. Most articles were agreed but a few articles will need to be decided at the Diplomatic Conference.

**DISCUSSION**

At the end of the Preparatory Diplomatic Conference the draft text was considered mature enough to be submitted to a Diplomatic Conference, after which the Convention would open for signature.

A number of delegates requested to be given the opportunity to carefully review the minutes of the Preparatory Diplomatic Conference in order to avoid any misunderstanding. A draft detailed report was produced by the Secretariat and forwarded to all delegates. Comments have been invited and are expected to be received until the end of June and a final report will be issued later in this month in the light of the comments received.

Input paper C69-8.4.1.1 is the draft report circulated for comments on 7 May and provided for information.

**THE COUNCIL IS REQUESTED TO**

**Note** that comments are awaited from the Preparatory Diplomatic Conference delegates and a final report will be provided at the next Council meeting.