

IALA COUNCIL
79th Session



11-14 December 2023
IALA Headquarters

11 – WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY

11.1 WWA Progress Report

World-Wide Academy Progress Report

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Academy continues to develop and in pursue of its strategic goals through its “Enlighten, Educate and Engage” strategy, the Academy has now resumed its physical activities fully to the same level as before the pandemic.

Accredited training organizations in the United Kingdom, France, Morocco, Suriname, India, Colombia and China have delivered or are in the process of delivering the Level 1.1 Aids to Navigation Manager course, and almost 100 new AtoN managers are expected to be certified in 2023.

Furthermore, numerous technical needs assessment missions and reviews have been carried out and the Academy has now conducted more than 50 such missions since its inauguration in 2012.

2 THE COUNCIL IS INVITED TO

Note the World-Wide Academy Progress Report provided in Appendix 1 to this document.



APPENDIX 1

WORLD-WIDE ACADEMY PROGRESS REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

The IALA World-Wide Academy focuses on facilitating the effective implementation of the IALA standards, recommendations, guidelines, and model courses by coastal States worldwide through education, training and capacity building, thereby underpinning the strategic goals of IALA.

The aim is to ensure that:

- all coastal States can fulfil the obligations related to Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) placed upon them in SOLAS Chapter V and
- all Coastal States are able to claim conformance with relevant IALA standards.

In order to achieve these goals, the Academy undertakes a wide range of activities based on three simple principles:

① ENLIGHTEN

raise the awareness of high-level decision makers of their international obligations relating to safety of navigation;

② EDUCATE

provide a suite of relevant education and training opportunities for as many as possible; and

③ ENGAGE

pursue long-term capacity building activities with coastal States and provide advice on how to overcome challenges.

After the removal of COVID-19 restrictions, face-to-face activity returned, technical cooperation visits for capacity building resumed and face-to-face training continued.

2. ENLIGHTENING – RAISING AWARENESS

WWA Seminar, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The IALA World-Wide Academy Seminar on digital future – digital skills was delivered at the Windsor Convention & Expo Center in Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 28 May 2023. The seminar was conducted with the professional support of the Marinha do Brazil.

The goals of the IALA Strategic Vision 2026 are that Marine Aids to Navigation are developed and harmonised through international cooperation and the provision of standards, and that all coastal states contribute to a sustainable and efficient global network of Marine Aids to Navigation through capacity building and the sharing of expertise.

The aim of the seminar was taking stock of the current state of marine aids to navigation training and capacity building efforts and identify some of the skills needed to address the challenges ahead.

Southern African And Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC-19), Mauritius

The Academy participated to the Southern African And Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC-19), held in Mauritius, from 29 to 31 August 2023. The following are the outcomes of the meeting:

- Highlight on the possible cooperation UKHO, IALA WWA and Lebanon hydrographic services for the Somalia surveys project.
- Academy commitment for the African Great Lakes and Rivers project through training: Two Participants from Kenya and Uganda have been trained in the IALA Risk Assessment Toolbox



held in July 2023. Further, a proposal for an AtoN managers course for the Great Lakes and Rivers, was made by GD in order to meet the specific needs of the region.

- Discussion with Kenya and Uganda of a possible technical mission for next year for Victoria Lake.
- Establishment of contact with ISCOS to coordinate the technical visit to Victoria Lake: The Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping (ISCOS) is an intergovernmental maritime body, whose Membership are the States of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo but expanding to the rest of the Eastern, Southern and Northern Africa including the Island states of Africa; mandated with the Promotion, Protection and Coordination of the Shipping and Maritime Interests of the Region.
- Request for support from Mozambique: they have some structural changes in their operations, including responsibilities on AtoN that are now shared between 2 organisations. So the national IALA member INAHINA does no longer exist. It was agreed that Mozambique could take the Iran timeslot in November for a mission stage 2.
- Brief discussion on possible UKHO/WWA joint technical mission for Yemen.

IMO-IALA-MOF Joint capacity building event in Seoul, Korea

The IMO-IALA-MOF joint Digital@Sea capacity building event in Seoul attracted more than 40 participants, mainly from Asia. The event was focused on the progress with digitalization in the various countries.

e-Navigation and VTS Workshop in Singapore

During Singapore Maritime Week, the Academy and Singapore MPA conducted a workshop on eNavigation and VTS. This workshop was also well attended by developing countries from Asia and Pacific.

3. EDUCATING – DEVELOPING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

AtoN Manager course, *Casablanca, Morocco*

The Academy supported “L’institut Supérieur d’Etudes Maritimes” ISEM, the accredited training organization by the Moroccan competent authority, and kept in regular communication with the global network of ATOs to help with the delivery of the L1.1 course for 15 students from the African French speaking countries. Participants came from Four countries: four from Morocco, one from Togo, nine from Cameroon, and one from Tunisia.

The IALA World-Wide Academy's consultant, Mr. Jean-Luc FONTAN, provided assistance to ISEM in running the course, and sponsored two participants from Tunisia and Togo.

The ISEM accreditation will be expired by the end of this year, on this occasion and WATON Day held in Morocco last July, Mr. Omar Erikson, the Dean of the Academy, and Mrs. Latifa OUMOUZOUNE, Education and training manager, had a meeting with ISEM with the presence of DPDPM, competent authority in Morocco, to assess the previous training sessions organized by ISEM and discuss the new MoU elements.

Procurement course, *Saint Germain En Laye, France*

First residential Procurement course took place at IALA HQ, from 19 to 23 June 2023, for the benefit of seven participants from Malaysia Marine Department, Maritime and Port Authority of Brunei Darussalam (MPABD), Japanese Coastguard, and IALA secretariat. The main lecturer was the Academy consultant Advisor Mrs. Sarah Robinson; Further, two 45-minute “Ask the Expert” sessions were arranged during the week with guest procurement experts.

The course programme included a mix of interactive lectures, exercises to apply the students’ new learning and evening revision of the day’s lecture materials and topics. All materials plus the original online Storyline lectures were uploaded to the Moodle for the students to access.



All students successfully completed and passed the course and were awarded their certificates by Education and Training Manager, Mrs. Latifa OUMOUZOUNE.

The students provided positive feedback expressing how they had learnt about specific areas of procurement and would apply some of the tools provided on the course, in their daily work..

The closing ceremony concluded with a viewing of a video from the Malaysian Marine Department about the scope of the organization's work.

Introduction to VTS for Yemen, *Batroun, Lebanon*

The course is part of various activities under the EU-funded "Regional Programme for Maritime Security in the Red Sea Area". Under this programme, IMO aims to assist participating countries to enhance maritime security and safety in the Red Sea Area, in line with the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy. The course is the third session of IMO and IALA WWA collaboration, following the two first sessions held for Somali and Ethiopian delegations successively from 10 to 14 October 2022, and 23 to 27 January 2023.

The course was hosted by the Maritime Sciences and Technology Institute (MARSATI) in Batroun, Lebanon. The staff of MARSATI under the direction of Mr Estephan Assal, MARSATI General Manager took good care of both course attendees and lecturers.

Six students attended from the Yemen Maritime Affairs Authority and Port Authorities both operating under the Yemen Ministry of Transport. They attended all five days of the course. They were joined the second day by an officer of MARSATI.

The main lecturers were Mr Carlos F. Salinas and Mr Fernando A. Matias from the Centro Jovellanos, a training division of the Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency.

All students successfully completed and passed the course and were awarded their certificates. They provided positive feedback expressing how they had learnt about the need for VTS and had enjoyed the course. They said that they intend to practice and apply their newfound learning on return to Yemen.

SIRA course, Abidjan, *Cote d'Ivoire*

A SIRA training, in French language, was conducted for the benefit of the maritime professionals in Cote d'Ivoire, from 12 to 14 July 2023. This course is part of various activities as part of the work of the "IALA World Academy" funded by the Academy and aims to build capacity. It was conducted back to back during the review technical mission to Cote d'Ivoire.

Fifteen students participated in the course. The participants belonged to the Directorate General of Maritime and Port Affairs (DGAMP), the Port of Abidjan (PAA), the Port of San Pedro (PASP) and the Regional Academy of Marine Sciences and Techniques (ARSTM).

The Main lecturer was Mr. Afif GHAITH, WWA consultant. Mrs GD, Capacity Building and resources manager at the IALA WWA welcomed the students and provided information on the work of IALA and the World Academy.

Use of IALA Risk management tools, Saint Germain en Laye, France

The course was conducted in two parts; students studied an introduction to the IALA risk management toolbox via distance learning and using the IALA risk management tools while in person at the IALA Headquarters in St. Germaine en Laye, France. The distance learning segment of the course was available from the 10th of July, and the in-person segment was conducted from the 24th to the 28th of July, 2023.



Twenty-four students of the course were from sixteen different countries, with seven students being sponsored by the IALA WWA. The students presented unique perspectives during class discussions and knowledge sharing when working in smaller teams.

The course was led by a team of experienced lecturers, including Mr. Omar Frits-Eriksson, Ms. Dawn Seepersad, Ms. Sarah Robinson, and Captain Roger Barker. Additionally, Neil Trainor and Mahesh Alimchandani participated remotely. The course content was prepared by Dawn and Sarah, who served as advisors to the IALA WWA. All course materials were made readily accessible to the students through the Moodle platform.

AtoN Manager course, Paramaribo, Suriname

The IALA World-Wide Academy supported the Suriname AtoN Academy, accredited by the Maritime Authority of Suriname according to IALA guidelines, to deliver Level 1.1 AtoN Manager course. The training was delivered in hybrid mode, from 30 May to 8 August. Twelve participants, from ten countries followed the training. Two participants from Liberia and one from Gambia were sponsored by the Academy.

Participants studied modules one and two via distance learning, using the WWA online platform Moodle, and studied module 3 in face-to-face mode in Suriname.

The IALA World-Wide Academy's consultant, Mrs. Sarah Robinson, provided assistance to Suriname AtoN Academy in running the course, particularly in using the Moodle online learning platform, and lecturing during the face-to-face training.

23-L.1.1 AtoN Manager course, China, China MSA

China MSA successfully conducted a L1.1 AtoN Manager Course to their usual excellent standard, and all 17 participants graduated.

4. ENGAGING – LONG TERM CAPACITY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Technical cooperation visits have continued. The executive summaries of the reports are provided below:

Technical Mission to Albania

In order to assess the adequateness and effectiveness of the delivery of marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) services, the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities World-Wide Academy (IALA WWA) conducted a technical needs assessment mission to the Republic of Albania (RoA) from 9 till 17 May.

The system for delivering Aids to Navigation (Aton) services in the waters of the RoA was found to be in good condition, well managed and more or less compliant with IALA Standards.

The mission produced 44 recommended actions, which the RoA is urged to consider.

Special attention should be given to the following recommendations:

- Formalise the roles and procedures of the Albania Hydrographic Service (AHS) to produce ENC's and paper charts;
- Audit all AtoN in RoA waters, and further develop a national AtoN Register as well as categorize all short range AtoN based on their navigational significance.
- Train and certify AtoN personnel;
- Conduct risk assessments to:
 - justify the need for VTS implementation and ringfence long-term resources,
 - validate the AtoN deployment plans for the new ports.



As the RoA recently acceded to the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation and works towards being able to claim conformance with the relevant IALA Standards this will enhance and support the maritime safety strategy of the RoA. This will also strengthen the RoA influence in the region, one that takes its safety of navigation obligations seriously.

Review Mission to Cote d'Ivoire

In 2015 the WWA conducted a technical mission to Ivory Coast. At that moment the country was already in quite good shape compared to the rest of Africa. During that mission a visit took place to "L'Académie Régionale des Sciences et Technologies" (ARSTM) as this could be an international hub for AtoN and VTS training in French language. This never materialized for various reasons. Also a visit took place to the Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa (MOWCA) to explore opportunities for cooperation and a meeting with the Minister of Transport took place

Since 2015, Port of Abidjan has expanded its activities by building new terminals and widening the approach channel. Most of the recommendations from the report have been implemented and Port of Abidjan has proven to be a steady and reliable partner.

This was confirmed in a meeting with the minister of Transport. Commitment from the ministry is important as the "Direction Générale des Affaires Maritimes et Portuaires" (DGAMP) would be the CA in the accreditation process. ARSTM considers delivering both AtoN and VTS training. For the latter, they have now a new VTS simulator installed. They only need to invest in some consultancy to start the VTS training where GD advised on the process and will establish necessary contacts.

Technical Mission to Brunei Darussalam

A mission was conducted to Brunei Darussalam, but the report is not yet available.

5. SPONSORSHIPS

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.

6. ACTION PLAN 2024

Annex A contains the draft Academy Action Plan for 2024. The Action Plan is a list of possible activities, agreed with the Academy board, which helps the Academy to prioritize its work. Whether an activity is progressed depends on the resource situation and whether the Academy receives an invitation from the country in question or not.

7. CONCLUSION

The Academy continues to develop and in pursue of its strategic goals through its "Enlighten, Educate and Engage" strategy, the Academy has now resumed its physical activities fully to the same level as before the pandemic. Accredited training organizations in the United Kingdom, France, Morocco, Suriname, India, Colombia and China have delivered or are in the process of delivering the Level 1.1 Aids to Navigation Manager course, and almost 100 new AtoN managers are expected to be certified in 2023. Furthermore, numerous technical needs assessment missions and reviews have been carried out and the Academy has now conducted more than 50 such missions since its inauguration in 2012.

Omar Frits Eriksson
16th November 2023



ANNEX A

DRAFT ACTION PLAN 2024

AtoN Manager courses (L1.1)

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Help deliver several L1.1 courses spread around the world. Likely locations: United Kingdom, China, France, India, Suriname, Colombia, Morocco and perhaps Indonesia.	Planned

AtoN Master courses (L1.2)

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Three L1.2 Courses, one in Europe, one in Asia/Pacific and one in South America.	Planned

Risk Management courses (L1.3)

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Three to four L1.3 courses spread around the world.	Planned

Technical needs assessment and follow up missions

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Conduct missions as opportunities arise and where relevant as agreed with sponsors. Possible locations: Albania, Slovenia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Myanmar, Somalia, Yemen, Tanzania, Uganda, Honduras, Peru, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Madagascar, Cameroon, Vietnam, Belize...	Planned

Hydrographic commission meetings (awareness raising and lobbying)

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Attend some of the hydrographic commission meetings (NOICH, MACHC, MBSHC, EAtHC, RSAHC/ROPME, SAIHC, SWPHC).	Planned

VTS related activities

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Assist when requested with developing and delivering and assessing VTS training worldwide. (possibly Philippines, Thailand, India, Malaysia, ASEAN VTS training, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).	Planned



Other course related activities

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
Deliver the Procurement course worldwide. Develop and deliver various short courses based on IALA guidelines. Develop and deliver a course on Digitalization (S-200).	Planned

Other activities (not exhaustive list)

<i>Planned activity</i>	<i>Status</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Aids to Navigation Day event• IMO NCSR, TCC• Korea Maritime Week• Singapore Maritime Week• China Maritime Conference• International Women in Maritime Day• Joint CB Group meeting, Monaco• ATO Seminar(s)• Alumni activities workshop(s)• Lecturing at WMU/IMLI/Jimei University• APHoMSA 2024• IALA French Support Group• IALA Spanish Support Group• Joint IMO, IHO and IALA Caspian Sea Event, perhaps in Azerbaijan• Visit to the Philippine Coast Guard	Planned

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