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## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### Draft revision of SN.1/Circ.297 on the IALA Maritime Buoyage System

**Submitted by the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation  
and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)**

#### SUMMARY

*Executive summary:* This document provides draft updates to SN.1/Circ.297 on the *IALA Maritime Buoyage System*. At its 14<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on June 3rd, 2023, IALA adopted a Revised Maritime Buoyage System as an amendment to the Annex of the Agreement.

*Strategic direction, if applicable:* Not applicable

*Output:* Not applicable

*Action to be taken:* 6

*Related documents:* SN.1/Circ.297

## Background

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its forty-eighth session, was informed that an International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) Maritime Buoyage System Agreement had been concluded on 15 April 1982 and subsequently brought this to the attention of Member States through SN/Circ.120. However, preceding this, the Maritime Safety Committee, at its forty-fourth session, adopted the IALA Maritime Buoyage System ("the MBS") itself, before the finalization of the Agreement and brought this to the attention of Member States through the publication of SN/Circ.105 in June 1981.

2 In 2010, IALA adopted a revised MBS which included the introduction of the emergency wreck marking buoy, more complete descriptions of other aids to navigation specifically excluded from the original MBS and the integration of electronic marks via radio transmission. The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-eight session, approved the publication of SN.1/Circ.297 on the *IALA Maritime Buoyage System*, which provided details

of the 2010 updates to the MBS.

### **Discussion**

3 The IALA technical committees, during their 2018-2023 work programme conducted an extensive review of the 2010 edition of the MBS (edition 1.0).

4 The updates to the MBS included the incorporation of Mobile Aids to Navigation, the inclusion of the various types of maritime autonomous surface ships (MASS) as they relate to use of the MBS, the consideration of matters related to sustainability as well as other editorial and formatting changes in order to modernize the publication.

5 In June 2023, the 14<sup>th</sup> IALA General Assembly held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil approved the updates to the MBS. Following approval, edition 2.0 of the MBS was published in June 2023.

### **Action requested of the Committee**

6 The Committee is requested to consider the draft amendments to SN.1/Circ.297 contained in the annex to this document and take action as appropriate.

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**ANNEX****PROPOSED UPDATES TO SN.1/CIRC.297**(Shown as insertions/deletions)**IALA MARITIME BUOYAGE SYSTEM**

1 At its forty-eighth session, the Maritime Safety Committee was informed that an IALA Maritime Buoyage System Agreement had been concluded on 15 April 1982. The system itself was adopted and circulated by the Committee in June 1981, before the finalization of the Agreement.

2 At its ~~XVIII<sup>th</sup>~~ 14<sup>th</sup> Conference, and its concomitant General Assembly, held in ~~Cape Town from 22 to 27 March 2010,~~ Rio de Janeiro on June 3 2023, IALA adopted a Revised Maritime Buoyage System (IALA Recommendation (normative) R1001 The IALA Maritime Buoyage System (MBS) Edition 2.0) as an amendment to the Annex of the Agreement.

3 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ~~eighty-eighth session (24 November to 3 December 2010)~~ one hundred and eighth session (13 to 24 May 2024), recognizing the full support of Member Governments, adopted the new revised IALA Maritime Buoyage System and instructed the Secretariat to circulate it as soon as possible. A copy of the Revised IALA Maritime Buoyage System booklet can be obtained from the IALA website ([www.iala.aism.org](http://www.iala.aism.org)).

4 ~~So far, the IALA Maritime Buoyage System Agreement has been signed by Aids to Navigation and Lighthouses Authorities of fifty-four countries. The national Authorities concerned of countries which are not yet Parties to the Agreement are encouraged to sign the Agreement at their earliest convenience.~~

54 The present SN circular supersedes SN.1/circ.297 ~~the other SN circulars: SN/Circ.95, SN/Circ.96, SN/Circ.105, SN/Circ.107, SN/Circ.120 and SN.1/Circ.259~~