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| From: ANM Committee | ANM15/output/5 |
| To: VTS Committee | 15 October 2010 |

Liaison Note

Communication Strategy for Vessel Traffic Management (VTM)

# Introduction

ANM have noted the liaison note VTS31/output/4 and edition 1 of the Communication Strategy for Vessel Traffic Management (VTM), VTS31/output/6.

# Comment

ANM have the following comments on the Communication Strategy paper:

1. Notwithstanding the comprehensive approach of the document, its main objective (the communication plan) is not introduced until near the end of the document.
2. Detailed observations:

**Introduction**

The introduction is unnecessarily complex; it contains background information that could be under a separate heading and a number of points that need clarification:

The word ‘public’ in relation to the demand for improved monitoring and surveillance is open to misinterpretation;

Does the term ‘broad’ relate to a geographic area or a range of opinion;

**VTM Concept**

The current document provides a working definition of VTM approved by the Council: the functional framework of harmonized measures and services to enhance the safety, security and efficiency of shipping and the protection of the marine environment in all navigable waters. However the IALA dictionary states that Vessel Traffic Management is the co-ordination and exchange of data about global maritime activities.

**Mission**

It is not clear whether the mission refers to VTM as a whole or to the proposed Communication Strategy.

**The Aims**

Protection of the marine environment should be amended to encompass the whole environment.

Operation of allied services would better be described as operation of allied and associated services and this would cover the embedding and bundling referred to in the next bullet point.

**Section 5.1.4**

The first bullet point should read ‘not conflict with existing legislation and regulations’.

**Ownership of the VTM concept**

In the fourth bullet point, it is unnecessary to define the global scale.

The seventh bullet point appears to be unnecessary.

In the second subparagraph, ‘create’ would be better than ‘bring’.

# Future development

ANM look forward to future discussions on the VTM project, specifically to your planned presentation at ANM16.

# Action requested

The VTS Committee is requested to consider the comments provided.