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Agenda item [[2]](#footnote-2) (from agenda) 9

Workplan Task Number2 …………………………………

Working Group WG 1

Author(s) / Submitter(s) Stephen Bennett

IALA Regions at the Poles

# Introduction

A question was raised at the South West Pacific Region Hydrographic Commission Conference held in Fiji in February 2018 about the precise boundaries of IALA Region A and B in polar regions.

Because the IALA MBS uses a Mercator Projection, it is not clear whether the regions in Antarctica extend to the South Pole, although it is presumed that they do. That would mean that any AtoN installed permanently of temporarily between longitude 20˚W and 120˚W should comply with Region B. This zone includes the Graham Land Peninsula where the majority of both commercial and research vessels operate. It would also seem that the area from the Ross Sea westwards through the Eastern Hemisphere to 20˚W would be in Region A. A definitive answer might be included in either the MBS or in the next edition of R1001.

The situation in the Arctic is more problematic due to the growing use of the NW Passage. This is a region of political sensitivity where routes cross from one IALA Region to the other. It is proposed that a polar stereographic diagram of the north polar region be produced which shows precisely the borders between Region A and B in the Arctic.

A close up of a map

Description generated with very high confidence 

A picture containing map, text

Description generated with very high confidence

# Action requested

The ARM Committee is requested to consider these matters during the next work period.



Stephen Bennett

Vice Dean

IALA World-Wide Academy

1. Input document number, to be assigned by the Committee Secretary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Input papers should be assigned to a work task as listed in the Committee work plan which is available in input papers. Leave open if uncertain but consider how the paper is to be processed if not relevant to a work task [↑](#footnote-ref-2)