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| From: e-NAV Committee | e-NAV13/output/18 |
| To: PAP | 22 March 2013 |
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Liaison Note

Task Groups for Preparing S-100 Product Specifications

# Summary

This paper provides the basis for a submission to PAP describing a proposed work structure for preparing Product Specifications based on the IHO S-100 standard for submission to the IALA domain within the IHO GI Registry.

## Purpose of the document

This paper seeks approval for the proposed work structure.

## Related documents

Draft IALA Guideline On Preparing an IALA S-100 Product Specification (Working Paper e-NAV13/WG6/WP1).

# Background

Product Specifications (PS) are the basic documents, specifying contributions to the IMO Common Maritime Data Structure (CMDS). IALA is steward of its own domain within the IHO GI Registry, which serves as the repository for contributions to the CMDS.

A PS builds on expert knowledge and formalises the description of objects and their characteristics used within that expert domain. Examples of expert domains are AtoN and VTS.

The way in which such a formalised description is obtained and recorded is also a matter of expert knowledge. This latter knowledge is developed in the e-NAV committee, in particular in Working Group 6, Data Modelling.

Knowledge of the subject matter knowledge is, in many cases, within the other IALA committees. Hence, there is a clear need for co-operation across the various IALA committees. The current mechanism for cross-committee co-operation is the exchange of liaison notes. This would introduce unacceptable delays in the preparation of a PS.

# DISCUSSION

It is proposed that, for the purpose of producing and maintaining a PS, the originating Committee should create a task group, consisting of subject matter experts and one or more S-100 experts. This task group may be able to develop a PS by correspondence but could need to organise face-to-face drafting sessions, where appropriate.

A task group would report to the originating Committee.

# ACTION REQUESTED

The Policy Advisory Panel is invited to consider the proposal above and if agreed, submit it to Council for approval.