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| From: ENAV Committee | ENAV21-14.1.25 |
| To: ARM Committee | 22 September 2017 |

LIAISON NOTE

New Mobile AtoN (MAtoN) Character

# Introduction

The ENAV Committee noted the liaison note from the ARM Committee regarding the development of the Autonomous Maritime Radio Device (AMRD) Recommendation and Guideline, with specific focus on the request for a new character or system of recognition is required for Mobile AtoN (MAtoN).

The ENAV Committee noted the specific reference to a light characteristic, and the fact that the use of flashing blue lights of any kind are not considered appropriate for the MAtoN.

# Discussion

The ENAV Committee notes that flashing blue lights are not considered appropriate for the MAtoN. There could be opportunity to consider the flash characteristics of MAtoN to assist in recognition.

In addition, the ENAV Committee noted the work at ITU on AMRD, and the confirmation of the definition of the two groups of AMRD:

**Group A**: AMRDs that enhance the safety of navigation,

**Group B**: AMRDs that do not enhance the safety of navigation (AMRDs which deliver signals or information which do not concern the vessel can distract or mislead the navigator and degrade the safety of navigation).

The ENAV Committee noted that the development of MAtoN would be considered Group A. The ENAV Committee noted that there could be an opportunity to approach ITU to develop a new AIS message for MAtoN. This would require further revision to ITU-R M.1371.

Once the IALA Recommendation and Guideline on MAtoN are completed the process to develop a new AIS message can commence.

# Action requested

The ARM Committee is requested to note the process to develop a new AIS message to support MAtoN and advise the ENAV Committee accordingly.

The ARM Committee is requested to respond to the Liaison Statement from ITU (ARM7-4.4.2, noting ARM7-4.4.3) and provide information to ITU with regards to the development of the Recommendation and Guideline on MAtoN.

The ARM Committee is requested to submit their response to ITU WP 5B November meeting (input deadline 1600 UTC on 30th October) to move the work forward promptly.