



IALA World-Wide Academy – progress and activity report

(September 2024 – March 2025)

INTRODUCTION

This paper contains a summary of internal reports and the executive summaries of technical cooperation visit reports. The information contained is not within the public domain and has been prepared for internal use only.

Board members will recall that the IALA World-Wide Academy (the Academy) focusses on facilitating the effective implementation of the IALA standards, recommendations, guidelines, and model courses by coastal States through education, training and capacity building thereby underpinning the second strategic goal of IALA.

The Academy aims to ensure that all coastal States can fulfil the obligations related to Marine Aids to Navigation placed upon them in Chapter V of the SOLAS Convention and that all coastal States can claim conformance with the relevant IALA standards.

The Academy articulates three simple means by which its aims and goals may be achieved:

1 ENLIGHTEN

raise the awareness of high-level decision makers of their international obligations relating to safety of navigation;

2 EDUCATE

provide a suite of relevant education and training opportunities for as many as possible; and

3 ENGAGE

pursue long-term capacity building activities with coastal States and provide advice on how to overcome challenges.

1. ENLIGHTENING – RAISING AWARENESS

1.1. Regional hydrographic commissions

SAICH – 20, Kisumu (16-20 September 2024)

The 20th Meeting of the Southern African and Islands Hydrographic took place at Kisumu Lake Victoria which was also the starting point of the Lake Victoria technical visit. It was a great opportunity to liaise with the WWA target states on upcoming activities; for example Tanzania, Zambia and Angola

At the last day of the meeting, the afternoon session was dedicated to IALA presentations. This session was targeting the sponsored participants of the SAICH meeting. The subject was general principles of the Maritime Buoyage System (MBS), Risk Management and VTS implementation.

RSAHC - 10 Jeddah (26-28 November 2024)

During the 10th ROPME¹ Sea Area Hydrographic Commission the Academy further finalized preparations for the mission to Iraq. This was initially scheduled as a joint activity with IHO but they declined due to resources. The host for the next RSAHC is Iran and possibly a technical mission will be

¹ Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment



scheduled back-to-back. The expert explored possibilities for a technical mission to Pakistan, but this may need some more time.

MACHC - 25 Panama (2-6 December 2024)

As always, the Meso American & Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission generated good outcomes. Many countries reported back on IALA activity, e.g. Suriname informed the meeting on IALA training programs delivered and which will be scheduled for next year.

Prior to the meeting, during the Capacity Building seminar on Raising Awareness of Hydrography, the experts delivered presentations on Digital Maritime Services Development. The participants were informed of the possibility of obtaining WWA technical support for implementation of digital services. It should be noted that the IALA WWA will not do the work itself but provide guidance on the process and support to conduct a technical gap analysis. This would then generate a roadmap for implementation. Belize could be one of the first countries to start the process.

NIOHC – 24, Bangkok (10-13 February 2025)

The Academy participated to the 24th North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission. Among other countries the following target states were present: Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, Maldives, Sudan, Thailand, Mauritius, Seychelles. A technical mission is agreed with Sri Lanka to take place in July. The expert noted a clear difference with other hydrographic commissions where the Academy has been more active. The understanding on IALA matters was rather low at the NIOHC. As the UKHO Capacity Building officer was not able to travel, the Academy expert delivered several presentations during the preceding Capacity Building program “Raising Awareness in Hydrography”. This was a good opportunity to fill the gap of knowledge on IALA matters.

SWPHC -22, Palau (3-5 March 2025)

The Academy briefed the 22nd South-West Pacific Hydrographic Commission via on-line attendance. After this meeting a 2-day workshop on hydrographic contracts and procurement took place. The expert informed the meeting on the WWA Efficient procurement for AtoN Managers course. Due to the general approach of this course it can easily be applied to procurement in hydrography. The meeting will consider the possibilities.

1.2. Seminars and Workshops

Safety of Navigation Seminar, Singapore (17 February 2025)

At the first General Assembly of IALA, held in Singapore, the Singapore Maritime Port Authority hosted a WWA seminar on the Safety of Navigation. The purpose of the seminar for IALA members who provide maritime services worldwide was to exchange information and develop views on:

- Explain the role of the IALA World-Wide Academy (WWA) in global Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) harmonization and knowledge sharing.
- Explain coastal States’ AtoN responsibilities under international conventions and IALA standards.
- Explain the principles and application of current best practice maritime digitalization and data exchange tools.
- Describe the IALA training courses that can help coastal States implement AtoN responsibilities, including using digital tools.
- Discuss barriers and solutions for coastal State implementation of international conventions and IALA standards.

The seminar includes real-time polling sequences which revealed that training on maritime digitalization and data exchange tools is most needed and lack of resources will challenge further implementation.



2. EDUCATING – DEVELOPING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Level 1.1 AtoN Manager course

The Academy has continued to assist the Accredited Training Organizations ATOs in delivering the Level 1.1 AtoN Manager course in accordance with the IALA model course, and to provide expertise in the AtoN provisions as needed.

From September 2024 to March 2025, the Academy sponsored fourteen individuals to participate in the level 1.1 AtoN Manager course.

- China MSA, China (September 2024)

China MSA, with the support of the Academy conducted the level 1.1 AtoN Manager course in Shanghai, Xiamen and Wenzhou from 27 Aug to 22nd Sept 2024.

There were 21 participants from 11 countries: Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Mozambique, Kenya, Libya, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Vietnam, Philippines, and China. 06 participants were sponsored to attend this training from Mozambique, Libya, and Philippines.

- MNTI, Kolkata, India (November 2024)

The Indian accredited training organization MNTI hosted a L1.1. course delivered in English. The Academy experts conducted the whole program in residence, from 4 to 29 November 2024.

There were 13 attendees from 06 countries : Egypt, Kuwait, Libya, Myanmar, Philippines and India the host country . Four participants were sponsored by the Academy.

- STIP, Jakarta, Indonesia (November 2024)

The accredited training organization STIP hosted the second level 1.1 AtoN management course in Indonesia. This time, the course content was delivered in both English and Bahasa. One Academy expert conducted the whole program in person, with the exception of several lectures from Module 1 and 2 that were given by Indonesian instructors (STIP and DGST), including recently certified L1.1 at the first session (July 2024). Therefore, be reminded that gathering a significant number of governmental and private AtoN managers in Indonesia, this program is aimed at preparing participants to become lecturers for the future Level 1.1 courses sessions.

15 participants followed the course, 13 from different industrial and commercial companies (private AtoN managers) in Indonesia and 02 WWA sponsored participants from Timor-Leste.

- DGAMPA (CEREMA & ENSAM), Brest, France (November 2024)

CEREMA & ENSAM, conducted a level 1.1 AtoN manager course from 04th to 29th Nov 2024 in Brest. The training benefited 12 participants including two sponsored participants by the Academy from Guinee and Gabon.

The training was delivered in French and supported capacity development for French speaking countries mainly in Africa.

- Trinity House, Harwich, UK (03 to 07 March 2025)

The Trinity House L1.1 2024/2025 ran from the 6th of September 2024 to the 7th of March 2025. Modules 1 and 2 were primarily self-study on-line learning with periodic tutorials. The main tutor was Bill Summers of Trinity House.

Module 3 was conducted in-person from the 3rd to the 7th of March 2025. Additional tutors included Sarah Robinson and Rob Dorey IALA Consultant Advisors and Kevin Gregory, Trinity House Head of Commercial and Planning.

16 students received their certification with the students' home countries including England, Scotland, Ireland, Netherlands, Faroe Islands, Denmark, Czech Republic and Singapore. The IALA WWA sponsored one student from Ukraine.



Level 1.2 Master AtoN Management

- Master AtoN Management, China, Sep 2024

The Academy ran a Master AtoN Management in Xiamen in China from 22nd to 27 Sep 2024; The training was hosted by Jeimi University and China MSA.

21 participants benefited from this training from 14 countries: Thailand, Tanzania, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Solomon Islands, Singapore, Egypt, Malaysia, Somalia, Yemen, Cameroon, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, and China.

03 participants were sponsored by the Academy: Solomon Islands, Somalia, and Yemen.

A revised and updated version of the training material was used for this L.1.2 session.

The revision covers updating existing modules and adding new topics responding to new trends in the maritime industry: Ocean governance, digital technologies, and innovation.

Level 1.3 Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox

A number of courses are being offered by the Academy to address the gap in understanding the importance of conducting risk assessments to ensure the safe management of waterways as specified by SOLAS Chapter V Regulations 12 and 13.

- The Use of IALA Risk Management toolbox training, Roma, Italy (11 to 15 November 2024).

The Use of the IALA Risk Management Toolbox course was conducted with the full support of Italian Coast Guard. Two weeks prior to the in-person sessions, an introduction to the course was launched online via the IALA Moodle platform. This hybrid approach allowed participants to familiarize themselves with the course material before attending the intensive in-person training.

The course content was delivered in English and primarily focused on IWRAP (IALA Waterway Risk Assessment Program) and SIRA (Simplified IALA Risk Assessment) while also providing an overview of other tools in the IALA risk management toolbox.

32 participants followed the course from 16 countries from over the world. All students were skilful and completed all tasks to a sufficient level, with some students completing tasks to an outstanding level.

5 participants from Albania, Tunisia and Ukraine were sponsored by the Academy to attend the course.

Incidentally, understand how the Mk III version of PAWSA is currently being implemented and if a corresponding update of the IALA PAWSA Mk II tool may be appropriate.

IALA Essential Procurement for Aids to Navigation Manager

- IALA Essential Procurement for Aids to Navigation Manager, Paramaribo, Suriname (30 Sep – 04 Oct 2024)

IALA Essential Procurement for Aids to Navigation Managers was conducted in Paramaribo, Suriname from 30 Sep to 04 Oct 2024. The training was hosted by Maritime Authority Suriname MAS.

08 students from Honduras, Trinidad & Tobago, St Vincent & Grenadines, Bahamas, and Suriname attended the course, expanding their knowledge of best practice in AtoN related procurement and contributing to lively discussion and sharing of views.

05 participants were sponsored by the Academy to attend the course.

Sponsored countries are: Honduras, Trinidad & Tobago, St Vincent & Grenadines, Bahamas.

S-100/S-200 Data Product specifications

- AtoN product specifications – theory and application (S-124/S-125/S-200/S-201), and Sea Trial, Busan, Republic of Korea 4 – 7 march 2025



During the period of 04th to 07th March, WWA conducted the first training session on Marine Aids to Navigation product specifications - theory and application (S-124/S-125/S-200/S-201). 21 participants from 15 countries came together in Busan, Korea, for an in-depth course on Marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) product specifications and their role in modern maritime data exchange, hosted by Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of Republic of Korea MOF, Korea Research Institute of Ships & Ocean Engineering KRISO, and Korea Institute of Maritime and Fisheries Technology KIMFT.

This training covered key elements of the Universal Hydrographic Data Model, IALA S-200 product specifications, and the IEC SECOM standard (IEC 63173-2).

Together with experts from UK Hydrographic Office UKHO, PRIMAR, United States Coast Guard USCG, Canada Coast Guard CCG, Korea Research Institute of Ships & Ocean Engineering KRISO and IALA, attendees explored the following topics:

- S-100/200 framework and the benefits of data harmonization
- Developing Product Specifications and managing AtoN data
- Scope & content of S-201, S-125, and S-124 product specifications
- Testing & validation tools for S-200 series
- Technical maritime services for real-time data exchange

A sea trial, where participants witnessed real-world data exchange demonstration was organized by KRISO and MOF. This demonstration showcased how AtoN changes—generated from an information system aligned with the IALA S-201 data model—can be efficiently shared with end users.

Two participants were sponsored by the Academy to participate in this training.

3. ENGAGING – LONG TERM CAPACITY BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

The technical visits have furthered the cooperation and contributed to the improvement of AtoN provisions worldwide.

Technical mission Lake Victoria (20-26 September 2024)

In conjunction with The Maritime Organization for Eastern, Southern, and Northern Africa (MOESNA); the Academy combined three technical missions at Lake Victoria, visiting Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The status of the AtoN services is at a very low level and coordination via international organizations to align national provisions will be paramount to guarantee full harmonization of AtoN. It was observed that the AtoN, as described on the (outdated) nautical charts, most were missing or not operational, presumably due to lack of maintenance effort and dedicated resources. This situation has already resulted in several accidents with high loss of life. Navigation, particularly at nighttime, is very challenging. The absence of AtoN brings lives in danger every day and another major accident could have devastating consequences for the marine environment. Further follow-up from the Academy is much needed.

Technical mission to Dominican Republic (15-20 October 2024)

To explain the need for compliance on safety of navigation the Dominican Republic mission started with high-level meetings at the Navy HQ. Afterwards several stakeholder meetings took place as the competent authority, being the Navy, needs to strengthen its role as a regulatory body. One technical tour including chart exercises with the pilots generated valuable feedback for improvements. The WWA expert had to return earlier due to personal circumstances. Therefore, this mission will be finished in 2025.

Technical mission to Indonesia Kupang, Sulawesi and Borneo cluster (4-22 November 2024)

This three-week Indonesia technical mission, encompassing 8 navigational districts, generated many more recommendations which will further support Directorate General of Sea Transportation (DGST) in preparing for the 2025 scheduled IMSAS. The most urgent general recommendations are:



- Audit all AtoN, including private, and repair all essential non-operational AtoN in Indonesia waters as a matter of priority;
- Update all nautical publications to reflect the actual situation in the Indonesia waters;
- Conduct risk assessments to determine which VTS's should be retained;
- Train and certify AtoN and VTS personnel, and
- Strengthen the role of DGST as the regulatory competent authority for AtoN and VTS.

Technical mission to Indonesia Java cluster (13-21 January 2025)

The Dean was part of the expert team for the final Indonesia mission cluster. This encompassed three navigational districts, and included the Surabaya Port, which will be considered as the first to conduct a risk assessment.

In some regions AtoN operations are being challenged by theft and vandalism. Finding sustainable solutions, in management and technical, would save the DGST many resources. During this mission the expert conducted one AtoN awareness event targeting fishermen. The outcomes of this trial will be reported back to the Academy. This could be input to further IALA recommendations of theft and vandalism.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia follow-up

As an outcome of a technical mission that took place in 2022 the Academy is further advising MAWANI on the implementation of recommendations from the 2022 technical report. MAWANI conducted 9 risk assessments using SIRA and IWRAP and the Academy advises which risk mitigation measures could best be implemented. Besides the replacement of Loran-C by E-Loran risk mitigation focused also on further improving the VTS.